

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace  
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Additional Estimates 2010-2011**

**Outcome 5 – Workplace Relations**

**DEEWR Question No.EW0739\_11**

**Senator Abetz asked on 23/02/2011, Hansard page 74.**

**Question**

**INCLUSION OF SUPERANNUATION FUNDS IN MODERN AWARDS**

Senator ABETZ—Your ministerial colleague, if I might say so, quite rightly drew the then President of the Australian Industrial Relations Commission to the importance of consulting and considering the performance of various superannuation funds. There is one in particular, the MTAA, which I think, out of 49 super funds, came in last for rate of return but is nevertheless jammed in there as a default super fund. One wonders what robustness actually went into determining that that one was worthy of inclusion in a modern award. Senator Chris Evans—Senator, I have not had the benefit of seeing the former minister's letter, so I think I will have to give you a response on notice to that.

**Answer**

During the award modernisation process, exposure drafts of modern awards largely reflected the terms of the relevant key pre-reform federal award/s. As the MTAA Superannuation fund was present in the relevant pre-reform federal award, it was adopted as a default fund in the exposure draft of the Vehicle Manufacturing, Repair, Services and Retail Award 2010 (Vehicle Industry Award), as issued by the Australian Industrial Relations Commission.

All aspects of exposure drafts of modern awards, including whether a particular superannuation fund was to be included as a default superannuation fund, were subject to a public consultation process. No submissions were made by any party concerning the inclusion of MTAA Superannuation fund in the Vehicle Industry Award during this consultation process.