

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

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

Outcome 4 - Employment & Participation Policy

DEEWR Question No.EW0932_11

Senator Siewert provided in writing.

Question

EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE & INCOME SUPPORT

There was a one off survey of jobseekers funded by DEEWR called 'jobseeker experience of the job network', January 2007 ("Eureka Project"). It is referenced in Minister O'Connor's issues paper of 2008: 'The future of employment services in Australia.' - Can I please have a copy of the survey instrument with a list of the questions asked as well as a summary of the responses to each question?

Answer

Job Seeker Experience of Job Network was a qualitative project based on focus groups with job seekers. The purpose of this research was to explore the range of job seekers' experiences at various stages of assistance within the Active Participation Model.

It is not common research practice to publish a record of the responses collected at focus group sessions. Job seekers participating in focus groups do so on the understanding that their feedback is confidential and de-identified. Reporting on focus groups may discourage job seekers from providing feedback and diminish the effectiveness of focus groups as a research tool. The themes collected during the focus groups, however, contributed to the qualitative evidence base which informed the Employment Services Review and subsequent design of Job Services Australia.

The discussion guides used in this project are attached.