

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

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

**Outcome** **4**

**DEEWR Question No.** **EW652\_10**

Senator Cash asked on 21 October 2009, EEWHR Hansard page 95.

**Question**

*Work Experience Sub Contractors*

How many subcontractors are delivering work experience activities such as Work for the Dole?

**Answer**

The contractual arrangements that Job Services Australia (JSA) providers enter into allow for some or all of the services they are contracted to provide to be subcontracted to another entity. In these circumstances the JSA provider must obtain the Department's approval prior to entering into any such arrangement.

In certain other situations - particularly in relation to Work Experience Activities, the Deed permits subcontracting arrangements to be deemed to be 'approved' by the Department, on the condition that JSA providers ensure that these subcontract arrangements are in writing and bind the subcontractor to meet all the terms and conditions of the Deed. Of course, it is the JSA provider, who is the signatory to the Deed, who is responsible for delivering on its undertakings, regardless of any subcontracting arrangements that are in place.

This arrangement is similar to provisions in the previous *Employment Services Contract 2006-2009*.

As such, the number of subcontract/host/sponsor arrangements JSA providers enter into can fluctuate considerably, depending on factors such as job seeker caseload numbers, particular work experience activity requirements and the location and/or timing of activities. JSA providers are not contractually required to supply details of these organisations delivering their Work Experience activities as it is the JSA provider that remains fully accountable to the Deed.