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Additional Estimates 2003-2004 – 19 February 2004

Employment and Workplace Relations portfolio

QoN	Area	Hansard page no:	Senator	Subject
W316-04	OEA	53/54	Wong	Could the OEA provide to the Committee a copy of the Report and data from the Freedom of Association Survey?
W317-04	OEA	55	Wong	(a) What was the cost of establishing the Youth Web Site? (b) What was the cost of maintaining the Web Site? (c) How many hits has the Web Site received?
W318-04	OEA	57 & Written	Wong	(a) How many Commonwealth Public Servants are on AWAs? (b) What proportion is this of all Commonwealth Public Servants? (c) What proportion of the total number of AWAs in the Australian workforce does this constitute?
W319-04	OEA	58	Wong	(a) What is the average length of time taken to get an AWA approved? (b) What is the longest period of time? (c) What is the average length of time for rejection of an AWA? (d) What is the longest period of time for a rejection?
W320-04	OEA	58	Wong	Have there been agreements that OEA have determined do not meet the no-disadvantage test but have subsequently been approved by the Commission?
W321-04	OEA	70	Wong	(a) How many workshops on business case for non-casual employment through AWAs did the OEA run in 2003? (b) What was the total cost of OEA workshops including the casual workers workshops?
W322-04	OEA	Written	Wong	Do you keep records of the types of provisions found in AWAs?
W323-04	OEA	Written	Wong	Could you please advise the Committee what proportion of AWAs contain the following provisions: (a) paid maternity leave (b) the right to request part-time work by an employee (c) job sharing (d) home based work (e) family responsibilities (f) paid family leave (g) unpaid family leave What time period does this analysis cover?
W324-04	Comcare	Written	Harradine	How many claims have been made to Comcare for work-related injury in the past year? Please provide a breakdown of numbers of claims and amounts of compensation paid per year for the past five years?
W325-04	Comcare	Written	Harradine	Of the total number of claims made to Comcare for which Comcare makes a determination to not accept or not to continue to accept liability, how many of these are appealed and how many of these appeals are successful - please provide a breakdown for the last five years of claims rejected and successfully appealed?
W326-04	Comcare	Written	Harradine	How many specialists does Comcare employ to assist it in making determinations as to whether to continue liability or otherwise? How does Comcare determine which specialists it employs (as consultants or in any other role)? How does Comcare determine whether to discontinue using a particular specialist? Please provide a list of all

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				specialists employed by Comcare, their names, positions and company, and the dollar amounts paid to each for each of the last five years?
W327-04	Comcare	Written	Harradine	How many claims have been made to Comcare for Occupational Overuse Injury or similar conditions over the past five years? Of OOI claims not accepted or claims which Comcare has determined to discontinue accepting liability for, how many of these are successfully appealed?
W328-04	Comcare	Written	Harradine	Please provide a table showing a breakdown for each of the past five years how many claims Comcare received, how many were refused, how many were appealed within Comcare, how many went to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal, and how many went to court (please indicate court levels).
W329-04	Comcare	Written	Harradine	Have any external or independent reviews of Comcare performance and/or client satisfaction been carried out in the past five years? Please provide details of such reviews and the findings of these reviews. Please provide full copies of the results of such reviews conducted in the last two years. Were any gaps identified in the delivery of Comcare services to injured workers? What were these gaps and how is the Department addressing them?
W330-04	Comcare	Written	Harradine	Have there been investigations of corruption within Comcare within the last five years? If so, please provide details.
W331-04	Cross/ Corp	49	Campbell	How does DEWR's staff turnover rate of 13% for 2002-03 compare to other Government Departments?
W332-04	Cross/ FMG	49 & Written	Campbell	Have the administration costs of establishing the Job Network overshot the Department's budget. If so, by how much?
W333-04	Cross/ FMG	71	Wong	Has the Department made any payment in the last 12 months under programs Administered in any part or in any agency of the Department to the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI). If so please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Details on such payments; (b) The name and nature of the programs; (c) When the payments were received for the first time or when they were received in previous years and, if they were received in previous year, in which years? (d) Are there any performance indicators attached to the funding and, if so, what are they, how often are they assessed? (e) When will the funding be re-evaluated or be re-opened to other potential recipients?
W334-04	Corp	74	Wong	Could the Department provide information communicated to Graduates concerning Departmental policy in relation to AWAs and Certified Agreements?
W335-04	Corp	Written	Wong	How many staff are currently employed by the Department and its agencies?
W336-04	Corp	Written	Wong	Please provide an organisational chart and the names of each Division, Branch and Section of the Department
W337-04	Corp	Written	Wong	How many employees are engaged in each Division, Branch and Section of the Department and how many employees and what are their classification levels?
W338-04	Corp	Written	Wong	How many Senior Executive Officers (or equivalent) were employed by the Department in 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-00, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04?

