

## EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS

### SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE – QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2008-09 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

**Outcome**            4

#### **DEEWR Question No. EW802\_09**

Senator Mason asked on 22 October, provided in writing.

#### **Question**

##### *Productivity Places Phase 2*

Regarding the delay in getting the states to sign up to their proposed funding model for training for existing workers and the subsequent cost to the Federal Government to get the states to sign up.

- Is this decision to shift responsibility for the administration of these federal funds an indication that the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations will be downsized?
- What is the nature of the agreement between the states and Commonwealth?
- Will there be a separate administration fee paid to the state governments?
- What are the expected savings for the Commonwealth?

#### **Answer**

- a) The decision to deliver the Productivity Places program through the states and territories is not an indication that the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations will be downsized.
- b) The nature of the final agreement between the states and the Commonwealth will be finalised through COAG.
- c) Payment of a separate administration fee to state governments is not being considered
- d) See answer a)