

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

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

**Outcome/Agency**                      **4**

**DEEWR Question No.**                **EW509\_10**

Senator Cash provided in writing.

**Question**

*Indigenous Employment*

- (a) Does DEEWR believe successful tenderers had sufficient time to find premises, sign leases, set up IT equipment and hire staff, ready to commence on the 1st July 2009?
- (b) By what date were all providers fully operational?

**Answer**

- (a) DEEWR did not make it a requirement for providers to have premises, signed leases, established IT equipment and staff in place by a set date. The nature of these panel arrangements, whereby providers were not guaranteed business, meant that to impose any such requirements would have added a potentially significant financial burden on each organisation appointed to one or both of the Panels without any guarantee of the providers being able to recoup their investment. Panel members' readiness to provide services is taken into consideration during any subsequent negotiations of project proposals.
- (b) See answer above. Providers were not required to be established by a set date but operate on a project by project basis.