

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
Innovation, Industry, Science and Research Portfolio  
Budget Estimates Hearing 2009-10  
01 June 2009

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**AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:** INNOVATION, INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

**TOPIC:** BEC Reports

**REFERENCE:** Written Question - Senator Ronaldson

**QUESTION No.:** BI-64

**Senator RONALDSON**—Is the contractual arrangement in the terms of the portfolio budget statement from last year that they are to report twice? My understanding is that the portfolio budget statement said: BECs to report twice yearly on the increase and expansion in the services they provide ... over those services previously provided by the BECs ...

**Mr Peel**—That is correct.

**Senator RONALDSON**—Is that the nature of the report?

**Mr Peel**—That is correct.

**Senator RONALDSON**—Are you able to table those reports in relation to those BECs?

**Mr Peel**—I do not have them with me.

**Senator RONALDSON**—I appreciate that.

**Mr Peel**—I would have to take that question on notice just to check whether I can do that.

**Senator RONALDSON**—What would be a situation where you could not?

**Mr Peel**—I do not know, but there may be some confidential information within those reports, so I can take the question on notice and get back to you on it?

**ANSWER:**

The BEC reports contain commercial-in-confidence information, however, information from the BEC reports for the first report period is aggregated in the following table.

Refer Attachment A.

## Attachment A

**ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO SMALL BUSINESSES THROUGH THE BEC INITIATIVE  
DURING THE PERIOD 31 JULY 2008 – 31 OCTOBER 2008**

		Base Line*	Period 1 = 31/07/2009 – 31/10/2008
State	Entity Name:	Businesses Assisted	Businesses Assisted
NSW	BEC St George & Sutherland Shire Ltd	193	447
NSW	Central Coast Business Mentor Services Inc	145	626
NSW	BEC Cabonne, Orange, Blayney Inc	350	246
NSW	The Eastern Suburbs BEC	197	1158
NSW	Hunter Region BEC Inc	368	467
NSW	MacArthur BEC Ltd	110	425
NSW	Northern Rivers Enterprise Development Agency Inc	286	601
NSW	Penrith City & District Business Advisory Centre Ltd	172	415
NSW	Murray Hume BEC Inc	353	743
ACT/NSW	Queanbeyan Enterprise Centre Inc	0	324
NT	BEC (Darwin Region) Inc	305	423
QLD	Thuringowa Enterprise Centre Inc	69	227
QLD	Caboolture BEC Assoc Inc	0	118
QLD	Ipswich Shared Workspace Ltd	35	66
SA	Eastside BEC Inc	91	647
SA	Inner Southern BEC Inc	107	135
SA	Inner West BEC Inc	124	401
SA	North West Business Development Centre Inc	65	560
SA	Northern Adelaide BEC Inc	484	703
SA	City of Salisbury	473	626
SA	Southern Success BEC Inc	171	352
SA	North East Development Agency Inc	211	321
TAS	Break O'Day Business Enterprise Board Inc	30	59
TAS	Community Potential Foundation Ltd Devonport	333	1355
TAS	Community Potential Foundation Ltd Launceston	699	1562
TAS	Meander Valley Enterprise Centre Inc	120	112
VIC	Ballarat Business Centre Inc	0	257
VIC	Box Hill Institute of Tafe	4	206
VIC	Murray Hume BEC Inc	0	496
WA	Belmont BEC Inc	344	762
WA	Leschenault Enterprise Centre Inc	507	503
WA	Coastal Business Centre Inc	109	275
WA	Swan Region BEC Inc	410	578
WA	South East Metro BEC Inc	19	33
WA	South Coast Business Development Organisation Inc	184	389
WA	Stirling BEC Inc	381	1557
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>7449</b>	<b>18175</b>

\*Base line figures are three year/quarterly average

\*If the base line report shows "0" it is because the BEC did not previously (before the funding) collect data in the format we now require as part of the BECs reporting obligations