

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND**  
**INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO**  
**2011-12 Budget Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number:** 6

**Question No:** 171

**Topic:** Pay Equity

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Cash** asked:

In a 9 March 2011 speech to the National Press Club Minister Ellis states that ‘pay equity will be enshrined in the objects of the (EOWA) Act and businesses will be required to report against it. This will allow us to see where gender pay gaps are emerging or growing.’

What did Minister Ellis mean when she told the Press Club equal pay would be ‘enshrined in the objects’ of the Act – will equal pay for equal work be a requirement?

**Answer:**

This is a matter more appropriately directed to Minister Ellis.