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W339-04	Corp	Written	Wong	What was the base and top (including performance pay) wages of APS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 (or equivalent), Executive Level 1 and 2 (or equivalent), and SES band 1, band 2 and band 3 (or equivalent) in DEWR in 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-00, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04?
W340-04	Corp	Written	Wong	What was the average salary for an SES (or equivalent) in DEWR in 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-00, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04?
W341-04	Corp	Written	Wong	How many staff had mobile phones issued by DEWR in 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-00, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04 to date?
W342-04	Corp	Written	Wong	What was the total mobile phone bill for DEWR in 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-00, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04 to date?
W343-04	Corp	Written	Wong	How many SES (or equivalent) were issued with cars in the DEWR in 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-00, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04?
W344-04	Corp	Written	Wong	<p>Could you please list all 'management retreats/training' conducted by DEWR which were attended by employees during 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04 to date. For such meetings held off-site could you please indicate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • where (location and hotel) and when they were held; • how much was spent in total; • how much was spent on accommodation; • how much was spent on food; • how much was spent alcohol/drinks; and • how much was spent on transport.
W345-04	Corp/ FMG	Written	Wong	How many overseas trips were taken by DEWR employees - paid for by DEWR - in 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-00, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04 to date?
W346-04	Corp/ FMG	Written	Wong	What were the destinations of each of these overseas trips?
W347-04	Corp/ FMG	Written	Wong	<p>(a) What was the total cost of staff overseas trips for DEWR in 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-00, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04 to date?</p> <p>(b) Please provide a breakdown on the cost of expense reimbursements, accommodation allowances, food allowances and airflights for each of these trips.</p>
W348-04	Corp/ FMG	Written	Wong	<p>(a) What was the total cost of staff domestic trips for DEWR in 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-00, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04 to date?</p> <p>(b) Please provide a breakdown on the cost of expense reimbursements, accommodation allowances, food allowances and airflights for each of these trips.</p>
W349-04	Corp/ FMG	Written	Wong	How many overseas trips of Ministerial Staff were paid for by DEWR in 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-00, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04 to date?
W350-04	Corp/ FMG	Written	Wong	What was the total cost of overseas trips of Ministerial Staff paid for by DEWR in 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-00, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04 to date?
W351-04	Corp	Written	Wong	How much was spent on advertising by DEWR in 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-00, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04 to date?
W352-04	Corp	Written	Wong	Did DEWR produce publications that provided electorate

