

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

**2004-2005 ADDITIONAL SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING
17 FEBRUARY 2005**

EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Comcare

Question Number: W279-05

Question:

Senator Marshall asked at Hansard page 118:

For each year since 2000 at the National Gallery of Australia, can Comcare provide a breakdown of:

- (a) The number of formal investigations undertaken;
- (b) The number of inquiries not investigated; and
- (c) The status of recommendations made as a result of these investigations.

Answer:

- (a) Since the year 2000, Comcare has commenced 17 formal investigations at the National Gallery of Australia (NGA). Of these, 14 are complete and 3 are not yet finalised.

One of the investigations conducted during this time (in 2001) was a Comcare initiated planned investigation (audit) of the NGA's occupational health and safety management system. Comcare conducts a rolling cycle of these planned investigations throughout the jurisdiction.

- (b) Since 2000, Comcare has received 36 formal incident notifications from the NGA. Comcare's practice in relation to incident notifications is to make enquiries before deciding whether a formal investigation is required. Comcare made enquiries in relation to all 36 notifications and 7 were formally investigated.

During this same period, Comcare received 20 complaints, either by telephone or in writing, from both former and current NGA staff. Comcare made enquiries in respect of all of these 20 complaints, 10 of which were subsequently investigated formally.

- (c) Of the 14 completed investigations, 2 made no recommendations and a further 2 have been formally reviewed by Comcare. The outcome of these reviews was that the NGA has made satisfactory progress in implementing the recommendations. The NGA has provided appropriate action plans to implement the recommendations arising from the remaining 10 completed investigations. Comcare will conduct reviews of the NGA's progress in implementing the recommendations in 2005-2006.