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QoN No.	Agency/ Outcome	Senator	Hansard/ Ref	QUESTION
EW0813_10	4	CASH	written	It is stated that the Panel of Assessors will carry out a “range of assessment services to enhance employment participation by people with disability and their access to employment and workplace productivity. a) What are the “range of assessment services?” b) How will they enhance employment participation by people with disability and their access to employment and workplace productivity?
EW0814_10	4	CASH	written	Who is on the Panel of Assessors? What were the criteria for choosing their participation?
EW0815_10	3	CASH	written	I refer to the answer to QON EW 568_10 in relation to the State delivering of the PPP. The state and territory governments' have progressively assumed delivery of mainstream job seeker and existing worker PPP training places through 2009. It is stated in the answer that “State and territories have been set a calendar year target for delivery under the PPP above the level of state funded provision. Within this calendar year period state and territories have the flexibility to determine the timing of the delivery of the overall training effort". Please provide an update of the status of each state and territory.
EW0816_10	4	CASH	written	What plans are in place to ensure a smooth transition for participants in the previous program to the New Disability Employment Services?
EW0817_10	4	CASH	written	The Minister claims that ‘The NDRC aims to create at least 1000 jobs each financial year’ a) Where does the Minister anticipate these new job opportunities will be found? b) Will the NDRC keep accurate records on the “new job opportunities” that it creates each financial year to enable an independent audit to be undertaken to compare the Minister’s claims with the actual job creations?
EW0818_10	4	CASH	written	It is also stated that “participants would receive individual letters in mid January 2010 advising them about the new Disability Employment Services and letting them know if they will change to a new service providers”. a) On which specific dates in January were these letters sent out? b) How many letters were sent out? c) Have all letters been sent out?
EW0819_10	4	CASH	written	Will the achievement of these objectives be independently monitored – if not why not? If so, who will be undertaking the independent monitoring? What process

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				will be employed?
EW0820_10	4	CASH	written	With reference to the 7 objectives of the NDRC listed in the Minister's fact sheet. Is this the scope of the NDRC objectives? If not, what other objectives are there?
EW0821_10	3	CASH	written	I refer to DEEWR Q No: EW569_10 (f). Please provide a list of these providers and the number of times that they have been audited.
EW0822_10	3	CASH	written	It is stated that the objective of the EBPPP is to "assist individual enterprises increase their productivity...." What measures are in place to assess whether individual enterprises have actually increased their productivity?
EW0823_10	3	CASH	written	I refer to the answer to QON EW 570_10 (h) in which the Department advised that it had called in an External Auditor for one provider. Please provide an update as to the status of this audit.
EW0824_10	3	CASH	written	Evidence was given at the October 2009 Estimates hearing that 'The auditing of RTOs contracted under PPP is still ongoing, they are not listed in order to avoid jeopardising any formal investigation or cause unwarranted business damage to RTOs. Please advise if this is completed? If not why not? Why is it taking so long?
EW0825_10	3	CASH	written	I refer to the answer to QON EW759_10 in which it was stated that "The Commonwealth Government will compile a comprehensive annual report, in consultation with states that details the achievements in the delivery of training against targets. This report will be made publicly available and is expected to be completed in early 2010". Please advise of the status of the report.
EW0826_10	3	CASH	written	How much Federal Funding has been paid out to date to each state and territory under the PPP? All states are now required to submit monthly reports on their progress. When did each state / territory commence providing their relevant report? Are all states / territories providing these on time? If not, why not, which state/territory and what is being done to rectify this? What action will be taken when a state is seen to be performing badly? Has any action been taken on the states that performed badly?
EW0827_10	3	CASH	written	With reference to the Enterprise Based Productivity Places Program: (a) How many places under the Enterprise PPP have been taken up? (b) Please provide a breakdown of the Industry Skills Councils that have been involved in the EBPPP

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EW0828_10	3	CASH	written	At the October Estimates hearing the issue of the Roger Training Academy was raised and that it has been exposed as offering bogus qualifications in security. Evidence was given that the Department was conducting reviews on a variety of RTOs. Please advise: a. how many RTOs were being reviewed? b. Why they were being reviewed. c. What is the outcome of each review?
EW0829_10	4	CASH	written	In the fact sheet titled "Features of the New Disability Employment Services" it states that one of the features of the new Disability Employment Services is "a funding structure that targets resources to the most disadvantaged job seekers". What specific criteria have been developed to ensure that the funding structure will target resources to the most disadvantaged job seekers?
EW0830_10	4	CASH	written	3) In the Minister's letter dated 9 December 2009 the Minister states that 'All eligible people with disability, injury or health condition will have immediate access to individually tailored employment services better suited to their needs.' a) What does the Minister intend the word "eligible" under the new Disability Employment Services to mean? b) Please explain the differences, if any, between eligibility under the New Disability Employment Services and the former Disability Employment Network? c) What does the Minister intend the words "immediate access to mean?" Please quantify in specific time periods what is meant by "immediate access"?
EW0831_10	4	CASH	written	The fact sheet states that "the new Disability Employment Services will reward providers for working with employers to supply work ready job seekers who can meet local labour market demands". What specific criteria will the providers be judged against to determine if they should be rewarded to working with employers to supply work ready job seekers who can meet local labour market demands".
EW0832_10	4	CASH	written	The fact sheet also refers to "increased resources to assist job seeker with disability in remote areas". What specific criteria have been determined to ensure that these increased resources will be applied to assist job seeker with disability in remote areas?
EW0833_10	2	BACK	written	Is a funding application for hostel accommodation at Clontarf being considered by the Government? If so, where does is funding likely to found to fund this? Under which programme?

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EW0834_10	2	BACK	written	How much funding in total has been allocated to Government School Term Hostels by this Government? Can you provide me with a complete list of hostels / schools that this has been provided to and amounts? Can you provide me with details on where these are located? (Metropolitan / regional?)
EW0835_10	4	CASH	written	2) In the Minister's letter dated 9 December 2009 the Minister also states that 'The introduction of the new arrangements is expected to increase the participation of people with disability in employment across the country'. a) What does the Minister intend the words "expected to increase" mean? b) Please quantify the words "expected increase" in the context of the New Disability Employment Services? c) Will the New Disability Employment Services have failed if this "expected increase" does not occur? If not, why not? d) Will the Minister guarantee that under Labor's new Disability Employment Services there will be a significant increase in the participation of people with disability in employment across the country? If not, why not?
EW0836_10	4	CASH	written	1) I refer to the Minister's letter to Members and Senators on 9 December 2009, setting out changes to the Employment Assistance with people for disability and the outcome of the recent purchasing process. In the letter the Minister advised that from 1 March 2010 the new Disability Employment Services will be implemented across Australia. Accompanying the letter were various fact sheets. In the letter the Minister stated that "Disability Employment Services are a significant improvement in services for people with disability, their families and carers and employers". a) What does the Minister intend the words 'significant improvement' to mean? b) What specific measures has the Minister employed to determine that "significant improvement" has occurred? c) Will the Minister provide specific examples to sustain his claim that 'significant improvement' has occurred?
EW0837_10	4	CASH	written	In the fact sheet the Minister states that "decision in these processes was made by the Department at arm's length from the Minister and Government". a) What are the specific reasons for the Minister highlighting his claim that arms length decision making occurred in respect to the selection of providers for Disability services program A. b) Are there specific reasons as to why the Minister is highlighting the issue of arms length decision making. If so, what are they? c) Please provide a summary of the "arms length decision making process" and what

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				this entailed. d) Will the Minister give a guarantee that he had absolutely no involvement whatsoever in the selection of providers for disability employment services Program A.
EW0838_10	4	CASH	written	12) In the letter dated 9 December 2009 and the accompanying information fact sheets, the Minister claims that “the Department undertook a rigorous and comprehensive assessment of all submissions to select the best service providers”. Please provide an outline of this assessment process highlighting what criteria were used to determine “the best providers”.
EW0839_10	4	CASH	written	The Minister also claims that “for those individuals who are affected, plans are in place to ensure a smooth transition”. Please provide detail surrounding what these plans are. Please provide a copy of these plans?
EW0840_10	4	CASH	written	1) It is stated in the Participant Transition fact sheet that a small number people currently being assisted under Vocational Rehabilitation Services or Disability Employment Network may need to move to a new provider after 1 March 2010. a) How many job seekers will have a new provider after 1 March 2010? b) What will be the impact of this be on the relevant job seeker? c) How will this impact be assessed?
EW0841_10	4	CASH	written	9) It is also stated that “this model” referring to flexible ongoing support – “better supports participants with mental health and other episodic conditions”. What qualitative and quantitative criteria were used to determine that this model will provide better support to people with mental health and other episodic conditions?
EW0842_10	4	CASH	written	8) “Flexible ongoing support” is described as a new feature of the Disability Employment Services model. What are the specific elements that make up the new feature of “Flexible Ongoing Support”?
EW0843_10	4	CASH	written	11) The Minister has stated that 1 March 2010 is the date the new services will be available. a) Will the Minister guarantee that the new service will be ready for commencement on that date and it not why not? b) Will the Minister provide a list of all of the Service Providers with whom the Government has contracted in respect to the New Disability Employment Services? c) Are any of these organisations associated with the ACTU? d) Are any of these Service Providers active donors to the Australian Labor Party? e) Will all of these Service Providers be fully operational by 1 March 2010? If not, why not? f) Are there any

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				outstanding matters that need to be addressed before the new Disability Employment Services comes on stream? If yes – which specific matters are they?
EW0844_10	4	CASH	written	In the fact sheet under the heading “Simpler Disability Employment Services” the Minister claims that the new Disability Employment Services will see a “reduction of administrative burden and red tape”. a) What specific administrative burden and red tape is the Minister referring to and what is the extent of this burden and red tape? b) How does the Minister intend to achieve this reduction?
EW0845_10	Cross Portfolio	CASH	written	Have any voluntary or involuntary redundancies been offered to staff? If so, how have staff been identified for such offers? Are there such plans for the future?
EW0846_10	Cross Portfolio	BARNETT	written	What is the total number of Reviews both completed and ongoing in the portfolio/agency or affecting the portfolio agency since November 2007? What is the estimated cost of these Reviews? What further reviews are planned for 2009 - 10 FY?
EW0847_10	3	CASH	written	At the October 2009 Estimates Hearing evidence was given that 113,128 job seekers had enrolled in the Productivity Places Program since its commencement. Please provide an updated figure as at 10 February 2010
EW0848_10	Cross Portfolio	CASH	written	What is the status of each election commitment within the portfolio? Which election commitments are experiencing slippages? Why? Where relevant, what are the revised implementation dates? What are the implications of this slippage?
EW0849_10	Cross Portfolio	BARNETT	written	Has the Department/agency received any advice on how to respond to FOI requests? How many FOI requests has the Department received? How many have been granted or denied? How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests?
EW0850_10	Cross Portfolio	BARNETT	written	These are subject to a continuing order of the Senate. Examine what has been provided and ask about non-answers, or potentially controversial grants. Has the Department complied with interim requirements relating to the publication of discretionary grants?
EW0851_10	Cross Portfolio	BARNETT	written	How many Reviews are currently being undertaken in the portfolio/agency or affecting the portfolio agency? When will each of these reviews be concluded? Which Reviews have been completed since Budget Estimates? When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?

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EW0852_10	Cross Portfolio	BARNETT	written	What was the cost of Ministers travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings held since Budget Estimates? How many Ministerial Staff and Departmental officers travelled with the Minister for the Cabinet meeting? What was the total cost of this travel? What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office?
EW0853_10	4	BIRMINGHAM	written	Have any assessors under the Home Sustainability Assessments Scheme (HSAS) had their fees for the HSAS or related fees paid for under the New Enterprise Incentive Scheme (NEIS) or are participants of the NEIS program?
EW0854_10	3	CASH	written	Has the skills in demand list been revised in the last 12 months? If so, please provide update.
EW0855_10	4	SIEWERT	written	Why is the Helping People with a Mental Illness enter and remain in Employment program not mentioned in the current Progress report May 2009? In the 2006-07 COAG progress report published in 2008 it says 2,500 additional Personal Support Programme places were released in 2006-07 but no dollar funding is outlined.
EW0856_10	5	FIERRAVANTI-WELLS	written	1 - • What impact will the Government's supposed Fair Work system and its award modernisation process have on the nursing workforce? 2 - • Can the Department quantify the pay cuts nurses in various sectors of the health system will suffer under this system? 3 - • Is it the case that nurses working in the aged care sector in particular stand to lose up to \$300 a week from the pay packets? 4 - • Is this likely to drive nurses out of the health workforce, particularly from the aged care sector which already has significant nursing staff shortages?
EW0857_10	3	CASH	written	In response to QON EW 758_10 evidence was given that as at 9 October 2009, 113, 128 participants had commenced training with the permitted time frame i.e. 6 weeks. Please provide an updated figure as at 10 February 2010.
EW0858_10	3	CASH	written	At the October 2009 Estimates Hearing evidence was given that 61, 754 job seekers had completed their courses. Please provide an updated figure as at 10 February 2010.
EW0859_10	3	CASH	written	How many people in each State / Territory have enrolled in the PPP to date? How many people in each State / Territory have commenced training in the PPP to date? How many people in each State / Territory have completed their training in the PPP to date? How many people in each State / Territory have recorded an employment outcome in the PPP to date? How many people have gone on to gain employment in the area in which they were trained? Please provide a list of all

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				qualifications that have been received by those who have completed their training in the PPP.
EW0860_10	3	CASH	written	At the October Estimates Hearing evidence was given that 9, 135 job seekers had recorded an employment outcome? Please provide an updated figure as at 10 February 2010.
EW0861_10	FWO	CAMERON	written	Since 1st September 2009, how many instances of sham contracting has the Australian Building and Construction Commissioner referred to the Fair Work Ombudsman? In respect of these referrals, how many have resulted in investigations by the Fair work Ombudsman and what has been the result of these investigations?
EW0862_10	FWO	CAMERON	written	Is the Fair Work Ombudsman aware of the report broadcast on ABC TV's 7.30 Report on 22nd September 2009, in which there were very strong suggestions made and not refuted by anyone involved, that sham contracting is rife in the construction industry? If the Fair Work Ombudsman is aware of the report, has it made any inquiries of any of the parties involved or named in the report that would establish the veracity or otherwise of the claims made in the report? If not, why not? If it has followed up on the report, what has been the outcome of the Fair Work Ombudsman's inquiries or investigations?
EW0863_10	FWO	CAMERON	written	Is the Fair Work Ombudsman aware of the existence of the practice known as "phoenixing" in the building and construction industry; whereby the evasion of tax and other liabilities such as employee entitlements is achieved through the deliberate, systematic and fraudulent liquidation of related corporate trading entities and their subsequent resurrection in a different corporate guise?
EW0864_10	FWO	CAMERON	written	In respect of the sham contracting audits conducted in conjunction with the ABCC, can the FWO ombudsman provide details of the audit methodology, the results of the audits, the number of head contractors and subcontractors audited in each state, the total number of contractors in each state and whether FWO is confident the numbers audited represent a statistically reliable sample of the contractors in the building and construction industry and that the results of the audits are representative of the industry as a whole?

