SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

2006-2007 ADDITIONAL SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING 15 FEBRUARY 2007 EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO

OUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Outcome 2: Higher productivity, higher pay workplace

Output Group 2.2: Workplace Relations Implementation

Output 2.2.3: Workplace Relations Services

Question Number: W1189-07

Question:

Senator Wong asked in writing:

<u>Unlawful Termination Assistance Scheme</u> Has DEWR conducted any research/analysis or sought the views of stakeholders in relations to whether applications should be able to use the same legal provider to run their unlawful dismissal claim? If so, what are their views? Is DEWR conducting an internal review of the efficacy of this restriction on the scheme?

Answer:

The Department has not conducted any research / analysis concerning the representation prohibition for legal practitioner providing legal advice under the Unlawful Termination Assistance Scheme.

The Department plans to conduct a review of the Scheme in April 2007 after 12 months of operation. The concerns that have been raised regarding the representation restriction will be considered as part of this review.

Estimated cost: Based on the FOI calculator it has taken approximately 2 hours and 10 minutes at an estimated cost of \$40 to prepare this answer.