

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

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

Agency - Fair Work Australia

DEEWR Question No.

Senator Abetz asked on 15 February 2012 , Hansard page 117

Refers to previous DEEWR Question No EW1068_12

Question

FWA - Thomson matter

Senator ABETZ: All right. Parliamentary Secretary, chances are you will have to take this on notice. Can you tell us how many contacts Mr Shorten's office has had with Fair Work Australia over the Thomson matter: when, how often, and what about?

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.