

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2006-2007 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 2.

Output Group: 2.4 - Funding for Higher Education

DEST Question No. E974_07

Senator Carr asked on 14 February 2007, EWRE Hansard page 112.

Question:

Could you check your correspondence and can you confirm that the following matters: Indigenous employment, intellectual freedom and workplace bullying were regarded as prohibited content – this is in correspondence to Edith Cowan University – on the basis that they did not pertain to the employment relationship?

Answer:

Higher Education Workplace Relations Requirements (HEWRRs) – Edith Cowan University

The department met with representatives of Edith Cowan University on 27 June 2006. At the meeting and in subsequent correspondence to the university dated 6 July 2006, the department advised that, in addition to the HEWRRs, workplace agreements must meet the requirements of the *Workplace Relations Act 1996* (the WR Act), particularly in relation to prohibited content. The university was encouraged to seek independent advice either from a legal practitioner and/or the Office of the Employment Advocate as to whether their draft agreements were compliant with the WR Act.