Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2011-2012

Outcome 4 - Employment

DEEWR Question No. EW0946_12

Senator Bernardi provided in writing.

Question

Review into JSA and recommendations from this

I understand that the Nous Group were commissioned by Jobs Australia to undertake a review into the administrative burden of Job Services Australia. Did the Department support the commissioning of this report? How many of these recommendations were accepted and will be added into the next contract? Which recommendations specifically were accepted?

Answer

Review into JSA and recommendations from this

The review was commissioned by Jobs Australia. The review was undertaken independently of the Department but departmental officers were consulted.

The Department has been working with JSA providers on strategies to reduce administrative burden. The findings of the NOUS Group review commissioned by Jobs Australia were taken into account by the Department through those strategies.

On 16 May 2011 Minister Ellis announced the establishment of the Advisory Panel on Employment Services Administration and Accountability.

Since June 2011 the Advisory Panel has been consulting with the employment services industry including Jobs Australia, welfare stakeholders, academics, international experts and Government.

The Advisory Panel released a Discussion Paper on 14 November 2011 for public comment and has received submissions. The Advisory Panel is expected to submit a final report in mid 2012.