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EW0865_10	3	CASH	written	I refer to the answer to QON EW 575_10 in which the Department advised that as at 5 November 2009 around 16,000 employers had received payments under the Securing Australian Apprenticeships initiative. Please provide an updated figure as at 10 February 2010.
EW0866_10	3	CASH	written	At the October Estimates hearing the issues surrounding the Leer Institute and the fact that it had had 5 Departmental audits, and was scheduled to be audited by an external auditor were raised. Please provide an update of the status of Leer Institute and the results of the external audit. When did the external audit take place? Who was the external auditor?
EW0867_10	FWO	CAMERON	written	Is the Fair Work Ombudsman aware of any sham contracting arrangements in the construction industry?
EW0868_10	3	CASH	written	The Department also stated that as at 5 November 2009, around 14,000 out of trade Australian Apprentices had recommenced their training. Please provide an updated figure as at 10 February 2010.
EW0869_10	Cross Portfolio	BARNETT	written	What is the Department's hospitality spend FYTD? Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
EW0870_10	Cross Portfolio	BARNETT	written	What communications programs has the Department/Agency undertaken, or are planning to undertake? For each program, what is the total spend?
EW0871_10	5	BARNETT	written	These are subject to a continuing order of the Senate. Examine what has been provided and ask about non-answers, or potentially controversial appointments. What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio?
EW0872_10	Cross Portfolio	BARNETT	written	For each Minister/Par Sec's office, please detail total hospitality spend FYTD. Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.
EW0873_10	2	BROWN	written	Under the P21 program what projects are being funded at campuses which are part of the Exclusive Brethren's Glenvale School in Victoria? What is the construction timetable for these projects? Is there a requirement for these schools to have a roadside sign in front of the school advising that it is a project funded as part of the Building the Education Revolution program? Has the school requested or been given an exemption from the requirement set out in the BER guidelines that the new facilities or existing school facilities be made available for use by the public? How many schools have been given or requested an exemption from that requirement? Please give their names.

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EW0874_10	FWO	CAMERON	written	If the Fair Work Ombudsman is aware of the practice of "pheonixing", have any investigations into the practice been undertaken by the FWO or alternatively, have any referrals been made to other authorities, for example, the ATO?
EW0875_10	Cross Portfolio	BARNETT	written	Have staffing numbers been reduced as a result of the efficiency dividend and/or other budget cuts? If so, where and at what level? Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details ie. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc. What changes are underway or planned for graduate recruitment, cadetships or similar programs? If reductions are envisaged please explain including reasons, target numbers etc.
EW0876_10	Cross Portfolio	BROWN	written	How many permanent staff recruited since the supplementary budget estimates? What level are these staff? How many temporary positions exist or have been created since budget estimates? Since supplementary budget estimates, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?
EW0877_10	4	BACK	written	Were other programs considered that connected mature age people with mentoring opportunities before funding was allocated? If not, I have raised in this forum another successful mentorship programme that is well-established in WA and has the former Governor General Michael Jefferies as its Patron. The Department should be aware of it as it was funded through the Howard Government's "Mentoring Marketplace" but hasn't been able to successfully identify an alternative programme / funding since the programme was discontinued. In fact, it has found it extremely difficult to locate appropriate funding? Has the Department provided advice to SVP on alternative funding programmes to continue its important work? Did this advice include NEIS? Can you tell me whether other programs, like SVP were considered before funding was allocated to the Golden Gurus? Can you provide details on whether funding would be available to SVP under the NEIS or other funding programmes under DEEWR?
EW0878_10	FWA	RONALDSON	written	Has Fair Work Australia received any other audits or reports that were commissioned or carried out by the HSU in relation to Mr Craig Thomson? If so, what is the nature of those reports?
EW0879_10	FWA	RONALDSON	written	Has Fair Work Australia received copies of either or both of the Slater & Gordon and BDO Kendall audit or reports on HSU spending ? If so, on what dates were these reports received?

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EW0880_10	FWA	RONALDSON	written	Will Fair Work Australia be informing the Australian Electoral Commission of the outcome(s) of their preliminary inquiry into the HSU, and if so, when? What is the cost of the inquiry to date? How many officers of Fair Work Australia are currently working (wholly or substantially) on this inquiry? At what APS levels (or equivalent) are these officers?
EW0881_10	FWA	RONALDSON	written	Has Fair Work Australia inquired into the activities of the "Coastal Voice" group established on 3 May 2006 by Mr Craig Thompson, including allegations that Mr Thompson used his HSU Commonwealth Bank MasterCard to pay the 'SmartyHost' company on behalf of Coastal Voice?
EW0882_10	FWA	RONALDSON	written	Has Fair Work Australia seen, or have in its possession any correspondence between Mr Craig Thomson and Slater & Gordon and/or BDO Kendell?
EW0883_10	FWA	RONALDSON	written	Was Mr Craig Thomson interviewed by Fair Work Australia, and if not, why not?
EW0884_10	FWA	RONALDSON	written	Has Ms Pauline Fegan of the Health Services Union been interviewed by Fair Work Australia, and if not, why not?
EW0885_10	FWA	RONALDSON	written	Were former HSU employees Ms Criselee Evans and Mr Matthew Burke amongst those interviewed by Fair Work Australia, and if not, why not?
EW0886_10	2	HANSON-YOUNG	written	Under the P21 program what projects are being funded at campuses which are part of the Exclusive Brethren's Glenvale School in Victoria? What is the construction timetable for these projects? Is there a requirement for these schools to have a roadside sign in front of the school advising that it is a project funded as part of the Building the Education Revolution program?
EW0887_10	2	MASON	written	Is the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous students the same across all the geo-locations, or do, for example, Indigenous students perform closer to non-Indigenous students in metropolitan areas than they do in very remote areas?
EW0888_10	2	HANSON-YOUNG	written	How is Teach for Australia required to account for the money it has been allocated by the Commonwealth? Is there public reporting of that information? Is the contract with TFA available to table?"
EW0889_10	2	HANSON-YOUNG	written	Has the Exclusive Brethren requested or been given an exemption from the requirement set out in the BER guidelines that the new facilities or existing school facilities be made available for use by the public? How many schools have been given or requested an exemption from that requirement? Please give their names.
EW0890_10	FWA	RONALDSON	written	Has Fair Work Australia communicated with the Deputy Prime Minister or her

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				office about the HSU inquiry?
EW0891_10	FWA	RONALDSON	written	Has Fair Work Australia sought or received any legal advice in relation to the allegations regarding Mr Thomson and the HSU, and if so, when was that legal advice written, when was that legal advice received by Fair Work Australia, and who was the author of that legal advice?
EW0892_10	FWA	RONALDSON	written	What section(s) or provision(s) of the Fair Work Act is the subject of consideration in relation to the Fair Work Australia inquiry into the HSU?
EW0893_10	FWA	RONALDSON	written	Has Mr Jeff Jackson of the Health Services Union been amongst those interviewed by Fair Work Australia, and if not, why not?
EW0894_10	ABCC	CAMERON	written	Since 1st September 2009, has the ABC Commissioner taken any proceedings in relation to any alleged contraventions of the provisions of Chapter 6 (ss.43-46) of the BCII Act? If so, what is the nature of those proceedings?
EW0895_10	ABCC	CAMERON	written	Since 1st September 2009, has the ABC Commissioner made any applications for injunctions against alleged unlawful industrial action? If so, in relation to which particular industrial action? If so, in which cases were the applications successful?
EW0896_10	ABCC	CAMERON	written	Since 1st January 2009, has the ABC Commissioner or an ABC Inspector instituted any proceedings under the Fair Work Act or its predecessor Act pursuant to s.73A of the BCII Act? If so, what was or is the nature of those proceedings?
EW0897_10	ABCC	CAMERON	written	Since 1st January 2009, has the ABC Commissioner made any submissions in accordance with s.72 of the BCII Act to either Fair Work Australia or its predecessor, the Workplace Relations Commission? If so, in relation to which matters?
EW0898_10	ABCC	CAMERON	written	"Since 1st September 2009, has any person attended before the ABC Commissioner or produced any documents to the ABC Commissioner pursuant to a notice issued pursuant to s.52 of the BCII Act prior to 1st September 2009? If so, who has attended or produced documents and for what purpose?"
EW0899_10	ABCC	CAMERON	written	Since 1st September 2009, has the ABCC issued any notices pursuant to s.52 of the BCII Act? If so, to whom and for what reason?
EW0900_10	ABCC	CAMERON	written	During the same period (since 1 Sept 2009), have any ABC Inspectors exercised powers under subsection 59(5) of the BCII Act? If so, at which premises or sites? If so, has any person failed to comply with any requirement of an ABC Inspector exercising his or her powers under subsection 59(5)?

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EW0901_10	ABCC	CAMERON	written	Since 1st September 2009, have any ABC Inspectors resigned from their position with the ABCC?
EW0902_10	2	SIEWERT	written	1. Please provide the amount of funding provided for the Helping Young People stay in Education program 2. How does this compare to the amount originally allocated? 3. If less, why has it been reduced?
EW0903_10	ABCC	CAMERON	written	Question: Is the ABCC aware of any sham contracting in the construction industry? Question: Is the Commission aware of the report broadcast on ABC TV's 7.30 Report on 22nd September 2009 in which there were very strong suggestions made, and not refuted by anyone involved, that sham contracting is rife in the construction industry? Question: If the Commission is not aware of the report, why not? Question: If the Commission is aware of the report, has it made any inquiries of any of the parties involved or named in the report that would establish the veracity or otherwise of the claims made in the report? Question: If not, why not? Question: If it has followed up on the report, what has been the outcome of the Commission's inquiries or investigations? Question: Since 1st September 2009, how many sham contracting referrals has the ABCC made to the Fair Work Ombudsman and/or its predecessor?
EW0904_10	FWA	RONALDSON	written	Has the Fair Work Australia inquiry delved into the following specific allegations relating to the following payments or invoices: a) \$12,647 to The Entrance Print from May to November 2007 on Mr Craig Thomson's HSU national office MasterCard. b) \$7253.17 to Australia Post in July 2007 made by electronic funds transfer from the HSU SGE Credit Union account. c) \$2739 to the Nova radio group on Mr Craig Thomson's MasterCard on October 12, 2007. d) \$14,647.60 to Central Coast Radio on November 12, 2007, made by the HSU by electronic funds transfer. e) Over \$7900 to Cumberland Newspapers in 2006 on an HSU national office Diners Club card. f) Invoices from Central Coast Radio that were made out to Mr Craig Thomson and sent to his Labor campaign postal address. These invoices were for advertising on 2GO and SEA FM. g) An Australia Post invoice that was made out to "Craig Thomson – ALP Candidate, Federal Seat of Dobell"?

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EW0905_10	FWA	RONALDSON	written	1 – What was the date of commencement of the Fair Work Australia inquiry into the Health Services Union (HSU)? 2 – What specific item or event triggered the Fair Work Australia inquiry into the HSU? 3 – When does Fair Work Australia expect to complete its inquiry into the HSU and make a decision on whether to proceed to a formal investigation? 4 – How many people have been interviewed about the matter since the commencement of the Fair Work Australia inquiry into the HSU, and what are their names and organisational affiliations?
EW0906_10	5	CAMERON	written	Deputy ABC Commissioner Leigh Johns announced his resignation on 15th January 2010 to return to his former role as chief counsel at the Office of the Fair Work Ombudsman. When was Mr. Johns last appointed to the Commission and for what period? Did Mr. Johns resign in accordance with s.23 of the BCII Act? Did Mr. Johns' resignation involve the payment to him of any termination benefit other than his ordinary entitlements accrued during the period of his tenure as Deputy ABC Commissioner? Is there a process in train for the recruitment of Mr. Johns' replacement, if he is to be replaced?
EW0907_10	ABCC	CAMERON	written	Since 1st January 2009, has the ABC Commissioner or an ABC Inspector instituted any proceedings under the Independent Contractors Act pursuant to s.73A of the BCII Act? If so, what was or is the nature of those proceedings?
EW0908_10	ABCC	CAMERON	written	Since 1st September 2009, how many times have ABC Inspectors exercised powers to enter premises pursuant to s.59 of the BCII Act? At which premises or sites have these powers been exercised? At whose initiative or request or on whose notification have these powers been exercised?
EW0909_10	ABCC	CAMERON	written	Can the Commissioner provide details of all training and professional development undertaken by ABC Inspectors since 30th June 2009?
EW0910_10	Cross Portfolio	CASH	written	Are there plans to publish a full suite of electoral reports on the Department's website? If not, why not? If so, when? What data will be included?
EW0911_10	2	MASON	written	What has been the overall trend in literacy and numeracy between 2008 and 2009 for Indigenous children? What have been the trends for Indigenous and non-Indigenous students? How do these trends compare when broken down per locations – i.e. metropolitan, provincial, remote and very remote? Is it true to say that, mean scores are always highest in metro areas, and decrease successively through provincial, remote, to very remote?

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EW0912_10	Cross Portfolio	CASH	written	Has electoral specific data been used by the current Government in any grants scheme since November 2007?
EW0913_10	Cross Portfolio	CASH	written	Does the Department prepare electorate level reports for Ministers? What data is included in these reports? How often is this updated? Why is this material not publicly available? Request copy of latest reports.
EW0914_10	2	MASON	written	Given that the curriculum for the first four key learning areas has to be finalised this year for implementation in 2011, what is the current state of progress in the development of the national curriculum in those four areas? When will curriculum documents be publicly available? Will there be opportunities for further feedback and review? What is the current state of progress in the development of the second phase of curriculum work (languages, geography and the arts)?
EW0915_10	2	MASON	written	Since the inception of the Rudd Government's Digital Education Revolution program, how many students in each federal electorate are, or have been, eligible to receive a commonwealth-funded laptop computer? As of 11 Feb 2010, how many of those students have received their Digital Education Revolution laptop?
EW0916_10	Cross Portfolio	MASON	written	1) Does the Department provide the Minister for Youth with any media clippings or monitoring services? 2) How many personal staff does the Minister have? How many of those personal staff have access to the media clippings service? 3) Do any of the Minister's electorate staff have access to the media clippings service? 4) What is the total cost for the financial year to date on media clippings/monitoring services? What is the cost for 2008/09? - Is that cost based on a number of licences? If so, how many licences are provided? What is the cost of each additional licence? 5) Has the Minister engaged any transcribing services for media conferences? Is this a separate charge to the media clippings service? 6) Please provide a list of each search term / word for the Minister's sport media clipping service. 7) Are media monitoring clips provided in a BlackBerry friendly service? 8) Are media monitoring clips provided to the Shadow Minister?
EW0917_10	1	PAYNE	written	Was the Government expecting a four-year trained early childhood teacher to be in place in every long day child care centre by 2014 as outlined by COAG? Please explain the administrative and funding commitments that are in place to ensure that this commitment is achieved.

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EW0918_10	Cross Portfolio	CASH	written	How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in the Employment & Workplace Relations portfolio since November 2007? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members. How much did each report cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level? What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?
EW0919_10	Cross Portfolio	CASH	written	Could the Department provide a list of all discretionary grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants since November 2007? Please provide details of the recipients, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants.
EW0920_10	4	BACK	written	Are Golden Gurus required to account for the expenditure of funding under this programme and what does this entail? For example the Minister's media release states that this will be promoted nationally including through a website – was the development of this site, hosted on the DEEWR webpage paid for out of the funding? If, so how much? Has the total funding been exhausted and detail on expenditure? Although this is promoted nationally, does Golden Gurus have a national presence – in which locations? If not, is there an intention to expand?
EW0921_10	Cross Portfolio	BARNETT	written	How many consultancies have been undertaken or are underway since November 2007? Please identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc). Please also include total value for all consultancies. How many consultancies are planned for this calendar year? Have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and if not why not? In each case please identify the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known.
EW0922_10	Cross Portfolio	CASH	written	Could the Department provide a complete list of current consultancy services. For each consultancy, please indicate the rationale for the project and its intended use. For each consultancy, please indicate why the Department or its agencies could not have undertaken the work themselves.
EW0923_10	Cross Portfolio	CASH	written	How much has the Department spent on consultancy services since November 2007? How can the department justify this expenditure?

