

**SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION
LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**2004-2005 BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING
31 MAY AND 1 JUNE 2004**

EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Outcome 1: Efficient and effective labour market assistance

Output Group: 1.2 Labour market programme management and delivery

Output: Employment Services

Question Number: W111-05

Question:

Senator Ludwig asked in writing:

For the each of the i) 1999-00, ii) 2000-01, iii) 2001-02, iv) 2002-03, v) 2003-04 financial years, did the department budget for costs associated with developing culturally responsive and accessible services?

Answer:

The Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR) was established in November 2001. Information for 1999-00 is not readily retrievable.

The department does not specifically budget for costs associated with developing culturally responsive and accessible services. Tenderers for Job Network services in Employment Service Areas with a population that contains 10% or more Culturally and Linguistically Diverse clients are required to describe strategies to assist these clients as a condition of tender. In addition, all tenderers are required to describe how they will deliver services to disadvantaged groups. Job Network members have access to the Job Seeker Account, a pool of funds which can be drawn on to purchase interpreter and/or other culturally appropriate goods and services for job seekers to assist them find a job. The Department produces a variety of information products about employment services available to job seekers. Relevant products are available in community languages and can be downloaded from the internet at the following URL: www.workplace.gov.au/languages