

**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_W27

Senator Siewert provided in writing.

Question

How many CDEP providers were there under the previous arrangements?

How many of these were successful tenders in the new process?

Answer

Tenders were received from large and small organisations, including a good mix of for-profit and not-for-profit organisations and a good mix of generalist and specialist bids from these organisations. This included a number of Indigenous and community organisations bidding in their own right, as part of a tendering group or community based partnership or under a sub contracting arrangement.

The tender outcomes have seen an expansion of Indigenous organisations, delivering mainstream and specialist employment services, particularly throughout NSW, NT, QLD and WA. Around 25 Indigenous organisations were successful in gaining business in their own right as part of a tendering group, and others are sub contracting to successful tenderers.

The CDEP program is administered by the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs.

Under current ("previous") arrangements there are eight organisations that deliver CDEP as well as providing one or more of Job Network, Community Work Coordinator, Personal Support Programme, Green Corps or Job Placement, Employment and Training services.

Of the eight organisations above, five were successful in their own right, one was successful as part of a tendering group and one will be subcontracting. The remaining organisation, a non indigenous organisation, was not successful in gaining Job Services Australia business.

In addition there were an additional fifteen existing CDEP organisations have been awarded Stream Services business who do not currently deliver the above employment services programs.