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W353-04	Corp	Written	Wong	breakdowns on spending on government programs in 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-00, 2000-01, 2001- 02, 2002-03, 2003-04 to date? How much was spent on advertising which provided electorate breakdowns of spending by the government on programs within DEWR in 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998- 99, 1999-00, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04 to date?
W354-04	Corp	Written	Wong	How much was spent on consultancies by DEWR in 1996-97,1997-98,1998-99, 1999-00, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04 to date?
W355-04	Corp	Written	Wong	Does the Department have a panel of legal providers with whom it contracts for the provision of legal services? If so, which legal firms are on this panel? When was this panel established? How long are the legal providers on the panel for? When is the panel reassessed?
W356-04	Corp/ FMG	Written	Wong	Could you provide a list of all administered programs in DEWR, including: (a) A description of the program; (b) The policy objective of the program; (c) The number of people and/or organisations directly receiving funds/assistance under the program; (d) A breakdown on those receiving funds/assistance under the program by electorate; (e) Whether the program is ongoing; (f) The funding in each financial year of the forward estimates for the program (with a breakdown of administered and departmental expenses), including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how much funding was allocated for the program; • how much is committed to the program; and • how much is unspent. (g) An indication of whether an evaluation of the program effectiveness has been conducted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • if so, when that evaluation occurred; and • if so, the conclusion of that evaluation.
W357-04	Corp	Written	Carr	These questions are addressed to the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations for response by the Department and by all Agencies within that portfolio. 1. For each agency within the Department, please provide full details of each of the performance assessment mechanisms linked to the pay outcomes or other financial reward of individual employees, including; (a) What are the current process/es of performance assessment within the portfolio agency? If more than one, please provide details of each, and the employee category it applies to. (b) For each of the performance assessment process/es identified in (a), please list the range of outcome results an employee can achieve from each of the performance assessment processes identified in (a); (c) For each of the performance assessment process/es identified in (a), what pay or other financial change is linked to each outcome or result for the employee from the performance assessment [ie, the pay increase or one-off bonus or classification or level change]; (d) For each of the performance assessments identified in (a), what is he classification level of employees subject to this

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				<p>performance assessment (eg SES, EL1, EL2 or APS and equivalent);</p> <p>(e) What is the principal industrial or other instrument governing each of the performance assessment mechanism/s (eg, the certified agreement or AWA);</p> <p>(f) Does the performance assessment operates over a common cycle? Please provide the commencement and end dates of the most recent full cycle of each of the assessment process/es.</p> <p>2. For each performance assessment mechanism described in (1), advise the number of male and the number of female employees at each possible outcome, by classification level for the most recent full cycle (if the performance mechanism does not operate over a common cycle - aggregate outcomes using the 2002-03 financial year).</p>
W358-04	Corp	Written	Faulkner	<p>In relation to Departmental mobile phones could you provide the following information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> How many mobile phones have been issued to Minister Brough in the period since he was appointed Minister in the portfolio? How many mobile phones have been issued to the Minister's office for the above period? Can the Department confirm whether it is responsible for paying all, or part of, the accounts for mobile phones allocated to Minister Brough and his office. What is the total mobile phone bill for the Minister for the period set out in Question 1? What is the total mobile phone bill for the Minister's office for the period set out in Question 1? What staff in the Minister's office, by position or other description, have been allocated a mobile phone by the Minister? <p>Are there any mobile phones allocated to Minister Brough or his office which are not accounted for under questions 1 to 6 above? Is so, who has use of that mobile phone or phones?</p>
W359-04	1	4	Campbell	<p>Could the Department please provide a detailed breakdown of the training that is being purchased under the Job Seeker Account as well as other figures categorised in answer to W264-04?</p>
W360-04	1	5	Campbell	<p>What is the age profile of people taking literacy and numeracy courses? [Refer W265-04 from November hearings]</p>
W361-04	1	6	Campbell	<p>For the actual job seekers who have accessed the Job Seeker Account, what is the range of payments that have been paid out? What are the exact number of jobseekers, in bands, in the various ranges?</p>
W362-04	1	7	Webber	<p>What does the \$0.839 million spent on 'Other' cover?</p>
W363-04	1	7	Webber	<p>How many job seekers have accessed 'Job Seeker Incentives'?</p>
W364-04	1	8	Webber	<p>What percentage of eligible job seekers have accessed the Training Account?</p>
W365-04	1	9	Webber	<p>Of the courses paid for out of the training account:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What is the average duration of the courses; and What is the average cost of the courses?
W366-04	1	9	Webber	<p>What is the outcome rate for people who have accessed their training accounts?</p>
W367-04	1	9	Webber	<p>What is the percentage of training courses that are paid for that are</p>

