



# The Hon Peter Dutton MP

## Minister for Workforce Participation

### Employment Services Purchasing Arrangements

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Why are the employment service contracts that are due to expire in 2005 being extended to 30 June 2006?

- ▶ Contracts for the Personal Support Programme, Job Placement, Employment and Training, Green Corps, Voluntary Work Initiatives and Disability Open Employment Services are being extended until 30 June 2006.
- ▶ Extending these contracts will be subject to satisfactory performance and will allow changes arising from the Government's welfare to work reforms to be incorporated into the services purchased.

What are the purchasing arrangements for Job Network?

- ▶ The current Job Network contracts run until 30 June 2006.
- ▶ Most of the existing Job Network contracts will be extended for three years until 30 June 2009.
- ▶ The offers of extension will be subject to satisfactory performance.
- ▶ A rolling schedule of local area level tenders will be introduced to replace poor performing providers throughout the contract period. The rolling tenders will be conducted in association with the six-monthly performance reviews.

What other employment service contracts are being extended for three years until 30 June 2009?

- ▶ New Enterprise Incentive Scheme, National Harvest Labour Information Service contracts and existing Disability Open Employment Services will be extended to 30 June 2009.
- ▶ Active Job Placement only licensees will be invited to extend their licences until 30 June 2009. Job Placement licences will continue to be issued on an ongoing basis, as applications are received.
- ▶ All offers of extension and invitations to extend licences are subject to satisfactory performance.

**Budget**  
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What are the benefits of these purchasing arrangements?

- ▶ They avoid the disruption and performance downturn experienced in previous large tenders.
- ▶ They provide stability in the delivery of employment services to job seekers and will continue to drive the current strong performance.
- ▶ They provide opportunity for potential new entrants to enter the market every six months.

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What are the arrangements for the other employment service contracts?

- ▶ Open tenders will be conducted when required to contract providers to deliver Community Work Coordinators, Harvest Labour Services, Green Corps and Voluntary Work Initiatives in the 2005-06 year for the period 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2009.
  - ▶ The Job Placement, Employment and Training programme is subject to a standard budget programme review. Purchasing arrangements for that programme will be announced once the review is complete.
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