

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2011-2012**

Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy

DEEWR Question No. EW0964_12

Senator Boyce provided in writing.

Question

Regulation 144 of 2011 and Regulation 3 of 2012

Many of the community welfare groups are trading corporations and so its argued this new regulation doesn't apply to them and they don't have to pay the new rates is that correct? Does that also mean that they are not entitled to any of the wage supplementation money on offer?

Answer

Organisations that were trading corporations immediately before 1 January 2010 are not covered by the new Regulation and are not required to pay wages in accordance with the Regulation.

The supplementation money, a commitment of \$30 million in additional Commonwealth funding, only applies to those employers who are:

- (a) covered by the new Regulation; and
- (b) have back pay obligations under the new Regulation; and
- (c) receive Commonwealth funding, either directly from the Commonwealth or through payments to the Queensland Government.

The Australian Government has also committed over \$2 billion in additional Commonwealth funding to pay its share of the wage increases recently awarded by Fair Work Australia (FWA) in the national Equal Remuneration Case for the social and community services sector. This commitment extends to trading corporations covered by the FWA decision and in receipt of Commonwealth funding.