

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

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

**Agency - Fair Work Australia**

**DEEWR Question No. EW1068\_12**

**Senator Ronaldson asked on 15 February 2012 , Hansard page 21**

**Question**

**FWA - has Mr Thomson had any contact with Min Evans or Min Shorten's office in relation to inquiry?**

Senator RONALDSON: Parliamentary Secretary, can you clarify for me whether Mr Thomson has had contact with anyone in former Minister Evans' office or their staff in relation to this inquiry? Can you also take on notice please whether Mr Thomson has had any contact with Minister Shorten or any of Mr Shorten's staff in relation to the conduct of this inquiry? Senator Jacinta Collins: I will take that on notice.

**Answer**

The General Manager Fair Work Australia provided the following response at Senate Estimates hearing on 15 February 2011:

***Ms O'Neill:** Mr Lee has advised me that no other contact with the minister's office has taken place whilst he was general manager. There is something further, Senator. In relation to my own contact since I have been acting general manager, I received a telephone call from the minister's office on, I believe, 6 January 2012. I was simply asked whether I was aware that the former industrial registrar, Mr Williams, had issued a public statement concerning the investigation.*

There has been no other contact between the Minister's office and Fair Work Australia regarding the Fair Work Australia investigations into the National Office of the Health Services Union.