

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

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

Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations

DEEWR Question No.EW1038_11

Senator Ryan provided in writing.

Question

CFMEU SHAM CONTRACTING EDUCATION PROGRAM

"The CFMEU received \$165,000 to "improve knowledge and awareness of regulatory frameworks that cover employees and contractors" – was this contract put out to tender? What are the performance measures for this contract? How does the Department determine that it has received value for money? "

Answer

As part of the Fair Work Education and Information Program, the Government identified opportunities for education activities targeted at vulnerable workers to increase their awareness of their rights and responsibilities under the *Fair Work Act 2009* (FW Act). Following reports of sham contracting being prevalent in the building and construction industry, particularly in the ACT, the Government provided a one off grant to the CFMEU. The grant was not the subject of a competitive tender process.

The grant was to enable the CFMEU to educate workers, including apprentices, in the building and construction industry in the ACT about sham contracting, key rights and entitlements available to workers under the FW Act, rights and responsibilities of workers holding ABNs and penalties for non-compliance with the FW Act and other relevant laws.

The funding agreement between the Department and CFMEU provides for the delivery of seminars, site meetings, individual consultations, educational resources and promotional materials. The Department will evaluate the project against these deliverables.