

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

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

Cross Portfolio

DEEWR Question No. EW0220_12

Senator Nash provided in writing.

Question

Regional Education, Skills and Job Plans

In the budget there's \$19.1 million over three years to engage 34 Regional Strategists to develop regional education, skills and jobs plans aimed at improving education and job opportunities in 34 non-metropolitan places. a) • Where are these 34 places? b) • How were they determined? c) • How do the services of these Regional Strategists differ from existing job and training providers? d) • How and where will the money be spent?

Answer

- a & b) The 34 Education, Skills and Jobs (ESJ) Coordinators will work across the 46 non-metropolitan Regional Development Australia (RDA) regions. A list of the non-metropolitan RDA regions is attached at [Attachment A](#).
- c) The role of the Education, Skills and Jobs (ESJ) Coordinators differs from the role of the Local Employment Coordinators (LECs) as the scope of the ESJ Coordinators' work is broader than achieving jobs and training outcomes – it is to drive local strategies to increase participation in school education, tertiary education and skills development as well as improving local connections to employment. ESJ Coordinators will also focus on connecting individuals and communities with existing programs, services and funding opportunities in their regions. LECs will continue to focus more specifically on outcomes for jobseekers.
- d) In the Budget, \$19.1 million was committed over three years for Regional Education, Skills and Jobs Plans. Of this \$19.1 million, \$17.8 million is for the costs of 34 Education, Skills and Jobs (ESJ) Coordinators, who will develop and implement the Regional Education, Skills and Jobs Plans. The remaining \$1.326 million is administered funding to support community engagement activities and other projects initiated by the ESJ Coordinators.

ATTACHMENT A

List of non-metropolitan Regional Development Australia regions

| | RDA Region | State or Territory |
|----|--|--------------------|
| 1 | Darling Downs and South West | QLD |
| 2 | Far North Queensland & Torres Strait | QLD |
| 3 | Townsville and North West | QLD |
| 4 | Fitzroy and Central West | QLD |
| 5 | Mackay/Whitsunday | QLD |
| 6 | Wide Bay Burnett | QLD |
| 7 | Sunshine Coast | QLD |
| 8 | Moreton Bay | QLD |
| 9 | Ipswich and West Moreton | QLD |
| 10 | Gold Coast | QLD |
| 11 | Logan and Redlands | QLD |
| 12 | Far West | NSW |
| 13 | Orana | NSW |
| 14 | South Coast | NSW |
| 15 | Illawarra | NSW |
| 16 | Southern Inland | NSW |
| 17 | Murray | NSW |
| 18 | Central West | NSW |
| 19 | Riverina | NSW |
| 20 | Northern Inland | NSW |
| 21 | Hunter | NSW |
| 22 | Central Coast | NSW |
| 23 | Northern Rivers | NSW |
| 24 | Mid North Coast | NSW |
| 25 | Loddon Mallee | VIC |
| 26 | Barwon South West | VIC |
| 27 | Grampians | VIC |
| 28 | Hume | VIC |
| 29 | Gippsland | VIC |
| 30 | Tasmania | TAS |
| 31 | Whyalla and Eyre Peninsula | SA |
| 32 | Far North | SA |
| 33 | Yorke and Mid-North | SA |
| 34 | Murraylands and Riverland | SA |
| 35 | Limestone Coast | SA |
| 36 | Barossa | SA |
| 37 | Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island | SA |
| 38 | Goldfields -Esperance | WA |
| 39 | Kimberley | WA |
| 40 | South West | WA |
| 41 | Great Southern | WA |
| 42 | Mid West Gascoyne | WA |
| 43 | Pilbara | WA |
| 44 | Wheatbelt | WA |
| 45 | Peel | WA |
| 46 | Northern Territory (Darwin) | NT |