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				not accredited?
W368-04	1	13/14	Campbell	In regard to the initial figure of 780,000 job seekers in which the modelling was based on, what was the proportion of activity tested and non-activity tested job seekers?
W369-04	1	19	Campbell Webber	With reference to an article that appeared in the Sunday Herald Sun on 29 June concerning claimants contacted by the Federal Government to resubmit their resumes: (a) Were the figures quoted in the article correct for that period? (b) Of the 300,000 claimed to have been contacted, would they be deemed to be actively tested? (c) How many of the 84,000 mentioned in the article were actually on benefit and how many of there were deemed to be actively tested?
W370-04	1	19	Webber	Did the Department provide a brief to the Minister on how many people it believed would lose their benefits from the new System?
W371-04	1	21	Webber	In an article in The Australian on 11 July there was a claim that 70% of job seekers were failing to turn up to meetings with their job network provider. Was this figure accurate and did the Department provide that figure to the newspaper?
W372-04	1	33	Webber	Has the use of mobile phones by Job Seekers shown that there is more of a metropolitan take-up and success rate that for people outside the metropolitan area?
W373-04	1	34	Campbell	Could the Department please provide a breakdown of the locations that the proposals received under the Employment Innovation Fund cover?
W374-04	1	34	Campbell	What is the age and gender breakdown of the participants on the Transition to Work Program?
W375-04	1	38	Campbell	In regard to the rejection of the Pathways Employment Services Employment Innovation Fund application for a Pasmenco Employee Support Program: (a) In what way did the application for this project not meet the Guidelines of funding under the Innovation fund? (b) What was the recommendation of the Project Application Review Committee on this Pathways project? (c) Can the Department provide a copy of the assessment process undertaken by the Review Committee? (d) Did the Area Consultative Committee or the DEWR State Office or other staff support the Pathways Project?
W376-04	1	39	Campbell	Has the Department undertaken any research on the impact of early assistance for retrenched workers in reducing unemployment, particularly long-term unemployment? If so, can a copy be provided?
W377-04	1	39	Campbell	(a) Are there programs currently operating in the Hunter Region for retrenched workers? (b) If not, why was the project proposed by Westlakes Community Training Services not considered for this region? (c) How does this project differ in the timing of the assistance offered currently on the Job Network Service?
W378-04	1	39	Campbell	(a) What has been the success of Job Network in the Hunter Region in placing the unemployed persons who are retrenched, into employment?

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				(b) What is the average length of unemployment for these persons?
W379-04	1	40	Webber	(a) Can the Department provide the names of the organisations identified as having been refused permission to advertise on the Australian Job Search Web Site? (b) Have any other organisations been refused permission since November 2003? (c) What vacancies were they trying to advertise? (d) Could the Department provide a list of the occupation or the industry of vacancies that have been refused?
W380-04	1	41	Webber	What has been the total cost of advertisements to date for the campaign aimed at encouraging the use of Job Network by employers in certain industries?
W381-04	1	9/45	Webber	(a) Could the Department provide a breakdown of complaint categories for Job Network? (b) How many complaints about Job Network have been received by the Customer Service Line from 1 November 2003 to 31 January 2004? (c) How do the number of complaints about Job Network received in the current financial year compare to the number of complaints received in previous years? (d) Have there been any complaints to the Customer Service Line about the difficulties in accessing training or job seeker accounts?
W382-04	1	47	Campbell	Could the Department provide a copy of the report on the Star-rating system for ESC3?
W383-04	1	47	Campbell	How many potential interim outcome placements occurred between 1 April and 30 June 2003?
W384-04	1	Written	Wong	In December 2003 DEWR undertook a survey that it stated was to be used "to identify more effective ways of helping people look for employment that suits their individual needs." (a) How much did this survey cost? (b) Who conducted the survey? Were external providers involved in the conduct or analysis of this survey? If so, who were they and how much were they each paid for their services? (c) How many people were asked the survey questions? (d) How were the survey participants selected? (e) Please provide information to the Committee about the number of participants: (i) by electorate (ii) by age group (iii) by gender (iv) by employment status Please provide the results of this survey to the Committee.
W385-04	1	Written	Wong	(a) Did DEWR conduct any surveys of attitudes towards programs run by their department in 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-00, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04 to date? (b) If so, about which programs were these surveys conducted? (c) What were the findings of these surveys?
W386-04	2	78	Wong	(a) How many visits has the Office of Workplace Services undertaken to assist with the implementation of the Workplace Relations Amendment (Improved Protection for Victorian Workers)

