

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

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

**Outcome/Agency        4**

**DEEWR Question No. EW164\_10**

Senator Mason asked on Monday, 1 June 2009 DEWR Hansard page 10.

**Question**

*Clarification required on contract no. 177319 'Western Chamber of Commerce'.*

Senator Mason asked the Secretary of DEWR, Ms Paul, to provide more details about the 'economic development officer and mentor' and 'the details of who is being employed and so forth' within contract no. 177319. Ms Paul said she believed that the contracts related to the Indigenous Employment Program and asked to take the question on notice.

**Answer**

The Funding Agreement with the Western Cape Chamber of Commerce (WCCC) is to support the full time employment of two Indigenous business and employment development professionals for Weipa, Queensland through the Indigenous Employment Program (IEP).

The two employees will be responsible to the WCCC Executive Committee, will support the development of a local Indigenous Economic Development Plan and will hold the following positions:

**Indigenous Business Development Officer** – will work with Indigenous organisations and existing enterprises (including CDEP) and individuals, State and Federal Government agencies, employment and training provider stakeholders and private sector businesses to identify and stimulate a range of employment and commercial ventures for local Indigenous individuals.

**Indigenous Mentor Trainer** – will foster, coordinate and support the active participation of Indigenous business both in the community and in the broader business community. Specifically, the position will develop the skills of existing Indigenous business owners and provide mentor support to those clients, work with Indigenous organisations to establish effective business structures to support community-based ventures, provide advice regarding possible governance training access and opportunities.

The total amount of this project is \$655 696.00, including GST. This cost covers all associated wage and travel costs for the two full time Indigenous business and employment development professionals for a twenty-four month period.

The Queensland Government is actively supporting this project through provision of funding for on-costs, vehicle lease, laptop computer and phone for the two officers.

The Funding Agreement was executed on 13 June 2008 and ends on 30 June 2010.