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EW0924_10	Cross Portfolio	CASH	written	Could the Department provide a complete list of current contracts. Please indicate the rationale for each service provided and its intended use.
EW0925_10	Cross Portfolio	CASH	written	How much has the Department spent on advertising and marketing since November 2007? How does the department justify this expenditure?
EW0926_10	1	FIFIELD	written	How many parents currently utilise Registered Carer for children aged: 0 – 4 5 – 9 10 – 15 years How many of those parent utilising Registered Carer are doing so for a child with disability aged: • 0-4 • 5-9 • 10 – 15years How many parents currently utilise Registered Nurse for children aged: • 0 – 4 • 5 – 9 • 10 – 15 years How many of those parents utilising Registered Nurse are doing so for a child with disability aged: • 0-4 • 5-9 • 10 – 15years
EW0927_10	4	FIFIELD	written	Please clarify the difference in advice in regards to member organisations receiving funding in the Parliamentary Secretary’s media release of 1 February 2010 and an answer to a written QON and the reason for the change: “The program will not provide funding directly to individual organisations. The Golden Gurus Quality Standards have been developed so that they closely align with the service that many organisations already provide. Organisations that are accepted into the Golden Gurus community will be provided with ‘in kind’ support...” ..Answer to Supplementary Budget Estimates Written QON EW587_10
EW0928_10	5	CASH	written	1. How is the Department assessing the success of the Fair Work Education and Information Campaign to ensure that employers and employees are adequately informed? 2. What conditions / performance criteria accompany the Fair Work Education and Information grants the Government provides? 3. Please provide a copy of all funding agreements that accompanied the 29 June 2009 funding announcement? Was it a condition that recipients be uncritical of the Government’s new workplace regime? 4. What specific performance requirements and accountabilities accompanied funding grants to industry organisations and unions? 5. How is the Government evaluating actual performance of grant recipients and what steps are being taken to publicise these evaluations? 6. How does the Department justify the Government's 5 January 2010 decision giving \$10 million to the union movement for its Union Education Foundation to train shop stewards, when shop keepers and small businesses were calling for practical and useable information and advice they could apply in their

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				workplaces? 7. What specific performance requirements, activity obligations and accountabilities accompany the \$10 million grant to the union movement for training union representatives? Please provide a copy of funding agreement and performance criteria / conditions for the Union Education Foundation? How will these performance requirements be monitored and publicly reported? How was the \$10 million figure determined? 8. Why has the Government refused to agree to proposals for a moratorium on small business prosecutions for unintentional breaches of the new workplace regime requirements given that poor effort the Government has made in communicating the changes?
EW0929_10	5	CASH	written	1. During the 2008/2009 financial year the Department advised that 15,753 claims had been received. Please provide a current figure? 2. Please provide an updated list indicating from what sectors these claims have originated? 3. What is the amount of the average claim paid out by GEERS? 4. What is the current number of staff working on the processing of GEERS claims? How does this compare to 6 months ago?
EW0930_10	2	HANSON-YOUNG	written	What research is being planned or undertaken to determine whether TFA graduates perform better or worse than other classroom teachers?
EW0931_10	2	HANSON-YOUNG	written	What is the salary of the TFA CEO Melodie Potts and the annual remuneration of directors? How many fulltime equivalent employees does Teach for Australia have? When the funding to TFA was provided what student numbers was it based on?
EW0932_10	4	FIFIELD	written	Have any small businesses approached member organisations to participate in the program? How many and where are they located? How many small businesses have been successful in their application to participate in the program? Have any small businesses been connected with a mentor?
EW0933_10	4	FIFIELD	written	How many and which member organisations are now signed up? Where are signed up member organisations located? Has the department refused any organisation to participate and why?
EW0934_10	2	MASON	written	Given that COAG has signed up on the "National Partnership agreement on low SES status school communities" agreement in December 2008, promising to facilitate funding for, among others, reforms to give principals more autonomy and flexibility, what has been done or is planned to be done to make it happen?

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EW0935_10	2	MASON	written	When was the “Principal Autonomy Project” produced by “educational transformations” delivered to the government? When was it publicly released? What are its general conclusions? Has the Government responded to the report?
EW0936_10	2	MASON	written	I understand that ACARA is also advising education ministers on the development of national curriculum in the areas of health and physical education, economics, business, information and communications technology, design and technology, and civic and the arts – where are we at here?
EW0937_10	2	MASON	written	How is the work on the national curriculum progressing? (given that the curriculum for the first four key learning areas has to be finalised this year for implementation next year) Will there be any problems with maintaining this timetable? When will we see the final product? Will there be opportunities for further feedback and review? Will the states and territories be ready to implement it next year? Where are we at with the second phase of curriculum work (languages, geography and the arts)?
EW0938_10	Cross Portfolio	CASH	written	What is the total expenditure on staffing for the Department and for all portfolio agencies? What is the Senior Executive Service (SES) and non-SES breakdown? What are the current staffing levels for SES and non-SES officers? What is the breakdown by location?
EW0939_10	5	CASH	written	1. The Department has previously provided information regarding the number of ballots that occurred in July, August, September and October 2009. Please provide an update for November and December 2009 and January 2010. 2. Is there expected to be an increase in the number of protected action ballots?
EW0940_10	Cross Portfolio	CASH	written	In the case of reductions in staff numbers, how have these reductions been absorbed by the Department? What functions have been sacrificed and why? Has there been a target for staff reductions to achieve savings? What is that target and what strategy is being implemented to achieve this?
EW0941_10	Cross Portfolio	CASH	written	What have been the changes in ASL (average staffing levels) since November 2007? Why have these changes occurred? What have been the Budgetary implications?

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EW0942_10	4	CORMANN	Wed 8	<p>Senator CORMANN—So have you conducted any formal evaluation? Have you monitored in any way how successful or unsuccessful it has been?</p> <p>Ms Paul—It is still, of course, ongoing. If you are referring to the priority regions and to a place based approach to Keep Australia Working, which has been our responsibility as well, yes, we are taking an evaluation approach as we go and, in particular, monitoring the changes that happen in each of those priority employment regions. So, for example, there have been job forums in each of those communities and how many jobs have resulted out of those we have kept a track of and so on. So if you would like us to provide some of those things on notice I am happy to do so.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—That would be very much appreciated.</p>
EW0943_10	Cross Portfolio	ABETZ	Wed 14	<p>Senator ABETZ—The answer is no? Possibly if you could take on notice staff numbers, things of that nature. That is Cross Portfolio as well? Ms Paul—Sure. Happy to. Yes, it is.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Staff numbers, the increase of decrease in the staff numbers, staff turnover, and whether there has been any higher staff turnover in any particular area, and rates of absenteeism over the last two years.</p>
EW0944_10	Comcare	ABETZ	Wed 15	<p>Senator ABETZ—.... When were you advised of the minister's moratorium? Mr O'Connor—I believe the moratorium was announced in December of 2007, but I will take that on notice to confirm the exact date.</p>
EW0945_10	Comcare	ABETZ	Wed 18	<p>Senator ABETZ—It was a very good question. Can I ask in relation to the psychosocial category: can we bring that down further between—once again, I trust this is not an artificial delineation—bullying and what we might call harassment/sexual harassment? I would be interested to know whether the sexual harassment issues that you are confronted with have either increased or decreased. In that total data set, I am just wondering whether bullying may have increased but sexual harassment decreased, which has seen an overall decrease in the numbers but nevertheless bullying is on the rise, or vice versa—bullying might be on the decrease but sexual harassment on the increase but the overall number is still decreasing. Can you shed some light on that for us?</p> <p>Mr O'Connor—Yes, I will take that on notice to give you the breakdown, but certainly the mental disease claims are broken up through a coding mechanism. As I have mentioned before, that coding structure has not changed, and there is a</p>

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				<p>category for work related harassment and/or workplace bullying. There is a separate injury code for other harassment, which might be racial vilification, it might be sexual or it might be violence. It does highlight the difficulty, to make sure that we have a clear understanding of the different injury coding, but I am happy to report back and provide on notice the breakdown and the history over the last few years across our jurisdiction within the categories of mental disease claims.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—If you could do that for me, I would be much obliged. Thank you.</p>
EW0946_10	Comcare	MARSHALL	Wed 19	<p>CHAIR—In your experience in administering Comcare, have there ever any examples where the five per cent reduction in benefit has miraculously cured someone of their permanent injuries to enable them to return to work?</p> <p>Mr Kibble—I would have to take that one on notice. I would have to look at individual cases.</p> <p>CHAIR—Have you had any experience where you could say that, again, the reduction in benefit for permanently injured people has in any way encouraged people to return to work?</p> <p>Mr Kibble—We can certainly have a look at that.</p> <p>CHAIR—Whether it be miraculous or not.</p> <p>Mr Kibble—We can certainly have a look at that.</p> <p>CHAIR—Could you take that on notice for me. Are there any other questions on Comcare? All right. Thank you, Mr O’Connor and Mr Kibble.</p>
EW0947_10	FWO	CASH	Wed 30	<p>Senator CASH—Could I get you to take on notice to provide the committee with a breakdown of the types of complaints that have been received by your office, both at the contact centre stage to the extent that you are able to, and then at the inspectorate stage, since your office commenced?</p> <p>Mr Wilson—I am happy to do that. Can I just clarify what we can provide so there is no misunderstanding, I suppose. We categorise our contact centre work according to whether the call is about wages or awards or conditions et cetera, and we also categorise it according to industry. Would that be useful?</p> <p>Senator CASH—Yes, please.</p> <p>Mr Wilson—Okay. In relation to the inspectorate, we categorise it according to state and industry and size of business—no, not size of business, I am sorry.</p> <p>Senator CASH—Yes, whatever information you are able to provide me, that would</p>

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				be greatly appreciated.
EW0948_10	FWO	CASH	Wed 31	<p>Senator CASH—Can I just stop you there? Do you know in how many calls the caller says, ‘I do not want the call recorded’?</p> <p>Mr Wilson—No, we do not have that with us. It would be very low. We can take that on notice.</p>
EW0949_10	FWO	CASH	Wed 33	<p>Senator CASH—Do you have any figures in relation to the number that have been settled prior to actually going to court? Are you able to provide the committee with those figures?</p> <p>Mr Wilson—We will provide that on notice. Just by clarification, you are interested in the matters where we have commenced litigation and then withdrawn it?</p> <p>Senator CASH—Correct, and then a settlement has occurred.</p>
EW0950_10	FWO	ABETZ	Wed 37	<p>Senator ABETZ—Right. Can you tell us the average time of each call? And please do not tell us the time for which they were on hold.</p> <p>Senator JACINTA COLLINS—Please do or do not?</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Tell us that as well, but do not include it as though that was meaningful engagement between the client and the Fair Work Ombudsman’s office, whilst they were on hold.</p> <p>cont. pg 37 Senator ABETZ—Until Monday? Right. Are you able to tell us what the figures were, let us say, up to 21 January, if that is a convenient date, or midway during January? Take that on notice. I do not need to know it now.</p> <p>Mr Wilson—We will take that one on notice.</p>
EW0951_10	FWO	ABETZ	Wed 38	<p>Senator ABETZ—And if you abandon the call, does that show up as a waiting period before the call is answered? Answer: no. What is the bet?</p> <p>Mr Wilson—The answer is I do not know.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—What is the bet? Take that on notice, and that would then show that you have got a very nice set of statistics for public display, but they do not show if somebody has been waiting for 30 minutes or longer and then gives up in disgust and hangs up. But you say, ‘Oh, calls are answered within seven minutes.’ That sounds great because it does not take into account the calls where people give up in disgust.</p> <p>CHAIR—But just coming back to the—</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—So take that on notice for us, because I think—</p>

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				<p>CHAIR—The proposition— Senator ABETZ—that will give us a lot better insight. I just want to clarify— Senator Arbib—Senator, I think you are actually wrong on that. I think you are wrong on that, but we are happy to check. Mr Wilson—We will check. ... Senator ABETZ—If you could come back just on that basic issue as soon as possible, I would be very interested. CHAIR—Just to clarify, Mr Wilson: I think the proposition that was being put to you in respect to the question that we have got the written answer to was that people actually stayed on the line for 20 or 30 minutes before they got an answer—so we are not talking about dropping off anyway—and your evidence is that that is not true, that cannot be right. Mr Wilson—We will check. Certainly the information I have, which was obtained in the past couple of days, would indicate that that is not correct, but certainly I will check. We are very concerned to make sure that we give correct advice.</p>
EW0952_10	FWO	CASH	Wed 39	<p>Senator CASH—....In terms of your public reporting arrangements, where can I find them? Is that on your website? Mr Wilson—They are. We can also provide you with a copy of our annual report. Beyond that, at the last Senate hearing I think we tabled a quarterly or monthly report, and certainly we are prepared to provide those as well. Senator CASH—Thank you.</p>
EW0953_10	FWO	ABETZ	Wed 39	<p>Mr Wilson—It is relatively early in the piece. My own experience is that it is after a couple of minutes. I am not precisely sure when it kicks in, but somehow the service establishes that the call wait time is more than 10 minutes and then a guillotine comes down. Senator JACINTA COLLINS—The likelihood that a call wait is going to be more than 10 minutes. Senator ABETZ—Can you please take on notice how it works and operates without going through all the technicalities now? Mr Wilson—Sure.</p>
EW0954_10	FWO	ABETZ	Wed 39	<p>Mr Wilson—First of all, the pay arrangements under the modern awards, with the exception of six, do not commence until 1 July. In respect to the specific question of whether money paid pursuant to an award can be recovered, I would need to take that on notice.</p>

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				Senator ABETZ—All right, can you can take that on notice.
EW0955_10	FWO	ABETZ	Wed 39	<p>Senator ABETZ—... What about if I am an employee and the employer has paid me under the new modern award as of 1 January, but then there is a variation which says I should be paid more. Will the employer have to provide me with back pay for that period?</p> <p>Mr Wilson—Again, I will take that on notice. It clearly would depend on the commencement date of the variation, but I will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Yes, of course, but in the event that the variation were then back-dated to commence on 1 January for both scenarios.</p> <p>Mr Wilson—Right.</p>
EW0956_10	FWO	FISHER	Wed 41	<p>Senator FISHER—...If the Fair Work Ombudsman decided that a particular employer seeking guidance was subject to this Cleaning Services Award 2010, and as of today that employer were attempting to ascertain what rates of pay it should be paying its workers in order to comply with the award—both today and then to plan for the next iteration, 1 July, of the transitional provisions—and therefore was asking you some questions, can I take you to what I referred to clause B1.1 of schedule B, the transitional provisions, at the top of page 42. That says: The following transitional arrangements apply to an employer which, immediately prior to 1 January 2010 (a) was obliged; (b) but for the operation of an agreement-based transitional instrument would have been obliged; or (c) if it had been an employer in the industry or of the occupations covered by this award would have been obliged by a transitional minimum wage instrument and/or an award-based transitional instrument to pay a minimum wage lower than that in this award for any classification of employee. What would you be saying to the employer calling your help line for guidance what that clause means?</p> <p>Mr Wilson—I think we will take that on notice. We would have scripts which relate to particular awards and particular clauses. Given that you are asking a fairly specific question, I would prefer to take that on notice and come back to you.</p>

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EW0957_10	FWO	FISHER	Wed 42	<p>Senator FISHER—Is it possible that for some employers in the cleaning services sector today you would not be able to tell them their obligation in terms of payment to a particular employee because you are still working towards an answer?</p> <p>Mr Wilson—Senator, that is a matter of detail about the particular award and we would need to take that on notice as well. If I can amplify it a little bit further. The contact centre has escalation processes within it when the question that the caller is asking is beyond the capability of the officer or the databases that they have available to them. So there is an escalation service within their group and also within Ms Smith’s group. Over and above that, we have very active liaison with the major industrial relations parties, including the ACTU, ACCI and the Australian Industry Group. We also have very active liaison with other industry and union bodies. The purpose of that is to deal with those circumstances where there is, either on our part or on the part of others, some stated uncertainty about the application of particular clauses. Those processes are designed to try and sort through exactly what the agreed interpretation of particular clauses might be. As soon as we get those agreements or clarifications, we then feed that back through our contact centre, obviously, to improve the speed with which we can answer things.</p>
EW0958_10	FWO	ABETZ	Wed 46	<p>Senator ABETZ—Right. But there must be a set number, as we speak, of scripts that have been prepared ready for these info line workers. So we have got a certain sum of scripts. Just dump them, download them, whatever the term is, and put them on a bit on a bit of paper for us and bring them to the committee, please.</p> <p>Mr Wilson—We will check and, if it is possible, we will provide them.</p>

