

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

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Inquiry into the DEEWR Tender Process to award employment services contracts

EEWR_SIH_H72

Senator Fifield asked on 11 June 2009, EEWL Hansard page 87.

Question

Whether there was any contact, to your knowledge or the department's knowledge, with Mission Australia at any time on 2 April? And also at any time before that during the tender process?

Answer

On 2 April 2009 the department notified Tenderers including Mission Australia of the overall outcomes of their tender.

Throughout the tender period, communications with Tenderers including Mission Australia were conducted in accordance with the *Communication Protocol for dealing with existing service providers and Tenderers* published at Appendix E of the *Request for Tender for Employment Services 2009-12*.

In the time available, using the information referred to the Employment Services Purchasing Hotline during the tender process, the Department has identified four contacts between Mission Australia and the Minister's office. Reporting of such contact is in accordance with the Communications Protocol.