

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

**2005-2006 ADDITIONAL SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING
16 FEBRUARY 2006
EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO**

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

OFFICE OF THE EMPLOYMENT ADVOCATE

Question Number: W773-06

Question:

Senator Wong asked in writing:

Further to QON response W572-06, can OEA advise:

- a) what additional supplementation was received for the promotion of AWAs?
- b) How does it compare with budget allocations for activities related to both approval of AWAs and enforcing compliance?
- c) What proportion of its budget does the OEA expect will be focused on the lodgement of AWAs?
- d) How many staff has OEA budgeted for the administration of this process. Please provide a breakdown of numbers and staff levels?
- e) What was the additional supplementation for funding OEA community organisations?
- f) of the \$1,361,610.48 funding received for the 2 years from September 2004-August 2006, how much has been disbursed to date? How much remains?

Answer:

- a) The OEA did not receive any extra funds in 2005-06 solely for promoting AWAs. The OEA has received additional funds for agreement making out of which AWAs represent one of 6 workplace agreement types the OEA can receive under the new legislation.
- b) Not applicable, please refer to the answer in (a).
- c) Based on budgeted expenditure for Agreement Services, Client Services and Legal, but excluding IT and indirect expenditure, the budget forecast for the twelve months ending 30 June 2006 is that the OEA will utilise 22% of its 2005-06 budget on the lodgement function relating to AWAs. This takes account of the three quarters of the financial year during which the OEA was responsible for AWAs alone, and the single quarter when the OEA will receive lodgements of both AWAs and collective agreements.
- d). Staff numbers and classifications on a Full Time Equivalent (FTE) basis for 2005-06 are:

| Classification | FTE |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| OEA 2 | 11.4 |
| OEA 3 | 17.0 |
| OEA 4 | 28.8 |
| OEA 5 | 9.4 |
| OEA 6 | 11.8 |
| OEA M1 | 4.8 |
| OEA M2 | 1.0 |
| SES | 1.0 |
| Total FTE | 85.2 |

e) Nil

f) Presented in the below table is an overview of the community partner organisation contracts let, their value, amounts paid and balance remaining.

| <i>Working Women's Centres</i> | Contract value | Paid to date | Balance |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| QLD | \$75,645.12 | \$50,143.53 | \$25,501.59 |
| NSW (Closed 30th June 2005) | \$63,037.44 | \$23,877.82 | \$0.00 |
| NT | \$50,430.00 | \$33,620.04 | \$16,809.96 |
| SA | \$50,430.00 | \$21,012.85 | \$29,417.15 |
| TAS | \$50,430.00 | \$33,619.79 | \$16,810.21 |
| | | | |
| <i>Community Legal Centres</i> | | | |
| Job Watch VIC | \$210,125.04 | \$140,083.35 | \$70,041.69 |
| Para Districts aka Northern Community Services | \$147,087.60 | \$73,543.82 | \$73,543.78 |
| Dubbo aka Western Community Legal Centre | \$126,075.12 | \$84,050.08 | \$42,025.04 |
| Macquarie | \$147,087.60 | \$98,059.29 | \$49,028.31 |
| Welfare Rights & Legal Centre | \$52,531.20 | \$35,020.55 | \$17,510.65 |
| Launceston | \$94,556.16 | \$51,217.91 | \$43,338.25 |
| South West Brisbane CLC (aka Inala) | \$147,087.60 | \$98,060.60 | \$49,027.00 |
| Employment Law Centre of WA (aka WA Federation) | \$147,087.60 | \$98,058.86 | \$49,028.74 |
| | | | |
| TOTALS | 1,361,610.48 | 840,368.47 | 482,082.39 |