

Review and Evaluation of the Outsourced Assessment Service

Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

Background information

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) is committed to improving the learning outcomes for students with disabilities and additional learning needs. DEECD allocates in excess of \$400 million per year to the 'Program for Students with Disabilities (PSD)', through which, individual funding is provided to education facilities to support students with disabilities in government schools.

Victorian government school students with a disability and additional learning needs are eligible for the Program for Students with Disabilities, provided they meet the eligibility criteria for one of seven categories. The assessment of students under the categories of Intellectual Disability and Severe Language Disorder with Critical Educational Need are undertaken by Lewis and Lewis. This outsourcing model for assessments is formally titled the 'Outsourced Assessment Service'.

Lewis and Lewis have now provided this service on a statewide level since July 2007.

The Review and Evaluation

As this service has been operating for two years, the Department will conduct a review and evaluation of the outsourced assessment service. KPMG has been contracted by DEECD to complete this process. An Evaluation Framework has been developed with an aim to:

- evaluate the current business processes associated with the Outsourced Assessment Service; and
- provide direction through the development of a recommended model of service provision and procurement for future service implementation in 2010 and beyond.

KPMG is to provide a 'Draft' report to DEECD by Friday 10 July.

Invitation to provide a submission

As a component of the review and evaluation process, KPMG would like to invite individuals and groups who are involved with the Outsourced Assessment Service to provide a written submission. Specifically, written submissions should contain information on:

- the advantages and disadvantages of the current and alternative models of service delivery; and
- areas for improvement to the current model.

Other information that KPMG would like to hear about includes:

- Is the current process for the Assessment Service effective and efficient?



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- Are processes implemented and coordinated with day-to-day school activities?
- Are stakeholders satisfied with the service model? Why/Why not?

A written submission answering the topics above can be provided to KPMG via our central e-mail system at:

- AU-FMDEECDReview@kpmg.com.au.

Please note that KPMG will only acknowledge receipt of the submission and not respond to each issue outlined in the written submission. The closing date for written submissions will be 5pm Friday 3 July.

Project contacts

If you would like any further information about the project, please contact either KPMG or DEECD on the details below.

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