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EW0959_10	FWO	CAMERON	Wed 47	<p>Senator CAMERON—How much work does the building and construction industry generate that would come under the ambit of this exchange of letters?</p> <p>Mr Wilson—I need to answer that in two ways, one of which is that under the formal exchange of letters there have been 16 matters referred from the ABCC to the Fair Work Ombudsman and its two predecessor organisations and, vice versa, we have referred—</p> <p>Senator CAMERON—What was the time frame for that 16?</p> <p>Mr Wilson—That was between 2006 and 2010. As I said, I need to answer that in two ways. There is then other work which we do in relation to the building industry. I do not have aggregated data, I am afraid, but between March 2006 and June 2009 we received a total of 4,942 matters in the building and construction industry. From July 2009 to the end of 2009 we received a further 660 matters—so, in total, 5½ thousand or so matters. I do not have it with me, but we do have aggregated data of the underpayments and other matters that relate to those recoveries, and I am happy to provide those as well.</p> <p>Senator CAMERON—Thank you.</p>
EW0960_10	FWO	CAMERON	Wed 47	<p>Senator CAMERON—How many inquiries have you made in relation to tax evasion in the building and construction industry? Mr Wilson—I would need to take that on notice. Senator CAMERON—Have you done any? Mr Wilson—I cannot answer that question, I am afraid. It is an awfully specific question that I am not equipped to respond to, but certainly I am happy to check and provide you with the answer. Senator CAMERON—None of your officers can give me an idea whether you have done any analysis on tax evasion? Senator ABETZ—Wouldn't you flick it straight to the ATO? Mr Wilson—I will check. However, Mr Loizides, who is the head of our inspectorate, tells me that when we have allegations put to us of tax evasion, we would automatically refer that to the Australian Taxation Office. But I will check for you. Senator CAMERON—Can you advise me then how many allegations have been referred? Mr Wilson—We will check again.</p>
EW0961_10	FWA	ABETZ	Wed 58	<p>Senator ABETZ—Fair Work Australia has done a major job in trying to reduce the number of awards in Australia. Was there any magic in the figure 122; why not 125 or 100? Was it a case of how many you could jam into the one award before you decided to start creating another one? How did you go about it—within reason; I do not want to take up too much time.</p>

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EW0962_10	FWA	ABETZ	Wed 59	<p>Senator ABETZ—There is a lot of confusion, but undoubtedly you made your best endeavours. Were any submissions made to you by the government in relation to these modern awards as to their social and economic impacts on Australian consumers?</p> <p>Mr Giudice—I just cannot answer that question—</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Right.</p> <p>Mr Giudice—We had thousands of submissions. Senator ABETZ—All right. Can you take that on notice?</p> <p>Mr Giudice—Yes.</p>
EW0963_10	FWA	ABETZ	Wed 61	<p>Senator ABETZ—If you go to the Fair Work Australia website and type in ‘take-home pay order’ and get the search engine going, the result is zero. The response is ‘no pages found match your search criteria’. For what it is worth, I have a copy of that as it displays on to the website. There is nothing that sets out exactly what has to happen when making the claim. If you keep on, there is a little heading ‘How do I apply for a take home pay order’. Do you know that it tells me? I can ring a 1300 number. Why can I not apply for a takehome pay order online? Why is that facility not available to me? If I am sitting at home and I think that I am being duded by the new modern award, as so many workers are, why do I have to hit a hotline? Why can I not apply for it on screen?</p> <p>CHAIR—You do not have to accept the assertion and implication in that question when you are answering it.</p> <p>Mr Giudice—I am just getting some advice on that. Can we have a look at that?</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Take it on notice.</p>
EW0964_10	FWA	ABETZ	Wed 62	<p>Senator ABETZ—It would seem to me that if someone wants to make an application they should be able to enter their details. It seems that for workers such as Mr Clarke, getting to the closest Fair Work office could be quite a journey or he would have to mail it. It seems to me that if you were concerned to ensure wage justice for all those workers you would make it as easy as possible. Please take that on notice.</p> <p>Mr Giudice—Certainly</p>

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EW0965_10	FWA	ABETZ	Wed 62	<p>Senator ABETZ—Yes, but I am assuming that the chances are that in the first couple of weeks of January the load may have been a lot higher. How many calls switched to the message bank? Are you confident that every call that could not be answered immediately did go to message bank and did not simply drop out of the system?</p> <p>Mr Hower - I would have to take that on notice.</p>
EW0966_10	FWA	ABETZ	Wed 63	<p>Senator ABETZ—Are we able to obtain a transcript of the message that is given to people when ring the Fair Work Australia Helpline? Does it say something to the effect that your call will be confidential?</p> <p>Mr Giudice—We will have to take that on notice.</p>
EW0967_10	FWA	ABETZ	Wed 64	<p>Senator ABETZ—If you do have that possibility, I would then ask in what areas you have sought such research, who commissioned it, who did you commission and what costs were involved. Will those reports be released publicly?</p> <p>Mr Giudice—In relation to the minimum wage review, to which there is specific reference in the act, research has been commissioned. That has been done by the general manager and it has been in relation to the next minimum wage review. The program provides for a tender process and all research will be published by a certain date. I do not have that date with me. But on that date all of the people interested in making submissions to the minimum wage review will have that available. So it will be a matter for public scrutiny.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—You can take on notice any other area and also who you have commissioned to do those reports that are then going to be made public and how much those reports costs.</p> <p>Mr Giudice—Yes.</p>
EW0968_10	FWA	ABETZ	Wed 64	<p>Senator ABETZ—Of course, I might be interested in whether you are able to commission independent research on superannuation. I ask that question in general terms to see whether that is a possibility.</p> <p>Mr Lee—We do have an overview of the information that the president was alluding to in terms of the research undertaken for the minimum wage, but we are happy to take that on notice and to provide the detail.</p>
EW0969_10	FWA	ABETZ	Wed 64	<p>Senator ABETZ—.....How many applications have there been for take-home pay orders thus far? Take that on notice if you do not have it handy.</p> <p>Mr Nassios—As at 31 January, there has been only one application.</p>

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				Senator ABETZ—Was that lodged online? Mr Nassios—That I would have to check.
EW0970_10	AIR	CORMANN	Wed 68	Senator CORMANN—In relation to this specific award, would it be do too much of an imposition to ask you what were the time frames? When did you put up your original draft decision and how much time did people have for discussion? Mr Giudice—All those matters are a matter of public record on the website. But if you wished us to confirm those we could do that on notice.
EW0971_10	ABCC	ABETZ	Wed 70	Senator ABETZ—How many of those were against building contractors? [Of the 59 investigations] Mr Draffin—I do not have that with me.
EW0972_10	ABCC	ABETZ	Wed 73	Senator ABETZ—..... Are you able to provide us with statistics as to how many working days have been lost in the construction sector? How does that compare to the average days lost in other sectors? Mr Lloyd—We do not have the figures with us now, but we can do that. Senator ABETZ—All right; that on notice. Would you also give us a comparison for the last eight quarters? Mr Lloyd—Yes.
EW0973_10	ABCC	ABETZ	Wed 74	Senator ABETZ—Absolutely. I might say that it is as a result of your good work and the good work of your commission that those figures are so low. Reading some of the comments that were reported in the judgment of the CFMEU and the Nesbit case, some of these people think that they are now back in town and that it is payback time. A few other choice quotes were reported in the judgment. Clearly, it is not only in words but also in action that they are showing this by the number of days lost. Did you have referred to you for comment a letter to the Deputy Prime Minister dated 3 November 2009, from the AiG, Master Builders, AMMA and the Australian Construction Association, dealing with the national code of practice for the construction industry? Mr Lloyd—I do not recall that being referred to me, no. Senator ABETZ—All right. In that case, can you take the question on notice just in case it was referred to you? Mr Lloyd—Yes, just in case.

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EW0974_10	ABCC	CAMERON	Wed 80	<p>Senator CAMERON—In the report Ken Phillips said that you would make this \$295 million advantage if you worked 365 days a year.</p> <p>Senator CAMERON—When you have a look at all these issues, could you give me a view as to why the figure of \$9.2 million was added for industrial action that did not happen? It was plucked out of the air. A figure of \$43.3 million, on the Ken Phillips analysis, was in there for occupational health and safety stoppages that never occurred. Given that you looked at this report rigorously, if you had looked at it rigorously I am sure that these things would have jumped out as needing some kind of explanation when you talked to the people that you engaged to give you a report. Maybe they did. Maybe, because it was three years ago, you forgot about questioning them on all these things. I will be asking you these questions at the next estimates and I want you to take all these issues on notice.</p>
EW0975_10	ABCC	CAMERON	Wed 82	<p>Senator CAMERON—Can you give me details of how many and tell me what their background was prior to their appointment? [Since 1 September 2009 have you appointed any Australian building and construction inspectors pursuant to section 57]</p> <p>Mr Lloyd—We will take that question on notice.</p>
EW0976_10	ABCC	CAMERON	Wed 82	<p>Senator CAMERON—.....How many ABCC inspectors are currently appointed?</p> <p>Mr Lloyd—We have the total number but we do not have the breakdown. Senator CAMERON—Can you take that question on notice?</p> <p>Mr Lloyd—Yes.</p> <p>Senator CAMERON—Can you also, on notice, provide me with details of the employment backgrounds of these inspectors? Where did they come from? I do not want names; I just want generality. For example, 15 from the Federal Police, five from ASIO, or whatever it is. That is the type of information that I am looking for, okay?</p>
EW0977_10	ABCC	CAMERON	Wed 85	<p>Senator CAMERON—Can you advise me, or take on notice, of what steps were taken by the ABCC, following the ABC TV's 7.30 Report of 22 September 2009, to investigate the strong allegations of sham contracting in the industry? I would like to know what you did about that, and where that is up to, if there are any ongoing inquiries. How many sham contracting referrals have you made to the Fair Work Ombudsman or his predecessor?</p> <p>Mr Lloyd—I have that number here somewhere, I think. There were five formal</p>

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				<p>referrals to the workplace ombudsman. Senator CAMERON—Five out of 300,000. Mr Lloyd—That is in relation to sham contracting. Senator CAMERON—Yes. I am okay to put all those questions on notice.</p>
EW0978_10	5	BACK	Wed 85	<p>Senator BACK—....In that event, is there provision in the proposed amendments that in your annual report or in any other form of reporting the commissioner would be obliged to advise either the number and/or the details of any ministerial direction given to the commissioner on the allocation of resources? Mr Lloyd—I would have to take that on notice, Senator. Other directions the minister gives have to be reported. I would think it is possibly the same with this one, but I am not certain of that. I do not have the amendment in front of me, so I would have to check on that.</p>
EW0979_10	5	ABETZ	Wed 86	<p>Senator ABETZ—Minister, in the face of this report about the cost of bullying in the Australian workplace, is it still the government’s intention to remove the capacity of the ABCC to deal with bullying and coercion on building and construction sites? Senator Arbib—Senator, I will need to check that for you, but can I just say that, in terms of bullying in the workplace, under the new model OH&S laws there will be a strengthening. They will be dealt with in the same way as they are under the current Victorian OH&S laws. Senator ABETZ—But not, as currently, under the ABCC. Senator Arbib—I said I would get that information</p>
EW0980_10	4	CORMANN	Wed 90	<p>Senator CORMANN—Leaving the official exemption aside—and I understand what you are saying—and taking your point that it is an aspirational goal, how close to achieving that aspirational goal are we? Do we have facts and figures around that? [all Australians under the age of 17 in full-time school, training, or work] Ms Paul—We are gathering facts and figures now. It is still reasonably early days. It only started at the turn of the financial year. So we can get those for you, if you like.</p>
EW0981_10	Cross Portfolio	CORMANN	Wed 95	<p>Senator CORMANN—On notice would you be able to give a breakdown of what is has been spent, on a state-by-state basis as well? Is that difficult?</p>

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EW0982_10	Cross Portfolio	CORMANN	Wed 95	<p>Senator CORMANN—The figures that the journalist utilised, so I am told, come from answers provided by the department as questions on notice from the last estimates round. Is that your understanding?</p>
EW0983_10	4	CORMANN	Wed 97	<p>Senator CORMANN—My questions were asked in the context of there being different ways in which to skin a cat if you want to achieve a particular outcome, which is why I asked how the government advertised those grants under the Jobs Fund. The answer I got was that advertisements were placed in the following national and regional newspapers: the Sydney Morning Herald, the Age, the Australian, the Canberra Times, the Hobart Mercury, the West Australian, the Brisbane Courier-Mail, the Adelaide Advertiser, the Northern Territory News. So far, so good. But then there are the Burnie Advocate, the Launceston Examiner, the Illawarra Mercury, the Ipswich Advertiser and the Albert and Logan News. Who made the decision to choose those particular regions?</p> <p>Ms Paul—They represent the priority areas. They are some of the 20 priority areas, which we have discussed in these series of calls.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—You corrected yourself there quite relevantly: they do not represent the priority areas. They represent some of the priority areas. I think you will find that all of those regional newspapers just happen to represent some of the priority areas that are in Labor electorates.</p> <p>CHAIR—It is a bit tough in Tassie not to!</p> <p>Ms Paul—I think actually this was round 1, and I think these are the first seven priority areas. We would have to check.....</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—Before you go on notice, the Burnie Advocate has a circulation of 26,172, appears Mondays to Saturdays, and it covers the marginal Labor electorate of Braddon. The Launceston Examiner covers the marginal electorate of Bass. The Illawarra Mercury covers the electorate of Cunningham, which was held by the Greens for a little while. The Ipswich Advertiser covers the electorate of Blair, which was held by a Liberal member of parliament before the last election and which is now held by Mr Shayne Neumann. The free Albert and Logan News covers an area south of Brisbane which includes the electorate of Mr Craig Emerson. It seems quite convenient that the prioritisation of announcing priority employment areas is such that you target your advertising on Labor electorates. Why did you not—.....</p>

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				<p>Senator CORMANN—The Minister for Employment Participation has focused on many an occasion on the challenges in North Queensland, for example, in Cairns and Townsville. The Herbert electorate, which is a Liberal-held electorate, has some significant employment challenges, and it is covered by the Townsville Bulletin. Why didn't you advertise in the Townsville Bulletin?</p> <p>Ms Paul—We will check this for you, but I think the answer is precisely what I just said, which is that these were advertised in the seven which had been announced first. It may well be that the next round also advertised in Cairns and so on.</p>
EW0984_10	4	CORMANN	Wed 98	<p>Senator CORMANN—You are allocating \$132 million of taxpayers' money. Those areas in which you made a special effort to advertise just happen—totally coincidentally!—to be all Labor electorates? How can somebody not smell a rat?</p> <p>Ms Paul—Well, I think perhaps what we can do for you—and we have had some of this discussion here before. We used an analysis involving 70 different variables about what was happening in areas across Australia. That informed the rollout and the announcement of these areas. I am happy, if we have not already provided that on notice, to set out the rationale for you. It is pretty complex, so it is probably easier for us to set it out on notice, I think.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—Are you going to provide us with a list of the 70 labour market indicators?</p> <p>Ms Paul—I am happy to do so. Senator CORMANN—Okay. Thank you. And you are going to give us an indication of how those 70 labour indicators have tracked between when the program started up until now?</p> <p>Ms Paul—We can try to do that. I do not know; we may have to do a bit of work to do that, but I am happy to try.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—To be honest, I think it would be good in terms of clearing up.</p> <p>Ms Paul—Sure.</p>

