

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2010-2011**

Outcome 2 - Schools

DEEWR Question No.EW0846_11

Senator Nash provided in writing.

Question

ANNUAL SERVICE PLAN AND EVALUATIVE REPORT

Providers are required to report to the Department each year by submitting an Annual Service Plan and Evaluative Report, details of their service delivery, and other reports requested by the Department. Will these reports be made public? What provisions will be made in a case where a provider fails to meet the expectations of the Department? Will the provider have funding stripped away? Have there been any cases where a provider has lost funding for failing to provide adequate services?

Answer

Youth Connections providers are required to submit Annual Service Plans and Evaluative Reports to the Department as part of their contractual obligations. These plans and reports are not intended to be made public. The provisions for managing provider performance are consistent with departmental guidelines, provider contracts, program guidelines and include working with providers to ensure they understand and are supported to meet their obligations. On a case-by-case basis, a range of support and interventions would be undertaken prior to a decision to withhold payments being made. To date, no Youth Connections provider has had funding withheld.