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				Act 2003?
				(b) How many brochures and fact sheets have been distributed?
				(c) How many queries have been responded to?
W387-04	2	79	Marshall	(a) Could the Department provide specifications provided to Econtech to produce the report on Productivity in the Building Industry?
				(b) Was Econtech advised to make predetermined assumptions to base their report on?
W388-04	2	82	Wong	(a) Please provide a breakdown of the costs of the Government delegation to the ILO for the current financial year?
				(b) Please provide a breakdown of the costs of the delegation to the ILO for the 2002-03 financial year?
				(c) Please also provide a breakdown of the costs of the delegation to the last ILO conference?
W389-04	2	85/86	Wong	Does the Department have statistics as to how many federal awards, through the Award Simplification process, have had the provision for part-time work in connection with parental leave removed?
W390-04	2	87	Wong	When did the Department provide advice to Government on the ACTU Test Case on the issue of right of Request?
W391-04	2	94	Wong	Who are the principals of Turning Point Research?
W392-04	2	96	Wong	Did the Department agree to the text in the ABS Web Site concerning the purpose of the Wage Analysis Survey
W393-04	2	97	Wong	In regard to the Department's study on the Impact of Unfair Dismissal on Employment Practices released in 2002:
				(a) Did the process of selecting the person to undertake the analysis to out to tender?
				(b) What was the cost of the analysis?
W394-04	2	98	Wong	Could the Department provide the total costs associated with each case the Minister has intervened in since the November 2003 Supplementary Budget Estimates?
W395-04	2	106	Wong	(a) Could the Department provide the total number of complaints received for the last three quarters?
				(b) How many of the these complaints resulted in prosecution?
				(c) What proportions of cases are resolved without payment of money and what proportion are resolved with payment of money?
W396-04	2	108	Wong	How much has the Office of Workplace Services spent on external Counsel this financial year? Could the Department provide year to date figures for legal fees such as Court Fees and Filing fees?
W397-04	2	108/109	Wong	In relation to complaints received about underpayment of wages or entitlements from the Building and Construction Industry in the last six months:
				(a) How many have been received?
				(b) How many have been resolved
				(c) How many were required to proceed to prosecution?
W398-04	2	109/110	Wong	Is the Department aware of any problems with the graduate skilled visa expiring before TRA complete the processing of an application?
W399-04	2	110/111	Wong	Could the Department provide a list of persons or organizations on the panel of providers and the costs for:
				(a) the last financial year; and
				(b) this year to date.
W400-04	2	114	Wong	With regard to GEERS entitlements to Westlake Community