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EW0985_10	4	CORMANN	Wed 98	<p>Senator CORMANN—How can Cairns not be part of an employment priority area? Ms Paul—Because it was not one of those first seven. Senator CORMANN—Why? Ms Paul—We will probably have to take that on notice and go back to our analysis, but do not forget that things have changed quite fast in some of these areas over time. The first seven were based on our analysis way back in March-April, and then we kept track. If you like, I can spell that out. Also on Page 99: Senator CORMANN—That is not my question. It might have become worse; it might be top of the list now. The question I have is that when you decided to advertise grants under the Jobs Fund totalling \$132 million of taxpayers' money, of the \$200 million that was available, was Cairns in the top seven or not? Things may have become much worse, and I am sure they have. Ms Paul—Sure. Senator CORMANN—But was it in the top seven, or was it outside the top seven. Ms Paul—I am not sure we can remember. That is almost a year ago, so I think it could well have been. I think we are suggesting that that is probably the case, but we will need to take it on notice to check.</p>
EW0986_10	2	CORMANN	Thurs 14	<p>Senator CORMANN—But how did you get hold of all the other information when you cannot get the most salient information? Given that this is set up as a trade training centre in a school, which was one of the flagship pre-election commitments, as a replacement and successor to the Australian technical collages, how are you not able to tell me how many students are actually taking advantage of that one trade training centre in all of Australia on a full-time basis? Ms Paul—It has probably only recently opened. Would you like us to take it on notice and get a figure earlier for you? Senator CORMANN—Would you be able to get that perhaps today? Ms Paul—I am sure we can just contact the school and see what the story is. Senator CORMANN—I would have thought that that is a very— Ms Paul—If we get it today, that is great. We will try our best.</p>

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EW0987_10	2	CORMANN	Thurs 15	<p>Senator CORMANN—Rather than to hold up the committee, would you be able to provide us on notice the expected time frames for those 734 schools to have fully operational trade training centres?</p> <p>Mr De Silva—We will be able to do it for round 1. We are in the process of working through all the funding agreements for round 2 successful schools.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—So, in round 1, how many applications were approved for how many schools?</p> <p>Mr De Silva—For round 1, a total of 138 applications, representing 432 schools.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—For those 432 schools, you will be able to give us an indication as to what the time frame is going to be by which—</p> <p>Mr De Silva—I will be able to provide it for 108 schools.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—So for 108 schools you will be able to give us an indication as to when they are fully operational trade training centres?</p> <p>Mr De Silva—Yes.</p>
EW0988_10	2	CASH	Thurs 18	<p>Senator CASH—Okay. Are you able to provide us with the details of when each project commenced?</p> <p>Mr De Silva—Yes, we can.</p> <p>Senator CASH—You would need to take that on notice.</p> <p>Mr De Silva—Yes.</p> <p>Senator CASH—Okay. And each one has commenced?</p> <p>Mr De Silva—For all 108 we have executed an agreement.</p> <p>Senator CASH—Yes.</p> <p>Mr De Silva—They will be in various stages. Some may have gone to a tender process. There are 46 which have commenced construction.</p> <p>Senator CASH—In relation to the stage at which each of those 108 projects is at, could you also please provide, when you are providing the date of commencement, the actual stage the project is actually at?</p> <p>Mr De Silva—That is fine.</p>

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EW0989_10	2	CORMANN	Thurs 19	<p>Dr Bruniges—It could well be, Senator. Some schools operate on a semester basis, so they divide the year into two semesters where students would study in the first semester, being traditionally the first two terms of the school a particular course and then change to another course in the second semester. So we would need to look to see how many were running a semester system. But it is possible to start a qualification course in the second half of the year.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—When you say some, do you have some data around that? And I am not going to keep at it for much longer, but do you have some data as to how many schools run on a semester basis to the extent where they will be start using them in the second half of the year on a full-time basis?</p> <p>Dr Bruniges—I think we could probably check for you, of the ones that we have spoken, to which ones. I am happy to take that on notice.</p>
EW0990_10	2	CASH	Thurs 19	<p>Senator CASH—Could you take on notice, please, to provide the reasons that each of the 11 trade training centres, which the department had the expectation were to be completed by January 2010 and clearly have not been, have not been completed in that timeframe? And could you also, please, provide the name of each of the affected projects? And could you also, please, provide the expected completion date for each of those projects? With reference to the 12 trade training centres that you said at the last estimates hearing were to be completed by May 2010, could you please provide an update as to how they are progressing?</p> <p>Mr De Silva—I actually covered that off in my first answer to you. Because I said we expect five to be completed next month.</p>
EW0991_10	2	CASH	Thurs 21	<p>Senator CASH—Do you know yet what the wording is that is going on that plaque?</p> <p>Mr De Silva—We provide a package to schools which sets out what the wording is.</p> <p>Senator CASH—Are you able to provide a copy of the package to the committee?</p> <p>Mr De Silva—I will take that on notice.</p>

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EW0992_10	2	FIELDING	Thurs 22	<p>Senator FIELDING—Are you aware of Mildura Primary School, Chaffey Secondary College, and Mildura West Primary School in Mildura, Victoria, performing well below the national average? I assume you know your figures. They are in the system. I will not test you on how many you know, but I assume - you can take my word for it: they are very low.</p> <p>Dr Bruniges—Out of the 10,000, I am not aware of those particular schools, but—</p> <p>Senator FIELDING—I can assure you they are very low, under-performing schools. Can you tell me how much federal funding is directed to those schools?</p> <p>Dr Bruniges—I do not have that with me but I am happy to take that on notice. Ms Paul—We can take it from the record, but would you mind just mentioning the school names again, please?</p> <p>Senator FIELDING—Yes, Mildura Primary School, Chaffey Secondary College, Mildura West Primary School, all around the Mildura, Victoria area. And they are well below the national average, as far as—</p> <p>Ms Paul—So they are state government schools, by the sound of it, all of those?</p> <p>Senator FIELDING—Yes.</p> <p>Ms Paul—Okay. Okay. So to get the funding information, we would need to ask the state government how they are directing funding towards those schools, and we are happy to do that. I just wanted to understand which sector they were in.</p> <p>Senator FIELDING—Do you have that number—not here, but do you have the number?</p> <p>Ms Paul—For the finances?</p> <p>Senator FIELDING—Yes. Ms Paul—That is the piece which is still being worked on, and my colleagues can describe that. You might have seen some of the public comment about this. Finances for each school will be on the website, but not until later this year.</p> <p>Senator FIELDING—So if you could take that one on notice and ask them what it is, I would appreciate that. Obviously, you do not have it here.</p> <p>Ms Paul—Yes, that is what we would need to do at the moment. cont pg22</p> <p>Senator FIELDING—I will come back to the answer to that one in a second. I will tie it to another area, if I can. Bendigo is another area that has a high proportion of schools performing well below the national average: Bendigo Primary School, Bendigo North Primary, Bendigo South East 7-10 Secondary College, California</p>
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				<p>Gully Primary School, California Gully, Comet Hill Primary School and Weeroona College. They are all struggling. You are still going to give funding. How are you going to tie it to performance? I do not get that feeling. In the past, you just dished out the money, and I do not think— cont pg23</p> <p>Senator FIELDING—Warrnambool has similar problems: Brauer Secondary College, Warrnambool College, Warrnambool College, Warrnambool East Primary School, Warrnambool West Primary School—not performing well. I will be interested to know how much federal funding has been going to all those schools I have raised this morning.</p> <p>Ms Paul—Sure.</p>
EW0993_10	2	FIELDING	Thurs 24	<p>Senator FIELDING—Will there be a specific action plan for each school that I have identified that has bridging the gap? When is that likely to be done or has it already been done?</p> <p>Ms Hanlon—The national partnerships schools that have been identified by the states—which may not absolutely correlate with the ones that you have read out—will have school plans published this year that will identify the actual strategies that they will be employing at the school to support students who are disadvantaged and who are poorly performing in literacy and numeracy. It will also identify the Commonwealth investment that is being used to build that strategy and approach.</p> <p>Senator FIELDING—Okay. Can we get access to these plans?</p> <p>Ms Hanlon—Certainly. They will be publicly available.</p> <p>Senator FIELDING—I look forward to seeing those.</p>
EW0994_10	2	FIELDING	Thurs 25	<p>Senator FIELDING—How much money would a school receive from the federal government if they had a student with a disability enrolled with them, and how would that compare if they were in a public versus a private school? Are there different funding arrangements for those in public and private schools? If you have got a kid with a disability, is it the same?</p> <p>Dr Bruniges—Senator, that will depend from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. One of the commitments of the ministerial council has been to look at a common definition.</p> <p>Senator FIELDING—What about in Victoria, for example, which you would know?</p> <p>Dr Bruniges—I know that in the ACT there is no difference. They have a scan</p>

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				<p>process. Senator FIELDING—But in Victoria there is. Dr Bruniges—I am not sure about Victoria. I would have to take that on notice. Senator FIELDING—Could you come back to us then with what they are in each state and territory?</p>
EW0995_10	3	CORMANN	Thurs 27	<p>Senator CORMANN—Maybe we will just go through the schools. I have a list here. Before we do that, at its peak, how many students were enrolled across those 24 ATCs? Ms McKinnon—The latest data we have was a school census of 31 October 2009. The total enrolment across the 24 was 3,163. Senator CORMANN—Was that the peak? Because by then we had a period of uncertainty and transitioning and— Ms McKinnon—I would have to take that on notice and give you the enrolments over the last three years. Senator CORMANN—If you could give us the enrolments for the last three years, that would be really fantastic. Thank you. Ms McKinnon—Thank you, Senator</p>
EW0996_10	3	CORMANN	Thurs 28	<p>Ms Paul—The school is still there. The school is operating. The school is operating under this new program run by the South Australian state department and it is still offering mining and energy sector related training with training services provided by registered training organisations, principally TAFE SA. So the school has not shut its doors, as such; it has transitioned, is my understand of it. Senator CORMANN—I am looking now at the Australian Technical College Spencer Gulf and Outback website, which is an sa.edu.au ending of website. So it looks official, by the looks of it, and it has got in big capital letters, 'College is now closed.' So that would be wrong, then, would it? Ms Paul—The students are clearly doing something and I presume they are doing it from the same premises. So unless the premises have changed—perhaps I need to take that on notice. Senator CORMANN—You might want to track that down. It is www.atc-sgo.sa.edu.au. It is has got 'Australian Government, Australian Technical College Spencer Gulf and Outback College is now closed.' But what you are saying, that is not right?</p>

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				<p>CHAIR—You cannot believe everything you see online. Senator CORMANN—It looks official. It looks like it is from government. It has a government logo on it.</p> <p>Ms McKinnon—I am happy to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—Yes, please. That is good</p>
EW0997_10	3	CORMANN	Thurs 29	<p>Ms McKinnon—Senator, commitments for the program total was around \$423.2 million over the life of the program. That was \$182.1 million in operational and interim funding and \$241.1 in capital. Now that the contracts are signed, as at the end of January, \$421.8 million has been expensed and we do not expect any further payments to be made from that program.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—So all of the \$241 million in capital funding has been expensed, has it? Ms McKinnon—I would have to check that.</p>
EW0998_10	3	CORMANN	Thurs 29	<p>Senator CORMANN—Could you, on a school by school basis, advise us on notice how much has been transferred from the Commonwealth to states or others?</p> <p>Ms McKinnon—Per college?</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—Per college, in terms of capital funding.</p> <p>Ms McKinnon—Certainly, Senator.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—Were there any requirements attached? Did the Commonwealth say, 'We give you this, but in exchange, we want you to do X, Y, Z,' or was it a gift?</p> <p>Ms McKinnon—I am happy to take that on notice, but, broadly speaking, there would be ongoing accountability arrangements for that funding over the life of the college.</p>

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EW0999_10	3	CORMANN	Thurs 30	<p>Ms Paul—In this instance, if that is the case—and I do not know this case, Senator, and I am happy to take it on notice—it sounds like the venue may have shifted. That is fine. That would have been part of our negotiations.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—But we have invested quite a lot of Commonwealth capital funding into it.</p> <p>Ms Paul—That is right. That would have been part of the negotiation of the funding agreement, I am sure. I am happy to give you the—</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—It seems like a waste of money.</p> <p>Ms Paul—Not necessarily.</p> <p>Ms McKinnon—Some of the premises were rented across the range of ATCs and part of that discussion with whoever was taking on the ATC was were there more permanent premises for those students that were not in ongoing rented premises.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—Were the Spencer Gulf and Outback ATC premises rented or were they built?</p> <p>Ms McKinnon—I will come back to you, Senator, with answering the question that I think you are getting at.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—It is a concern, surely. If we invest capital funding at a Commonwealth level—</p> <p>Ms Paul—It depends whether you did, and I think that is what we have taken on notice.</p>
EW1000_10	3	CORMANN	Thurs 33	<p>Senator CORMANN—And what happens then? Does the building get returned to the Commonwealth? What happens?</p> <p>Ms McKinnon—That is one option.</p> <p>Ms Paul—And that is a really important point, which we have actually underplayed and which we should have offered earlier. The Commonwealth retains that long-term interest in the capital investment, and that is reflected through the funding agreement. What we might do is offer you the clauses that protect that Commonwealth expenditure.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—That would be fantastic.</p>

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EW1001_10	2	MASON	Thurs 34	<p>Ms Bloor—As at the end of January—I think it was 20 January—100,823 had been installed.</p> <p>Senator MASON—Round 2, how many have been approved?</p> <p>Ms Bloor—141,177.</p> <p>Senator MASON—141,177? Now, why is that different from last time, the answer was: approved, 141,597?</p> <p>Ms Bloor—I am sorry. I cannot account for that difference at the moment. I will take that on notice</p> <p>. Senator MASON—You cannot account for that? Can you check on that?</p> <p>Ms Bloor—Yes.</p>
EW1002_10	2	MASON	Thurs 43	<p>Senator MASON—I have some questions about computer security, though I am not certain of the import of these questions. I am advised—I put it no higher than that—that some schools in New South Wales are apparently telling students not to share the password to their laptops with their parents. That is what I am being told. Have you heard of that?</p> <p>Dr Arthur—I have not heard that. It would not surprise me. It would be completely normal policy. In the New South Wales case, that computer is connected with the New South Wales network. The device operates as an integral part of the network, and parents do not have the authority to access all the applications or all the information on that network.</p> <p>Senator MASON—If parents are concerned about the content of the material that their children might be looking at on the computer, what do we say to them? Dr Arthur—There are issues in terms of that which I would need to check with the New South Wales authorities on what their policy is on that. It is New South Wales policy. It is controlled by them.</p> <p>Ms Paul—We will have to take it on notice.</p>
EW1003_10	ACARA	HANSON-YOUNG	Thurs 51	<p>Dr Hill—I do not think there is a mistake in the value that we have reported, but that we will check. We will check whether the value is correct; whether the information that has gone into the index is correct; whether, for example, all the students in the schools' addresses were actually coded. Those are the sorts of things that would lead to a mistake.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG—</p> <p>Yes. Dr Hill—Then the issue is, is it a valid way of comparing it, which, I think, is</p>

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				really what you are getting at, because you are talking about the perceptions of people.
EW1004_10	ACARA	HANSON-YOUNG	Thurs 52	<p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG—In terms of the time frame, what was the opportunity to review?</p> <p>Dr Hill—That was done before Christmas.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG—And how long did those schools get to verify their data?</p> <p>Dr Hill—In fact, the systems have had the data before Christmas, and they were still making observations right up until almost the last minute. I would say that, really, they have had probably four to five weeks in which to review.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG—Could you take on notice—I would really like that time frame, if you could forward that, please?</p> <p>Ms Paul—Sure.</p>
EW1005_10	ACARA	HANSON-YOUNG	Thurs 53	<p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG—Mr McGaw, I refer to the answers that you gave earlier to my questions relating to the type of access that schools got to review the information they had or the data that was being used to make these types of comparisons. Through this process how many schools were moved into different categories after the index was applied and before the site went live and on air? If you ran this review process, was there any change to the way in which schools were categorised?</p> <p>Prof. McGaw—Yes, there were schools that were shifted. The consultation was not with individual schools; the consultation was with the authorities, which had the bigger picture than the individual school. There were those such as the one I mentioned in Carlton which were shifted. I do not have those figures but we can provide them. We have also undertaken to give the council of ministers a report on the extent to which there were final values that were different from the calculated values.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG—So there were some?</p> <p>Prof. McGaw—Yes.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG—You are saying that you will have to take on notice the numbers. Was it a significant amount or a moderate amount?</p> <p>Prof. McGaw—In some places more than 10 per cent.</p>

