

**EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

**SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
2008-09 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING**

**Outcome**            4

**DEEWR Question No. EW35\_09**

Senator Mason provided in writing.

**Question**

*Productivity Places Program*

Under heading 11, Contractual Arrangements, 11.2 (page 40 of the draft guidelines), it states 'Services contracts may be entered into with approved RTOs at any time during the period of the programme. Services contracts will expire on June 30, 2008, unless the Commonwealth, at its absolute discretion, decides to extend the contract period. Is it the Commonwealth's intention to extend these contracts past 30 June, 2008?

**Answer**

Registered Training Organisations contracted under the Productivity Places Program prior to 30 June 2008 have been offered contract extensions to 31 December 2008.