

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10**

Outcome **4**

DEEWR Question No. EW0147_10

Senator Payne provided in writing.

Question

Australian Employment Covenant

In 2009-10, what support or assistance is being provided by the government to the Australian Employment Covenant Initiative, in dollar terms and in terms of staff and other resources.

If funding is being provided in 2009-10, can the department indicate where in the Budget papers a reference to this funding can be found?

Answer

The AEC Executive are being supported directly in 2009-10 through a funding deed comprising an up front payment and outcomes based payments. The maximum amount payable under the deed over 3 years is \$21.2 million (including GST). Actual payments made under the deed will depend on the outcomes achieved over the course of the year.

The department is also working closely with the AEC Executive to finalise arrangements whereby up to five DEEWR staff will be seconded to work with the AEC Executive team.

The AEC initiative as a whole is being funded from within existing departmental and administered appropriations. Direct payments to the AEC Executive under the funding deed are being made through Indigenous Employment appropriations (page 147 of the PBS).