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EW1006_10	ACARA	HANSON-YOUNG	Thurs 54	<p>Ms Paul—The website is not misrepresentative. I know some people are eyeballing the schools that are in that statistically similar group of 60 schools. But then you have to go behind it. I am sure that ACARA would be happy to look at those two schools—Prince Alfred and—</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG—The Murray area school.</p> <p>Ms Paul—and explain why the index found that. For example, Prince Alfred may have a range of scholarship students, it may have a range of students whose parents have saved up a lot to send them to Prince Alfred, which I know is a very expensive school, and so on. It is possible for us to get behind that.</p>
EW1007_10	ACARA	HANSON-YOUNG	Thurs 56	<p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG—Will you carry out a review of those schools that asked to have their comparisons and data checked, and will you be publishing the results of that review?</p> <p>Dr Hill—We will certainly do so as it will be part of our processes through our board committee. There is no problem with that at all. The comment we made last Friday was that we have received a number of requests to look at the index and to check to establish whether it is right. At this stage there are 26, which is not a very big number out of the 10,000. There may be more, which is fine. We will establish a process which means we will go through it in a rigorous and comprehensive manner, starting with the data itself to ensure that it is correct. I mentioned before the break that we had given that period, but I was not able to clarify when it was. I clarified that over the lunch period. They had from September right through to the end of December to clarify that. These are the systems.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG—This is where there is a moving of some schools from one category to another.</p> <p>Ms Paul—That is right.</p> <p>Dr Hill—Yes.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG—Will you take that question on notice and provide us with the number of schools that will be moved? The categories would also be good.</p> <p>Prof. McGaw—Yes.</p>

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EW1008_10	2	MASON	Thurs 65	<p>Ms Paul—These are the two ways in which this can be considered. One is on a project basis—</p> <p>Senator MASON—Did you consider other ways?</p> <p>Ms Paul—There are no other ways.</p> <p>Senator MASON—There are no other ways, like labour hours and so forth?</p> <p>Ms Paul—Whether or not we considered anything else I would probably have to take on notice. But it is my understanding that there are these two ways. There is the Treasury approach, which we have described—</p> <p>Senator MASON—Yes, we have been down that path.</p>
EW1009_10	2	BILYK	Thurs 68	<p>Ms Wall—Across the total Building the Education Revolution, 23,053 projects have started. That is 96 per cent.</p> <p>Senator BILYK—Can you break that down by state for me?</p> <p>Ms Wall—By state? Just one moment.</p> <p>Ms Wall—I do not have figures broken down by state with me. I could take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator BILYK—if you could take that on notice, that would be good. Can you tell me— and you might need to take this on notice as well - the breakdown between government and non-government?</p> <p>Ms Wall—I would have to take that on notice.</p>
EW1010_10	1	COLLINS	Thurs 74	<p>Senator JACINTA COLLINS—And is there a break-up for family day care and in-home care?</p> <p>Ms Shugg—I do not have a break-up with me. I can take that question on notice.</p>
EW1011_10	1	COLLINS	Thurs 74	<p>Senator PAYNE—No, no. Thank you,</p> <p>Ms Shugg. You said that you did not have a state-by-state breakdown?</p> <p>Ms Shugg—No, I do not.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE—Could you take that question on notice, as well as Senator Collins’s question? [up-to-date figures relating to numbers in the childcare system, particularly since the change in the rebate levels....state by state]</p>
EW1012_10	1	PAYNE	Thurs 74	<p>Senator PAYNE—Do you know how many people we have registered as nannies in the context that you have just identified, Mr Manthorpe?</p> <p>Mr Manthorpe—I would have to take that question on notice, Senator.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE—Thank you very much; I appreciate that.</p>

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EW1013_10	1	PAYNE	Thurs 75	<p>Senator PAYNE—Does the department collect any other data on individuals who are in receipt of the fee assistance under the JET scheme? For example, do you know how many people go on to full-time and parttime employment as a result of that process?</p> <p>Mr Parsons—I do not have that with me, Senator Payne.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE—But you do collect it; is that what you are saying?</p> <p>Mr Parsons—I am not sure whether we do.</p> <p>Mr Manthorpe—We can take that question on notice, Senator, and check that out.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE—The purpose of the question is to get some idea of the utility of the support, and not in a negative sense.</p>
EW1014_10	1	PAYNE	Thurs 75	<p>Senator PAYNE—You gave me figures for the June quarter 2009. Can you take me back to the date of the introduction of the increase in the rebate and give me a comparison for those?</p> <p>Ms Shugg—The change to the rebate happened on 1 July 2008. I have figures going back to June 2008, but I do not go back any further than that.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE—Perhaps you would like to take that question on notice so that I can see that track through as the change to the rebate came into effect and what particular impact that had on take-up.</p>
EW1015_10	1	PAYNE	Thurs 78	<p>Senator PAYNE—Will the annual report that you will receive at the end of March ultimately be a public document?</p> <p>Ms Shugg—That is our intention at this stage.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE—Can you tell the committee what sort of time frame you expect between the receipt of the report and its public release?</p> <p>Ms Shugg—I have not estimated that.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE—Can you take that on notice as a question to consider and respond to the committee, bearing in mind, as we always do, that we are back here in May for budget estimates.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—Unless there is an election.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE—Well, with 103 per cent of four-year-olds in Western Australia at preschool, I would have thought you could get them along campaign booths, if that happens. Can you take on notice what the time frame between your receipt of the report and its public release.</p>

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				Ms Shugg—Yes.
EW1016_10	2	PAYNE	Thurs 79	<p>Senator PAYNE—I have questions across a few areas here, but some concern the National Quality Agenda and some are about the sorts of entities that we have. The preschools themselves did not come under the BER program, did they?</p> <p>Ms Paul—There was the link to early learning centres—</p> <p>Senator PAYNE—How many?</p> <p>Ms Paul—so there is some construction under the BER of early learning centres on school sites.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE—Are they the EELC component? Ms Paul—Maybe. We will get you that number. The BER people are still here. I do not have the number with me personally, but we can certainly get it easily for you.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE—I am happy for that question to be taken on notice. I want to know how many were part of that program and what the funding arrangements were there.</p>
EW1017_10	1	PAYNE	Thurs 80	<p>Senator PAYNE—Thank you for that. Are you able to tell us how many registered preschools we have in Australia? Is ‘registration’ the right word?</p> <p>Ms Shugg—In some jurisdictions, yes, and I think others use ‘licensed’.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE—I do not mind which word we use.</p> <p>Ms Shugg—I am seeing whether I have that with me. This is from the ROGS report. In 2008-09 there were 4,254 licensed and/or registered preschool providers. That would not include childcare providers who also provide preschool.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE—Can you then take it on notice to add that figure in. That is, how many would be in childcare providers—or are they not licensed or registered?</p>
EW1018_10	1	PAYNE	Thurs 81	<p>Senator PAYNE—Can you tell us how many of the 4,254 licensed and/or registered preschools are privately run or not-for-profit community run?</p> <p>Ms Shugg—I do not have that information with me.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE—Can you take that on notice.</p> <p>Ms Shugg—Yes. Can I go back to the availability of the data.</p>
EW1019_10	1	PAYNE	Thurs 82	<p>Senator PAYNE—I am not sure exactly how long relevant courses are, but I would like to know how many graduates there were, how many are currently in training and whether we have any idea of employment obtained?</p> <p>Ms Calder—We would have to take that question on notice.</p>

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				Senator PAYNE—That would be helpful.
EW1020_10	1	PAYNE	Thurs 82	<p>Senator PAYNE—By when would you expect the overwhelming major of the preschools to be providing 15 hours?</p> <p>Ms Shugg—I do not have that estimate with me.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE—Is there an estimate?</p> <p>Ms Shugg—It might be able to be pulled out of the implementation plans, but I have not seen any work done on that.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE—If it is possible, can you provide that to the committee?</p> <p>Ms Shugg—Yes.</p>
EW1021_10	1	CORMANN	Thurs 84	<p>Senator CORMANN—One follows out of the COAG process, whereas the other is a pre-election commitment. Are you formally dealing with them separately, as you have just described?</p> <p>Mr Manthorpe—There are two national partnerships, both of which have been progressed through the COAG process, but on different time frames, and they are complementary measures.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—How many long day care centres have a four-year trained early childhood education teacher today? How prevalent is that? What is the base we are starting from?</p> <p>Mr Manthorpe—I am not sure I have a number on that. If my colleagues do, we will give it to you. If not, we will take it on notice.</p> <p>Ms Rundle—We do have an overall number for early childhood (primary school) teachers in the ABS labour force survey. That was 16,800 in August 2008. However, I do not have with me the breakdown of preschool teachers in long day care centres. I am not sure whether we have that at all, but we are checking for you now. We may have to take that question on notice.</p>
EW1022_10	1	CORMANN	Thurs 85	<p>Senator CORMANN—How many trainees graduate in this area [WA] every year?</p> <p>Ms Rundle—Could we take that on notice?</p>
EW1023_10	1	CORMANN	Thurs 85	<p>Ms Rundle—I have found the data I was looking for, and I have it for every state. The available existing qualified teacher workforce in 2010 is 1,260.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—Where is that?</p> <p>Ms Rundle—In Western Australia.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—That is out of a total of 16,800?</p> <p>Ms Rundle—Correct. They are two different sources of data and they may not be</p>

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				<p>directly comparable as well. I can also give you the numbers of diploma and certificate III qualified staff.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—Would be able to give us all of that on notice</p>
EW1024_10	2	MASON	Thurs 89	<p>Senator MASON—Are the projects that have not commenced generally for larger schools with more than 150 students? Is there any particularity to which you can direct the committee, or is it just random?</p> <p>Ms Wall—I would have to check that, but I expect they would be a mixture and they would be related to various issues that have caused the education authorities to want to push them back. They could be things like amalgamating schools, site problems, deciding to retender.</p> <p>Senator MASON—It could be a range of reasons?</p> <p>Ms Wall—Yes.</p>
EW1025_10	2	MASON	Thurs 90	<p>Ms Wall—The number is 4,435.</p> <p>Senator MASON—Out of 13,148 projects. That is only about a third.</p> <p>Ms Wall—It is 35 per cent. As I said, some of those will commence and complete later because of variations. I should say that our data is of December. We know that many of those projects would have been completed over the Christmas holidays, because children are not there and that is the obvious time to do the work. We expect that to increase significantly when we get the January data later this month.</p> <p>Senator MASON—So we know that only 35 per cent have been completed.</p> <p>Ms Paul—Before the school holidays.</p> <p>Ms Wall—As of December. Ms Paul—We are happy to take that on notice and update it. It is only a few weeks till we get the data.</p> <p>Senator MASON—So 35 per cent out of 13,148 as at what date?</p> <p>Ms Wall—As of 31 December.</p>

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EW1026_10	2	MASON	Thurs 93	<p>Senator MASON—This will not take long—these are quick. Thank you, officers. At the October estimates, I asked whether there were any sanctions or punishments for the failure to abide by timetables and other requirements of the program. The question was taken on notice. Essentially, the answer states that the Commonwealth has the power to withhold or suspend payments to a state or territory if it has not fulfilled its obligation under the bilateral agreement regarding the programs. Is that right, Ms Wall?</p> <p>Ms Wall—That is correct.</p> <p>Senator MASON—Does this refer only to state and territory authorities, or is there a similar agreement with block grant authorities in each state?</p> <p>Ms Wall—There are similar agreements with block grant authorities.</p> <p>Senator MASON—How similar? Identical?</p> <p>Ms Wall—No, not identical, but from recollection these sanctions are quite similar.</p> <p>Senator MASON—Is it possible for the committee to have that information?</p> <p>Ms Wall—Certainly.</p> <p>Senator MASON—On notice will be fine.</p> <p>Ms Wall—Yes.</p> <p>Senator MASON—The difference, in effect, between the requirements in relation to states and territories on the one hand and block grant authorities on the other. Is that all right, Ms Wall?</p> <p>Ms Wall—Yes.</p> <p>Ms Paul—Sure.</p>
EW1027_10	2	MILNE	Thurs 93	<p>Ms Mitchell—Yes. On completion, each education authority is to report, project by project, that they had implemented the measures that they had said they would implement. Where we identified discrepancies in that data, then we would enter into discussions with the education authority to find out what changed, and why it changed.</p> <p>Senator MILNE—Given that some of those buildings have been completed, because they were in round one that you just described to me as having some of those—</p> <p>Ms Mitchell—Yes.</p> <p>Senator MILNE—what was the compliance rate, if you like, from the states?</p>

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				<p>Ms Mitchell—I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator MILNE—I would like to have an assessment of the performance of the states against what was asked of them by the Commonwealth in terms of the energy efficiency in the design and implementation of those particular features.</p> <p>Ms Mitchell—Certainly.</p>
EW1028_10	4	CASH	Thurs 95	<p>Senator CASH—Are we able to obtain information about the size of the existing Golden Gurus operations at the time that the funding was announced? What are the number of paid administrative staff, the number of volunteer staff, the operating expenses and the number of registered members? I am assuming you will take all of that on notice.</p> <p>Ms Paul—Yes.</p> <p>Senator CASH—In terms of the actual expenditure of the \$400,000, are Golden Gurus required to account for the expenditure of the funding under the program? What does this actually entail?</p> <p>Ms Paul—Probably, to do the right thing by Golden Gurus, I should take on notice what it entails. I can explain it broadly, but you are familiar too. We understand it is about supporting retired people to help mentor other people into businesses and so on. In terms of the accountability, I would imagine we have struck a funding agreement in the normal way; so, yes, we would do our normal monitoring arrangements.</p> <p>Senator CASH—And we are able to get a copy of the funding agreement?</p> <p>Ms Paul—I will take that on notice too, and I will confirm on notice also what our accountability arrangements are.</p> <p>Senator CASH—Does Golden Gurus have a national presence?</p> <p>Ms Paul—Yes, Golden Gurus will reach across Australia; that is correct.</p> <p>Senator CASH—You say they will reach across Australia; what states are they currently in?</p> <p>Ms Paul—They came out of Queensland in the first instance. That was where the original idea at the 2020 summit came from. But the Commonwealth backing allows them to go national. I will take the pace and progress of that on notice.</p> <p>Senator CASH—Thank you. In terms of the allocation of funding, were other programs considered that connected mature age people with mentoring</p>

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				<p>opportunities? Were other programs of a nature similar to Golden Gurus considered before they were given the funding, or is this a one-of-a-kind program?</p> <p>Ms Paul—There are other mentoring programs. Indeed, the government recently announced the mature age worker package. So there are other elements of that, too: a forum; support for people to reskill; and financial support for people to stay in work. I probably need to take what other mentoring arrangements there might be that on notice.</p>
EW1029_10	3	CORMANN	Thurs 97	<p>Senator CORMANN—Is there any adult fund, such as non-capital funding, out of the stimulus package that went into TAFEs?</p> <p>Ms McKinnon—Yes, there would be, under the EIF, the education investment fund. Some of the rounds for that had TAFEs as recipients. I would be able to take that on notice. The additional incentives that went to employers and group training organisations to take on out-of-trade apprentices was a direct response to the GFC, and I would be able to—</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—That did not go directly to TAFEs though, did it?</p> <p>Ms McKinnon—No. Senator CORMANN—I am looking at the funding that went directly to TAFEs, and other training facilities. Could I have that broken down on a state-by-state basis?</p>
EW1030_10	3	CORMANN	Thurs 97	<p>Senator CORMANN—Okay, so \$400 million went to TAFE. That is the extent of it, is it?</p> <p>Ms McKinnon—I would have to get the other figures. There were, as part of that, measures for out-of-trade apprentices, and I would have to find the figures for that.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—Could I get a state-by-state breakdown on where the money to the TAFEs and the other training centres went—a state-by-state breakdown of the stimulus spend on this?</p> <p>Ms McKinnon—For the capital fund?</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—Yes.</p>