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				Training Services, could the Department indicate: (a) When the applications were received; (b) If they have been paid; and (c) If not, when they can be expected to be paid.
W401-04	2	118/119 & Written	Marshall	(a) Can the Taskforce advise dates and times on which its officers attended the Gosnells Civic Centre Construction site in Metropolitan Perth? (b) Is so, can the Taskforce confirm which officers attended the site and for what purposes? (c) Can the Taskforce advise why its officers advised representatives from the CFEMU that persons engaged by bricklaying contractors on the site were independent contractors, when it has been stated previously providing such advice and investigating such matters is not part of their remit? (d) Can the Taskforce furnish the committee with copies of all notes, diaries, and other records kept in relation to its officers visits to this and other Consolidated sites? (e) Can the Taskforce advise why its officers advised representatives from the CFMEU that persons engaged by bricklaying contractors on the site were independent contractors, when Taskforce officers do not receive training on how to distinguish independent contractors from employees?
W402-04	2	121	Wong	Has the Taskforce taken any action for breaches of Award in relation to any condition of employment, non-provision of a condition of employment to an employee?
W403-04	2	127/128	Wong	How many cases have been assessed and how many have been referred by the Taskforce for the following: (a) Underpayment or nonpayment of Workers Compensation premiums; (b) Phoenix companies; (c) Sham independent subcontracting; (d) Abuse of illegal migrant workers; and (e) Cash in hand payments.
W404-04	2	Written	Wong	(a) Are Taskforce officers provided with cars for their use during work hours? (b) Is each taskforce officer provided with such a car? If not, how many taskforce officers are provided with cars for their use during work hours? (c) Are Taskforce officers entitled to use their cars outside of work hours, or for personal use? (d) What is the annual cost to the Department for the provision of cars for Taskforce officers?
W405-04	2	Written	Wong	(a) Are Taskforce officers issued with Departmental mobile phones? (b) Are there Departmental guidelines for the use of mobile phones? If so, please provide a copy. (c) What is the annual cost to the Department for the provision of mobile phones to Taskforce officers, including equipment costs and call costs?
W406-04	2	Written	Wong	(a) Are Taskforce officers entitled to claim expenses for meals, drinks or corporate hospitality? (b) Have any Taskforce officers claimed reimbursement from

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				the Department for meals, drinks or corporate hospitality? If so what is the amount of such claims for the current financial year?
W407-04	2	Written	Wong	Can you please update the Committee about the amount spent on solicitors' and barristers' fees since its establishment?
W408-04	2	Written	Wong	Which firm or firms of solicitors has the Taskforce engaged?
W409-04	2	Written	Wong	How many cases of alleged wrongdoing on the part of employers has the Taskforce investigated? What is the nature of these cases? Do these cases simultaneously involve investigations of alleged wrong doing by unions?
W410-04	2	Written	Wong	How many matters has the Taskforce investigated? What have they concerned?
W411-04	2	Written	Wong	How many cases has the Taskforce initiated? What is the nature of those cases?
W412-04	2	Written	Wong	(a) Have Taskforce officers visited any building sites to ensure that they are complying with the government's building industry code of conduct? (b) If so, how many? Please identify these building sites, and provide information about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The value of Commonwealth Government funding for the project; • The proportion of Commonwealth Government funding for the project; • The department or agency that is funding the project. (c) Have any investigations arisen from these visits? (d) What is the progress of each of these investigations?
W413-04	2	Written	Wong	At page 168 of your annual report you note that your inquiry and compliance services are outsourced to State governments in Queensland, Western Australia, South Australia and Tasmania. (a) Is this a complete contracting out of the inquiry and compliance function in these States or do you retain some of these functions? (b) What is the value of these contracts in each relevant State? What has been the value of these contracts for each relevant State for each financial year since 1996-7? (c) What are the performance indicators required of the States in respect of these contracts? (d) How often are these contracts negotiated? (e) When will they next be renegotiated?
W414-04	2	Written	Wong	What is the basis of the policy of the Commonwealth not to pursue claims of unpaid entitlements under federal awards/agreements where the claim does not exceed \$10,000, (Submission of Counsel Assisting Non-Payment of Workers' Entitlements para 333) especially given that the Commonwealth accepts that the majority of claims are under this \$10,000 threshold (para 94)?
W415-04	2	Written	Wong	Will the policy not to pursue such matters through the courts continue indefinitely? How does this policy square with the "zero tolerance of unlawful practices" referred to by the Minister when the IBITF was set up?
W416-04	2	Written	Wong	Does the Department have any record of the number of cases involving claims of less than \$10,000 that have been pursued by individuals without Commonwealth assistance and have resulted in

