

**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_W54

Senator Humphries provided in writing.

Question

With regard to the internal review which DEEWR is conducting into the tender process, why are there no external parties such as providers or employers represented on this review?

Answer

As would be normal practice with any large scale project and in line with previous major procurements, the Department will conduct a project implementation review of the employment services purchasing process following the transition.

As with all departmental activities, the procurement process may also be subject to scrutiny by the Australian National Audit Office.

Continuing its extensive consultation with industry, the Australian Government announced on 7 May 2009 that it would form a reference group of employment service Providers, the Australian Services Union and organisations representing job seekers, in order to receive feedback and to provide the Government with advice about the conduct of future purchasing and related processes in the interest of continuous improvement.