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EW1031_10	3	CORMANN	Thurs 97	<p>Senator CORMANN—How many VET graduates come out of the TAFE system, as opposed to other institutions?</p> <p>Mr Walters—We used to reckon—I have not seen the figures recently—it was something like 85 per cent of the system</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—You used to reckon? I am keen to look at that. I know that about 86 per cent enrol with VET. I am trying to see whether there is any shift in the percentages.</p> <p>Mr Walters—Completions.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—In terms of completions, yes.</p> <p>Mr Walters—I do not know if we obtained that.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—If you can get a bit more specific, that would be really good.</p> <p>Mr Walters—You want the proportion of completions that come from TAFE institutes?</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—That is right, yes.</p> <p>Mr Walters—I think we have to take that on notice, Senator.</p>
EW1032_10	3	CORMANN	Thurs 98	<p>Senator CORMANN—....Could I get figures for the last three financial years broken down by state? Where does the other 15 per cent go? Is that principally to employers? Can you give me a highlevel indicative breakdown of where the other 15 per cent goes?</p> <p>Mr McAuslan—The other 15 per cent under the agreement goes to private providers, essentially, through the states and territories. That is provided under User Choice arrangements and other competitive tendering arrangements that are run through the states and territories.</p>
EW1033_10	4	CORMANN	Wed 100	<p>Senator CORMANN—Did the department provide the draft answer for this question that was submitted in the Senate? That is the way it used to happen. I am sure it is still the case.</p> <p>Mr Griew—I am not aware, Senator. We would have to have that clarified</p>

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EW1034_10	Cross Portfolio	CORMANN	Wed 100	<p>Mr Griew—Can I clarify the answer to an earlier question? Senator CORMANN—Yes.</p> <p>Mr Griew—It seems to be the basis for this string of questions here. The analysis that the department did about the final allocation of the projects under the Jobs Fund round 1 was that 57.5 per cent went to projects in Labor electorates; 20.9 per cent went to projects in Liberal electorates; 10.5 per cent went to projects in Nationals electorates; 2.9 per cent to projects in Independents’ electorates; and eight per cent to projects that covered electorates of a variety of political parties. Just in terms of the integrity of the process, our analysis would suggest that that is very close to what you would expect on a distribution across the electorates that make up the—</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—Are you prepared to table that analysis? Ms Paul—I think we would give it on notice. I do not know that we can table what we have here, but I am certainly happy to do that.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—Can you table it sooner rather than later? Ms Paul—Sure.</p>
EW1035_10	4	CORMANN	Wed 101	<p>Ms Paul—It has been said publicly. In terms of why we advertised where we did, I suspect this was the department working out where to advertise. I am quite happy to come back to you as soon as we can with the rationale of why. I am pretty sure it is exactly as I said.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—But this is my question: was that a decision of the department or was that a decision of the minister? That was the question I asked before.</p> <p>Ms Paul—Yes, in terms of where to advertise. I suspect it was us, but I will come back to you on that.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—You suspect? Ms Paul—I would have to take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—You are going to check. Ms Paul—Yes.</p>

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EW1036_10	4	CORMANN	Wed 102	<p>Senator CORMANN—Can you answer for me the question that was not answered in the answers to questions on notice, and that is: whether any special promotional material was provided by the department to the minister’s office for circulation with members of the House of Representatives or senators?</p> <p>Ms Paul—I am not sure we would have that here. It is going back some time, but I am happy to take it on notice. We probably would have to take it on notice.</p>
EW1037_10	Cross Portfolio	CORMANN	Wed 107	<p>Senator CORMANN—You have not publicly released your statistical look at it yet, so I look forward to getting a copy of that.</p> <p>Ms Paul—Sure.</p>
EW1038_10	Cross Portfolio	RONALDSON	Wed 110	<p>Senator RONALDSON—Thank you, Chair. I am asking for your indulgence, because I was going to ask these questions this morning but I was jammed and I have some problems a bit later on. We were going back into Fair Work, I think, and that probably would have been a bit of a hook. I needed to have Ms Paul here, hence the trouble. When the Fair Work people were on, you were not here, Ms Paul, and I do need to direct some very quick questions to you, if that is okay. Could I ask you to take on notice for me, please, how many laptops have been issued to the minister’s office since November 2007 and how many mobile phones, how many BlackBerries and how many digital voice recorders have been issued to the minister’s office since 2007.</p>
EW1039_10	Cross Portfolio	RONALDSON	Wed 110	<p>Senator RONALDSON—I am advised that on Thursday, 19 March the Fair Work (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Bill 2009 was introduced into parliament and I am advised that on Friday, 20 March the Prime Minister’s office ordered approximately \$1,800 worth of food and drinks for your minister’s office to thank her for all the hard work that the Deputy Prime Minister’s office had done in getting the Fair Work Bill up and running. I then understand that a couple of months later the Parliament House caterers—I think it is IHG these days, is it?—were chasing a payment for the \$1,800. After much back and forth, it turns out that the PM’s office did not want to pay the invoice after all—I understand there were eight bottles of champagne, some serious nibbles, 21 bottles of wine, beer et cetera—and that DEEWR ended up paying the full amount. Are you aware of this situation?</p> <p>Ms Paul—Not in detail at all, actually—it is almost a year ago—but I am happy to take it on notice.</p>

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				<p>Senator RONALDSON—Can you take both the background to and the specific question in relation to DEEWR having to foot the bill for this—take the sequential questions and scenarios on notice as well.</p>
EW1040_10	Cross Portfolio	CORMANN	Wed 112	<p>Senator CORMANN—That is a pretty good way to clear all of this up then. Is that report a public document? Ms Paul—I think we may have already made public a summary report, but if not I will get it for you. Senator CORMANN—So you are happy to give us a copy of the report? Ms Paul—Yes. Senator CORMANN—Beautiful! Ms Paul—We have a summary report that is— Senator CORMANN—How about getting the whole report? Ms Paul—I will take it on notice and we will get something for you. Senator CORMANN—Get something for me or get me a copy of the report? Ms Paul—I want to consider that, and I will take it on notice. Senator CORMANN—So that means that we might not get a copy of the probity report? Ms Paul—I have taken it on notice and I will have a look at it. Senator CORMANN—The summary can be so high level that you do not actually get the information? Ms Paul—No, the summaries that we have released about other processes are quite detailed, actually. I am sure it will be satisfactory, but I am happy to take it on notice.</p>
EW1041_10	4	CORMANN	Wed 116	<p>Senator CORMANN—I think that is entirely reasonable. I am trying to get an indication as to what the overall number is. What is the total group in this contract compared to the total group in the previous contract? Take it on notice. Ms Caldwell—No, I can answer that now. In terms of the total case load, it is quite similar, insomuch as the former Job Network was predominant. There are seven programs, but your quantum, your order of magnitude, is obviously predominated by the major service but folding in those smaller ones. Senator CORMANN—I take your word for it that it is quite similar, but perhaps on notice we could get an answer as to what the total group numbers are so that we can try and track it a bit more.</p>

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EW1042_10	4	CORMANN	Wed 121	<p>Ms Fletcher—In the first six months of Job Services Australia we received 12,997 records from job seekers. Some of those were complaints. Some of those were compliments. That, in comparison to previous years, is far less than a comparable six-month period in the first six months of the—</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—So, out of the 764,000 people across all streams, that is your total number there?</p> <p>Ms Fletcher—Certainly.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—So what you tell me there is the number of contacts, rather than the number of complaints. Are you able to break that down?</p> <p>Ms Fletcher—I do not have that with me at the moment, but I can certainly take that on notice and break it down.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—That would be great</p>
EW1043_10	4	CORMANN	Wed 122	<p>Senator CORMANN—.....how many people have had an employment pathway plan?</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—Are you able to tell me how many job seekers do not currently have an employment pathway plan approved?</p> <p>Also on Pg 123: Senator CORMANN—.... how quickly from the initial entry into the system, for want of a better word, people will actually end up with an employment pathway plan beyond the initial piece of paper from Centrelink?</p> <p>Also on Pg 123: Senator CORMANN—How many of them [EPPs] have you done compared to what you expected and are there any budget implications of having more or less than what you expected?</p>
EW1044_10	4	CORMANN	Wed 125	<p>Senator CORMANN—And people like that, even if they only have to go for 15 hours a week, are still part of your 791,000 people in the JSA system?</p> <p>Dr Morehead—That is right. Once their child is at school, they are expected to be looking for work and they will be receiving job services and assistance with trying to find employment. However, even when they are fully meeting their participation requirements and working their 15 hours a week, they may still be receiving a part rate of payment because that may not be enough to get them off welfare.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—I am really understanding and getting the gist here, but how hard would it be to actually provide a high-level breakdown of the characteristics of the 791,000 people in the Job Services Australia system? How many of them are</p>

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				<p>fully unemployed? How many of them are in one or other of a reasonable sort of subcategory in terms of mothers, one hour a week's work, whatever you think is a reasonable subcategorisation?</p> <p>Dr Morehead—Yes, we can take that on notice.</p>
EW1045_10	4	CORMANN	Wed 126	<p>Senator CORMANN—However, what I would be interested in is whether you are able to provide us with data on the number of people in receipt of Newstart Allowance who are principal carers.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—Why is that particular data no longer published? It used to be, up until March 2008. Is there a reason, or is it just because the staff member that looked after that part of it is no longer there?</p> <p>Dr Morehead—We will have to take that on notice. We are not aware that it was usually published or has been published recently.</p>
EW1046_10	4	CORMANN	Wed 126	<p>Senator CORMANN—This goes to the previous question that I put on notice, but I am interested in the number of people on Newstart allowance who have reduced reporting requirements due to disability.</p>
EW1047_10	4	CORMANN	Wed 127	<p>Ms Parker—I have a whole number for that one which I can get you—the percentage. The attendance rate for appointments with provider as a compliance issue, 59 per cent.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—What is that compared to? Could you maybe take it on notice.</p> <p>Ms Parker—Yes, I can take it on notice. I can give you whole numbers here. For participation reports, for example, there were 12,283 penalties in that period. If you want those just as percentages, we can provide that on notice.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—That would be great, so that we can compare it over a five-year period, if that is okay, because percentages take the population growth—</p> <p>Ms Parker—We have a few here. It is 59 per cent for attendance, as I said. I do not have the exact numbers you want, so we will take that and provide it.</p>

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EW1048_10	4	CAMERON	Wed 130	<p>Senator CORMANN—Given the change on 1 March, I would have thought you would have an expectation of how many people are going to be added to the 36,000.</p> <p>Mr Waslin—We have an expectation of how many people might join the program over the remaining months of the financial year, but because it is uncapped it is often subject to how the provider network will deal with the client base.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—The reason I am not understanding this is that, presumably, if something has been cut for a period of time, there will be people approaching service providers who have to be told, ‘Sorry—no more places available.’ I assume that somebody captures that data. I am trying to quantify what is—</p> <p>Mr Griew—We may take that on notice. What the officer has just told me is that all he would have is some modelling that was done in the process of the designing of the program. We will take that on notice and see what we can provide you with.</p>
EW1049_10	5	MARSHALL	Wed 131	<p>CHAIR—Thank you. Does that.....First of all, how many people have returned to work and sought to rehabilitate themselves, if possible, as a result of a penalty being applied to them of a further five per cent reduction, and how does that apply to people that are unable to be rehabilitated, who can never return to work because of their injury or illness or incapacity? How does simply penalising those people by a five per cent reduction in their compensation do anything in terms of policy outcome?</p> <p>Cont. Pg 132 CHAIR—Sorry. Then we are talking about different things. Okay, it is that provision that people then go down to what the act says should be 75 per cent of their pre-injury earnings, but are then penalised another five per cent because of a notional superannuation deduction. They are the people I am talking to. They are still in the system, but they have been forced, effectively, to retire. They cannot work but they are penalised. They do not get 75 per cent; they get 70 per cent. If you retire then with your superannuation—maybe I am not an expert on the superannuation but the principle is the same. People who are forced into the situation of not being able to work again seem to have this five per cent deducted.</p> <p>Mr Kovacic—We might take it on notice.</p> <p>CHAIR—We are really pressed for time. What I might ask you to do is to consider</p>

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				<p>what I have said and maybe give me a detailed, considered response to my concerns. Mr Kovacic—Certainly.</p>
EW1050_10	5	CORMANN	Wed 133	<p>Senator CORMANN—Are you able to give us some data, on notice perhaps, about how many people were previously covered under equivalent awards across Australia where training costs had to be reimbursed and how many were covered in awards where training costs did not have to be reimbursed? Mr Kovacic—We will take that on notice. Senator CORMANN—Thank you very much.</p>
EW1051_10	FWA	CORMANN	Wed 134	<p>Senator ABETZ—I will very briefly put on notice some questions to Fair Work Australia. Let me express my very real concern. I asked questions about this guide and why there was not such a guide on the website. The minister was telling me that I could see it; it is clearly on the website. I had a look at the website, which showed: Latest news 10 February 2010 New guide available—Applying for a take-home pay order. On notice, when did Fair Work Australia put that onto their website?</p>
EW1052_10	5	ABETZ	Wed 138	<p>Senator ABETZ—You have given me a history of how the award modernisation process got under way. The Workplace Relations Amendment (Transition to Forward with Fairness) Bill was before the parliament in March. It was one of the first pieces of legislation introduced, wasn't it? Mr Kovacic—I think it was the first piece of legislation introduced by the new government. Senator ABETZ—Yes, it was the first piece of legislation. Are you aware whether it was still before the parliament on 20 March 2008? Mr Kovacic—I would have to take that on notice. Senator ABETZ—If you could, please. I think we might find that it was. But that legislation which was before the parliament in March 2008 set up the award modernisation process.</p>
EW1053_10	5	COLLINS	Wed 140	<p>Senator JACINTA COLLINS—.... how were they selected? So if we could have a broader description of the methodology, that would be helpful. [Access Economics survey sent to businesses] Mr Roddam—We can take that on notice.</p>

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EW1054_10	5	ABETZ	Wed 140	<p>Mr Kovacic—No, Senator Abetz. The particular decision has been appealed by BUPA.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—And will the government be intervening on one or the other side?</p> <p>Mr Kovacic—That is a matter for the government to decide.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Yes, and I am asking the minister or the department. Minister, do you know?</p> <p>Senator Arbib—I do not have that advice, but I am happy to seek that.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—By the time I get the answer on notice, undoubtedly I will know from Fair Work Australia.</p> <p>Senator Arbib—I will do my best to get it for you in a hurry, Senator.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—If you can.</p> <p>Senator Arbib—I do not know if I would be able to get it for you before the end of the night.</p>
EW1055_10	5	ABETZ	Wed 140	<p>Senator JACINTA COLLINS—How were they selected, Mr Kovacic?</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—And it did include Linfox? Is that right?</p> <p>Mr Kovacic—Just bear with me, Senator Abetz. There was a question that Senator Collins asked.</p> <p>Senator JACINTA COLLINS—A related question.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—No, that is fine.</p> <p>Mr Kovacic—I do not if it was Linfox. We would have to take that on notice because we do not know the numbers or the names of the companies.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—All right, thank you.</p>
EW1056_10	5	CORMANN	Wed 143	<p>Senator ABETZ—Is there a legal definition between prohibited content and unlawful content, because a big song and dance is being made about the fact that prohibited content has been removed, but of course we now have unlawful content, which is a neat distinction—</p> <p>Mr Kovacic—At the end of the day, the provisions refer to provisions that you cannot have in enterprise agreements.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Yet. All right. So what is the difference? It is basically stylistic?</p> <p>Ms Perdikogiannis—If, for the benefit of the committee, I could list the terms of—</p> <p>CHAIR—You should take that on notice and provide it to the committee</p>

