

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

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

Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman

DEEWR Question No.EW0774_11

Senator Abetz asked on 23/02/2011, Hansard page 42.

Question

INTERPRETERS

Mr Wilson—Before you move, another question you asked me before lunch was to do with the costs of taking transcripts and the like. We have that information. The total amount that we paid in 2009-10 was \$193,110 and in 2010-11 to date only \$162,637. By way of clarification, that payment is used to pay for not only the preparation of statements and transcriptions of conversations and so on, the costs of interpreters who are used from time to time—roughly \$200,000 last year, \$162,000 this year. Senator ABETZ—That is an interesting figure. Given interpreters are involved as well, on notice can you just let us know what component is made up for interpreters and in what languages? Mr Wilson—Certainly.

Answer

The Fair Work Ombudsman provided the following response

In the financial year ended 30 June 2010, the Fair Work Ombudsman spent \$104,734.17 (GST exclusive) on interpreters, or 54 per cent of the total amount paid for transcription services.

In the current financial year, up to and including 31 January 2011, the Fair Work Ombudsman spent \$71,079.37 (GST exclusive) on interpreters or 43 per cent of the total amount paid for transcription services to date.

Interpreters were required for the following languages:

- | | | | |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| • Korean | • Japanese | • Mandarin | • Cantonese |
| • Punjabi | • Macedonian | • Spanish | • Arabic |
| • Khmer | • Portuguese | • Tajik | • Polish |
| • Hindi | • Filipino | • Thai | • Lao |
| • Vietnamese | • Italian | • Burmese | • Bosnian |
| • Maltese | • French | • Serbian | • Russian |
| • Persian | • Tamil | • Sinhalese | • Croatian |
| • Bengali | • Greek | • Indonesian | • Mongolian |
| • Armenian | • Samoan | • Hungarian | • Turkish |
| • Nepali | • German | • Assyrian | • Dari |
| • Urdu | • Tongan | • Hakka | • Amharic |
| • Somali | | • Chinese | |