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				court orders for the payment of money by employers?
W417-04	2	Written	Wong	In a media release on 19 December 2002, the Minister announced that "Reports of breaches of Commission orders to stop or prevent industrial action will be investigated and Commonwealth inspectors will bring civil proceedings in appropriate cases." Does this mean that even further priority will be given to allegations of union breaches at the same time as breaches of awards/agreements by employers will be ignored by the Department?
W418-04	2	Written	Wong	Does the Department accept that the assessment of Counsel Assisting that "Government agencies' approach to recovery of entitlements is generally reactive to problems and largely complaint driven and to leave complaints to be handled by unions or other mechanisms" (Para 244) applies to DEWR?
W419-04	2	Written	Wong	Does the Department consider the exploitation of immigrant labour to be a serious problem? Why is the Federal Government tough on border protection except when it comes to employers making a buck?
W420-04	2	Written	Wong	Please provide the following details in respect of each employer who was the subject of a GEERS claim made in the period 1 July 2003 -31 December 2003: (a) the name of the employer (b) the location of the employer (town/suburb and state) (c) the number of employees employed by the employer (d) the number of employees who made a GEERS claim (e) the total amount of annual leave owed (f) the total amount of long service leave owed (g) the total amount of notice payments owed (h) the total amount of unpaid wages owed (i) the total amount of redundancy pay owed (j) the total amount of redundancy pay paid under GEERS (k) was there any unpaid superannuation (l) the period of time between the time the claim was made and the time the GEERS payments were made.
W421-04	2	Written	Wong	In respect of all GEERS claims made in the period 1 July 2003 -31 December 2003, please provide the following: (a) the number of employers in each State (b) the average number of employees employed by the employer (c) the average number of employees per employer who made a GEERS claim (d) the total amount of annual leave payments paid (e) the total amount of long service leave paid (f) the total amount of notice payments paid (g) the total amount of unpaid wages paid (h) the total amount of unpaid redundancy pay owed to employees (i) the total amount of redundancy pay paid under GEERS (j) the total amount of unpaid superannuation (k) the average period of time between the time the claim was made and the time the GEERS payments were made.
W422-04	2	Written	Wong	(a) In respect of the Econtech, commissioned at a cost of \$76,500, about productivity in the building industry, were there any other

QoN	Area	Hansard page no:	Senator	Subject
				tender proposals for this research other than the ultimately successful one by Econtech?
				(b) If so, who were the other tenderers?
				(c) Please provide a detailed timeline of all stages of the tender process in respect of the commissioning of this report.
W423-04	1	Written	Carr	(a) Could the department provide a list of all employment, education and training programs targeted to assist parents returning to work and the forward estimates for each of these programs?
				(b) Could the Department provide an update on each of the programs and explain how it operates in relation to the type of assistance provided to the target group?
				(c) How many participants have gone through each program since its commencement?
				(d) Can the Department provide an itemised breakdown of where the funding has gone eg: advertising costs, Centrelink staff, external service providers or organisations etc?
				(e) Will there be funding continuing to these programs beyond 2004-2005? If not please outline the reasons why the programs will no longer be funded?
				(f) What has been the progress of each program, including any employment outcomes (full time, part time and casual employment outcomes) by gender, equity, age and target group?
W424-04	2	p. 110	Wong	Could the Department provide the costs, in this financial year, for the engagement by GEERs of external providers of services?