

Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2011-2012**

Outcome 4 - Employment & Participation Policy

DEEWR Question No. EW0217_12

Senator Nash provided in writing.

Question

Building Australia's Future Workforce

The budget No 2 paper states there is \$9.5 million over five years to 'monitor and evaluate' measures announced in the Building Australia's Future Workforce. • How does the govt justify this cost? • How will the money be spent? • Will it be done by existing staff or will more be employed or will it be contracted?

Answer

The Building Australia's Future Workforce package represents a significant investment in supporting people who face severe and multiple barriers to economic participation and social inclusion. In addition to evaluating the effectiveness of individual measures, it is important that the package is evaluated as a whole against its key objectives so that rigorous and integrated information is available as the basis for future policy development and improvement.

The \$9.5 million over five years for monitoring and evaluation of the Building Australia's Future Workforce package comprises funding for evaluation staff and funding to commission specific data and research.

The Building Australia's Future Workforce evaluation will be undertaken in part by departmental staff and in part by expert consultants contracted to undertake specific data collection and research projects.