

**SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION
LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**2003-2004 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING
19 FEBRUARY 2004**

Outcome 2: Higher productivity, higher pay workplace

Output Group 2.1: Workplace Relations Policy and Analysis

Output 2.2.8: Interim Building Taskforce

Question Number: W401-04

Question:

Senator Marshall asked at *Hansard* page 118-119:

- (a) Can the Taskforce advise dates and times on which its officers attended the Gosnells Civic Centre Construction site in Metropolitan Perth?
- (b) If 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 CFMEU 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?

Answer:

- (a) The Taskforce does not divulge information of an operational nature.
- (b) The Taskforce does not divulge information of an operational nature.
- (c) Enquiries made of the Taskforce in Perth have established that on 28 October 2003, Mr Joe McDonald, Assistant Secretary of the CFMEU, Western Australia, was advised that bricklayers on the Gosnells Civic Centre construction site possess bona fide ABN numbers. This followed a complaint by Mr McDonald that these bricklayers had false ABN numbers.
- (d) The Taskforce does not divulge information of an operational nature.
- (e) Not relevant, see answer (c) above.