

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education Portfolio
Budget Estimates Hearing 2012-13
28 and 29 May 2012

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION, SCIENCE, RESEARCH AND TERTIARY EDUCATION

TOPIC: Small Business Hotline

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, Tuesday 29 May 2012, page 55)

QUESTION No.: BI-88

Senator RYAN: Can the small business hotline give advice to small businesses that call on awards?

Ms Launder: The advisers who man the hotline would not specifically give advice about awards. They would direct businesses to where they might be able to get that information, depending on the particular award that they are seeking information on. They will be able to refer them.

Senator RYAN: Can you give me some examples of where someone might be referred to if there are multiple places that they could be referred to?

Ms Launder: By that I mean that if they were making inquiries about a specific award, the information that they gather in terms of being as well equipped as they can to answer a broad range of questions, so depending on the specific award that is being asked about, if it is a national award or a state based award they would be able to refer them through to the appropriate area.

Senator RYAN: If it was a Commonwealth award, where would they refer someone to?

Ms Launder: I cannot answer that question. I can take it on notice.

ANSWER

The Small Business Support Line refers enquiries about Commonwealth awards to Fair Work Australia.