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EW1057_10	5	ABETZ	Wed 144	<p>Senator ABETZ—.... are you able to provide us with the list of all the appointees and their background? [the minimum wage panel of Fair Work Australia]</p> <p>Mr Kovacic—Certainly, I can do that.</p>
EW1058_10	5	ABETZ	Wed 144	<p>Senator ABETZ—.....Did the department notify the shadow minister of the intended appointments or was it the Deputy Prime Minister's office who notified the shadow?</p> <p>Mr Kovacic—It was the Deputy Prime Minister's office. It was—</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—And when did she notify the shadow?</p> <p>Mr Kovacic—There was a letter faxed from the Deputy Prime Minister's chief of staff on 7 December 2009.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—At what time?</p> <p>Mr Kovacic—I am sorry, I do not know the precise times.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Could you please take that on notice?</p> <p>Mr Kovacic—Certainly.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Can I say: we do not make hollow and sham promises, and when you find out the timetable of when the letter was faxed and the time by which a response had to be back into the Deputy Prime Minister's office, when that comes back on the record with the answers on notice, I think you will find—</p>
EW1059_10	5	ABETZ	Wed 146	<p>Senator ABETZ—In relation to the six, there was a selection process; a shortlist was provided to the minister of 25 potential applicants.</p> <p>Mr Kovacic—In the order of 25, yes.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Are you able to confirm that number on notice for us?</p> <p>Mr Kovacic—Yes.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—I do not want to know the names of course of those that were being considered, but on that shortlist of 25—I am sure it was purely based on merit, like Mike Kaiser; we just happen to have five out of the six with a trade union background—how many of them had a background in the trade union movement?</p> <p>Mr Kovacic—I will take that on notice, but—</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Yes, thank you.</p>
EW1060_10	5	ABETZ	Wed 148	<p>Senator ABETZ—... On what other occasions has she [the Minister] considered taking action under the Fair Work Act against a union? Have there been other cases where active consideration has been given to her intervening?</p>

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				Mr Kovacic—I will take that on notice. Off the top of my head, I am not aware of any.
EW1061_10	5	ABETZ	Wed 148	Senator ABETZ—..... Is the government comfortable with the decision or is the government of the view that this is an interpretation that it had not anticipated and therefore it might amend the legislation? Mr Kovacic—I am unable to comment in terms of the level of— Senator ABETZ—All right. If the minister can take that on notice. Senator Arbib—I am happy to check that with the Deputy Prime Minister.
EW1062_10	5	ABETZ	Wed 149	Senator ABETZ—..... what is the government’s policy position in relation to this matter? [bargaining in good faith] Senator Arbib—I will seek out that information.
EW1063_10	5	ABETZ	Wed 152	Senator ABETZ—.....when were instructions for the Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Amendment Bill sent to the drafters? Mr Kovacic—We would have to take that on notice.
EW1064_10	5	ABETZ	Wed 152	Senator ABETZ—Was any legal advice received by the minister or department in relation to the validity of the moratorium? I know I am not allowed to be told what that advice was, but I want to know whether advice was received. Ms Baxter—Minister, I would need to take that on notice to check the exact nature of the advice provided to the minister. There was advice provided. Whether or not it encompassed— Senator ABETZ—Pre moratorium or post-moratorium announcement of 11 December. If you could let me know that as well. Mr Kovacic—We will need to take that on notice. Ms Baxter—We will take that on notice.
EW1065_10	5	ABETZ	Wed 152	Senator ABETZ—....When was the need for the legislation first considered, if you can take that on notice as well. Ms Baxter—I will. Thank you, Senator.
EW1066_10	5	ABETZ	Wed 153	Senator ABETZ—.....Are there any other new rights that you can point to, or do you want to that on notice? Mr Kovacic—In terms of rights, we would take on notice the question— Senator ABETZ—All right.

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EW1067_10	5	ABETZ	Wed 154	<p>Senator ABETZ—.....Part of that was Fair Work Week, where the minister went around. Are we able to be told how many small businesses she visited during that tour around Australia?</p> <p>Mr Kovacic—I would take that notice.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—All right.</p> <p>Mr Kovacic—But I recall there were certainly two small businesses in Adelaide.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—That would have been public, as in with a media event?</p> <p>Mr Kovacic—I think all of the events that were part of Fair Work Week were public.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—If you are able to without offending privacy principles, could let us know the names of those businesses? That would be helpful. Thanks.</p> <p>Mr Kovacic—Certainly.</p>
EW1068_10	5	ABETZ	Wed 155	<p>Senator ABETZ—....What conditions accompanied the Fair Work Education and Information grants the government provided?</p> <p>Mr Kovacic—Each of the grants is underpinned by a funding agreement. I will ask the officer to come up.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Are you able to provide us with such an agreement?</p> <p>Mr Kovacic—I will just check whether we might have done so in the past. I will take on notice whether we can actually provide that.</p>
EW1069_10	5	ABETZ	Wed 156	<p>Senator ABETZ—I am sure. When was he appointed? On Mr Smythe's return? [Special Labour Adviser, ILO, in Geneva - Mr Greg Vines]</p> <p>Mr Kovacic—No, it would have been before that in terms of time to enable a handover period.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Yes, fair enough.</p> <p>Mr Kovacic—The process I think roughly would have been finalised in April-May of last year, but I will take that on notice if you want a more precise timeframe.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—If you could.</p>
EW1070_10	3	CORMANN	Thurs 102	<p>Senator CORMANN—Thank you. Generally, how do state RTOs compare to the private sector in success rates, specifically leading people into jobs? I know that people might enjoy the experience or have different objectives, but in terms of channelling people into jobs, do you have a handle on that?</p> <p>Mr McAuslan—I think we would need to take that on notice, Senator. I am not sure that the survey that the NCVET does breaks things down to that level, but we</p>

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				can take that on notice.
EW1071_10	3	CORMANN	Thurs 102	How many VET students got the training and learning bonus? Do we know that? Is that something that was managed through your department? Was your department involved?
EW1072_10	3	CORMANN	Thurs 103	Senator CORMANN—Since April 2008, have you been getting any complaints about red tape or paperwork? How many complaints have you received? Ms Taylor—There has been nothing as formal as complaints. There are always discussions with the stakeholders, the states and territories, the job services providers and the registered training organisations about better ways to implement the system and the requirements. Of course, during the transition from the Commonwealth delivery to the delivery by the states and territories there are issues about any differences that may occur. But I would not call them complaints. We have not received any formal complaints. I will check that, Senator.
EW1073_10	3	CORMANN	Thurs 107	Senator CORMANN—Remind me: the industry skills councils receive quite a bit of funding from the Commonwealth, do they not? Ms Taylor—They are funded by the Commonwealth. Senator CORMANN—They are entirely funded by the Commonwealth? Ms Taylor—Not always, no. They contract out to do other work. Senator CORMANN—How much funding is involved? Are there 11 or 12 industry skills councils?
EW1074_10	3	CORMANN	Thurs 108	Senator CORMANN—Can you provide us with a list of all the organisations that you intend to involve? Ms Taylor—Certainly.
EW1075_10	3	CORMANN	Thurs 110	Senator CORMANN—I understand. I remember when it was all changed, but the role of the Industry Skills Councils, as I understand it, changed quite a bit over the last two years. Ms Paul—The essence of the role remains the same, which is that they are the very, very important body in the overall vocational education and training system that produces the training packages, which, in our terms, is the curriculum, if you like, for vocational education and training. That role is the centre of their role, and that stays the same.

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				<p>Senator CORMANN—So their funding and their responsibilities have not changed over the last two years at all. Ms Paul—We would have to take that on notice.</p>
EW1076_10	3	CORMANN	Thurs 110	Can you give us a breakdown of how much each individual ISC gets?
EW1077_10	3	CORMANN	Thurs 110	<p>Senator CORMANN—How has that funding changed over time? The role of the ISCs changed after the change of government, didn't it? Ms White—I do not have data with me on previous funding to ISCs. I assume we can get that.</p>
EW1078_10	3	CORMANN	Thurs 110	<p>Senator CORMANN—What would be the average staffing level of each Industry Skills Council? Ms Taylor—That would differ between Industry Skills Councils. Ms White—We would have to take that on notice.</p>
EW1079_10	3	CORMANN	Thurs 113	<p>Ms White—Yes. The Industry Skills Councils are under a funding agreement with the Commonwealth, which includes KPIs. They are slightly different for each ISC, depending on their industry. Senator CORMANN—So they are outcomes that you are looking at, or activity? Ms White—I am not sure. I might need to take that on notice.</p>
EW1080_10	3	CORMANN	Thurs 113	<p>Senator CORMANN—So those reports are public-public, are they? Ms White—Yes, that is my understanding, Senator. Senator CORMANN—And the reports to the department are public? Ms White—Possibly not, Senator. I could check that for you.</p>
EW1081_10	3	CORMANN	Thurs 113	<p>Senator CORMANN—Is it possible to have a list of members of the Industry Skills Councils and their current employment so that we get an idea of the balance of participation? I am looking at the make-up, demographically, of the councils. I am not looking for inappropriately private information; I am just looking at getting a sense of the mix. Ms White—The mix? Ms Taylor—You mean, the board and who is on it and who is on the Industry Skills Councils? Senator CORMANN—Yes, that is right—sorry, yes. Ms White—Yes, we can get that for you, Senator.</p>

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EW1082_10	3	CORMANN	Thurs 113	<p>Senator CORMANN—Mr Walters, you mentioned earlier that there was a major shake-up some time ago. When was the last review of the Industry Skills Councils' structure and effectiveness?</p> <p>Mr Walters—I do not think there has been one under this government. It was around about five years ago. I will have to give you the exact date.</p>
EW1083_10	3	CORMANN	Thurs 114	<p>Senator CORMANN—Can we look at the Construction Skills Council specifically? Who is represented on that?</p>
EW1084_10	3	ABETZ	Thurs 116	<p>Senator ABETZ—Is that report of Mr Bracks publicly available? Has it been put on a website? You told us that it has gone to the stakeholders, which is good. What about the public at large?</p> <p>Ms Taylor—I understand it has not been made public, but I can check whether—</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Can you take on notice whether it is possible for the committee to have that made available to it.</p> <p>Ms Taylor—Certainly.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—The minister has now provided that report to the stakeholders.</p> <p>Ms Taylor—Mr Bracks has, yes.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Mr Bracks did that?</p> <p>Ms Taylor—Yes.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Just so I get the chain right, Mr Bracks provided a draft report to the stakeholders before providing it to the minister?</p> <p>Ms Taylor—No, he wrote to the minister to provide the report to him and then he wrote to the stakeholders saying, 'Here is the recommendation that I have put forward to the minister.'</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Was that at the same time or was it with the minister's concurrence? I would have thought he was duty-bound to report to the minister.</p> <p>Ms Taylor—Yes. I am not sure of the sequence of events. I will take that on notice to get the exact details.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Could you take that on notice? Not much revolves on it.</p>

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EW1085_10	3	CORMANN	Thurs 118	<p>Senator CORMANN—Can you talk to me about the skills councils’ role in workforce development?</p> <p>Ms Taylor—They have a limited role in workforce development under our funding agreements. They may be contracted by other agencies to have a workforce development role and that has happened in the case of a couple of ISCs. The names escape me at the moment but I will get those for you. They do an environmental scan of their industries and of course that is funded as part of their contract. They are looking at the workforce needs, but workforce development in its broader sense. Skills are part of that, but workforce development is a broader issue.</p>
EW1086_10	3	CORMANN	Thurs 120	<p>Senator CORMANN—Would you be able to provide us with a copy of the consultations that have occurred over the last—</p> <p>Mr Shreeve—Yes, certainly. We can give you a list of all the consultations that have happened.</p>
EW1087_10	3	CORMANN	Thurs 126	<p>Senator CORMANN—The number of apprentices declined for the first time since 2003 in 2008-09, and of course there was the global economic downturn so we all understand that. But from your point of view, have you analysed whether the global economic downturn was the only thing that was to blame or were there other factors?</p> <p>Ms Paul—We would be pretty certain that that is the main factor. The reason why we can be confident is that we know what has happened in previous recessions.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—But you did put a lot of money into various programs to boost incentives and to improve training support. A lot of money was put in to make sure there would not be a decline as a result.</p> <p>Senator Carr—Imagine if we had not put the money in!</p> <p>Ms Paul—The decline has not been as deep as it was in previous recessions.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—The decline in apprenticeships has not been as deep?</p> <p>Ms Paul—That is my understanding, but we will check that for you.</p>

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EW1088_10	3	CORMANN	Thurs 136	<p>Senator CORMANN—I tried to get an answer to this from the minister in the chamber: how much money is left in the Education Services for Overseas Students Assurance Fund, the ESOS Assurance Fund?</p> <p>Senator Carr—What I said to them is the same answer I gave you in the chamber—and we will take the question on notice. The government has made an undertaking that the fund will remain solvent; the officers have indicated to you that the fund is about to be replenished and is currently cash-positive.</p>
EW1089_10	3	CORMANN	Thurs 140	<p>Mr Walters—We had 629,618 enrolments at the end of November.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—How many of them are in private training colleges as opposed to TAFEs or universities et cetera?</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—That is not a breakdown of whether they are private providers or government based providers.</p> <p>Mr Walters—We will have to take that on notice,</p>
EW1090_10	3	CORMANN	Thurs 141	<p>Senator CORMANN—Can you take on notice whether you had any communications and what the nature of those communications was. The context of my questions is the announcement that the government has abolished, as of immediate effect, the Migration Occupations in Demand List, to replace it with a Skills Australia List at the end of April. I am sure that you will not say that it is just made up, Mr Chairman. There is a serious level of concern about what that will mean to the viability of a whole series of private providers operating in the international education market. I am sure you are aware of that.</p> <p>Mr Walters—I will take it on notice. I do not recall having seen any direct communication. Of course, people communicate with us via the media and there have been various media releases.</p>
EW1091_10	3	CORMANN	Thurs 142	<p>Senator CORMANN—Are you making any particular provision around additional impositions on the insurance fund as a result of the changes to the skilled migration laws?</p> <p>Ms Paul—We have not yet made any particular changes, but of course we will need to monitor it. It is very early days obviously; the announcement has only just been made.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—It is very early days. It was announced last week, but there was an immediate effect in terms of abolishing the Migration Occupations in Demand List.</p>

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				Ms Paul—Sure. I am happy to take on notice a monitoring—we can come back mid-estimates, if you like.
EW1092_10	3	CORMANN	Thurs 143	<p>Senator CORMANN—Did you assess the impacts of the value of the dollar on the international education sector?</p> <p>Ms Paul—I am not sure.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—No, I am asking a question now.</p> <p>Ms Paul—I would need to take that on notice. We probably cannot go too much further before we get into what would have been potentially input to advice to cabinet and I am probably reaching the end of questions about content.</p>
EW1093_10	3	MASON	Thurs 153	<p>Senator MASON—Do you know when the projects will be announced? You finalise the assessments next week, but when will the announcements be made? Do you know?</p> <p>Ms Randall—That will be up to government.</p> <p>Senator MASON—Sure. When was the last contribution to the capital of the fund made by the government?</p> <p>Ms Randall—The last contribution to the capital would have been—</p> <p>Senator MASON—The \$650 million?</p> <p>Ms Randall—No. The \$650 million is part of the funds that were—</p> <p>Senator MASON—Sorry. When was the last contribution to the capital?</p> <p>Ms Randall—I might have to take that on notice.</p>
EW1094_10	FWA	ABETZ	Wed 66	<p>Senator ABETZ—Out of those, how many have resulted in money being paid by the employer to the employee? Can you give us that detail or not?</p> <p>Ms O'Neill—Not readily.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—You can take it on notice. If it is somehow obtainable from the database, that is fine. If it requires somebody to read through everything, of course, do not do that.</p> <p>Senator JACINTA COLLINS—Can I seek clarification? Do you distinguish between outstanding entitlements as opposed to other compensation?</p> <p>Ms O'Neill—Again, I will take that on notice.</p>