

Education, Employment and Workplace Relations portfolio index to questions on notice from Additional Budget Estimates 2011–12

QoN No	Outcome	Senator	Subject	Question Text
EW0882_12	Agency - Fair Work Australia	Abetz	FWA - Previous answered QONs	Is the acting General Manager satisfied that all previously tabled answers to Questions on Notice from the last Senate Estimates are accurate? a. What steps has the acting General Manager taken to satisfy herself of this?
EW0883_12	Agency - Fair Work Australia	Abetz	FWA - Agreements	How many enterprise agreements have been rejected by Fair Work Australia? a. Please provide the reason why it was rejected ie. Failed to meet the Better off overall test.
EW0884_12	Agency - Fair Work Australia	Abetz	FWA - Investigation into the Health Services Union	1. What is the total cost to date on the investigation into the Health Services Union? a. Please break down ie. AGS Fees, External Legal Fees, Staff Time, Staff Travel etc. 2. What is the anticipated cost of the KPMG review of Fair Work Australia's investigation into the Health Services Union?
EW0885_12	Agency - Fair Work Australia	Abetz	FWA - Investigation into the Health Services Union	Can Fair Work Australia provide the Committee with a copy of the final report on the first investigation into the Victorian Health Services Union? a. If Fair Work Australia will not provide a copy of this report because it contains confidential or sensitive information, can a redacted version be provided?
EW0886_12	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	Abetz	ABCC - Legal Proceedings	1. How many legal proceedings have been commenced by the Australian Building and Construction Commission where the parties have settled? 2. How many fines have been issued despite parties having settled?
EW0887_12	Agency - Safe Work Australia	Abetz	SWA - Harmonisation	1. When are all aspects of Occupational Health and Safety harmonisation – including the model codes of practice – going to be finalised?
EW0888_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Abetz	Australian Building and Construction Commission	1. In relation to the Government's amendment to the Building Industry Improvement Bill 2011, who was consulted prior to the amendment being circulated? 2. Which organisations or individuals lobbied for the amendment? 3. Did the Minister receive any advice from the Department while he was considering the amendment?
EW0889_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations &	Abetz	Appointment of President of Fair Work Australia	1. How many people were on the shortlist provided by the Department? a. Please provide a breakdown – by category – of each person shortlisted. 2. How many people expressed interest in the position? 3. How many people made it to the interview stage? 4. Who sat on

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	Economic Strategy			the panel to decide on the short-list?
EW0890_12	Cross Portfolio	Abetz	Incoming Brief for Minister Shorten	1. Did the Department prepare a brief for the incoming Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations? a. Can the Department provide the Committee with a copy of this brief? b. Has the Minister given any instructions to the department regarding the release of this brief? i. If so, what were these instructions? ii. If not, can the department outline its reasons for refusing to provide a copy of this brief? c. If the Department will not provide a copy of this brief because it contains confidential or sensitive information, can the department provide a redacted copy of this brief?
EW0891_12	Cross Portfolio	Abetz	Ministerial Handover	1. How many briefs that were already sitting with Minister Evans had to be resubmitted to Minister Shorten? a. By which outcome?
EW0892_12	Cross Portfolio	Abetz	Ministerial Handover	1. Please provide a list of all equipment that was purchased by the Department for the use of Minister Evans or his office. Specifying: a. The cost of the equipment. b. The justification for use of the equipment. c. Where is the equipment now? 2. Please provide a list of all equipment that has been purchased by the Department for the use of Minister Shorten or his office. Specifying: a. Whether that request was approved. b. The cost of the equipment. c. The justification for use of the equipment. d. Where is the equipment now?
EW0893_12	Cross Portfolio	Abetz	Ministerial Handover	1. In terms of the Department's media monitoring subscription, how many people in Minister Shorten's office have access to this service? a. How many licenses have been set aside for use in the Minister's office.
EW0894_12	Cross Portfolio	Abetz	Ministerial Handover	1. How many of the following have been provided to Minister Shorten's office for the use of the Minister or his office: a. BlackBerrys. b. USB or Wireless Internet Cards. c. Laptop Computers. d. Apple iPads or BlackBerry Playbooks. e. Sim Cards for the use in Apple iPads. f. Any other electronic equipment.
EW0895_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Abetz	Job Creation	1. How many jobs need to be created each quarter to achieve the Government's target of creating half a million jobs in two years? a. How many jobs were created in the two last quarters of 2011?
EW0896_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Abetz	Jobs	1. Which is a better measure of the level of employment in Australia: a. The total number of people employed. b. The unemployment rate. 2. When was the last time that there were less people employed (as a raw figure), month on month, in Australia?

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EW0897_12	Cross Portfolio	Abetz	Appointments and Vacancies	Reference is made to the Department's list of appointments and vacancies tabled on 20 February 2012. 1. Why is Mr Tim Lee not listed as an appointment under Fair Work Australia? a. What was the start date of Mr Lee's appointment? b. What is the end date of the appointment? c. Where will Mr Lee be based?
EW0898_12	Cross Portfolio	Abetz	Appointments and Vacancies	Reference is made to the Department's list of appointments and vacancies tabled on 20 February 2012. 1. The acting General Manager started her appointment on 8 December 2011. a. When did the General Manager vacate the position? b. Why did it take so long to appoint an acting General Manager? c. Who was the acting General Manager in the interim? 2. The acting General Manager is due to end her appointment on 7 September 2012. a. Why is this such a long acting role? b. When is it anticipated that a new General Manager will be appointed?
EW0899_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Abetz	Wages	1. Is the Department aware of any person that is legally employed under the Fair Work Act on a 'poverty wage'?
EW0900_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Abetz	Review of the Fair Work Act	1. How many people or organisations were on the shortlist to conduct the review of the Fair Work Act? a. Please provide a breakdown – by category – of each person or organisation shortlisted. (ie. Employer, employee, government, academic etc.)
EW0901_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Abetz	Review of the Fair Work Act	1. Why was any reference to productivity left out of the terms of reference?
EW0902_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Abetz	Review of the Fair Work Act	1. Did the final terms of reference approved by the Minister change from the draft terms of reference drafted by the Department?

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EW0903_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Abetz	Review of the Fair Work Act	1. How many submissions were received? 2. Were all submissions published on or before 20 February? a. If not, which submissions and b. Why not? 3. Were any submissions received after close of business on 17 February? a. If so, which submissions? b. Were these submissions taken as formal submissions despite being late? 4. Given submissions weren't published on the website by COB 20 February, were any extensions given to the supplementary submission phase to allow for this? a. If not, why not?
EW0904_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Abetz	Qantas Dispute	Reference is made to Parliamentary Question on Notice 1328. 1. When was the Deputy Secretary first advised of Qantas' decision to lock out its workforce and ground the airline? 2. Why did it take an hour and a half for the Minister to speak to the Deputy Secretary of the Department? 3. Given legal advice was provided to the Minister prior to 29 October 2011, was the Government aware of the damaging affect that the continued industrial disputation was having on the economy?
EW0905_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Abetz	National Workplace Relations Consultative Council	1. Since 1 January 2010, for each meeting of the National Workplace Relations Consultative Council: a. Date b. Location c. Attendees d. Apologies e. Who called the meeting f. Outcomes of the meeting
EW0906_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Abetz	Committee on Industrial Legislation	1. Since 1 January 2010, for each meeting of the Committee on Industrial Legislation: a. Date b. Location c. Attendees d. Apologies e. Who called the meeting f. Outcomes of the meeting 2. For informal consideration of legislation by the Committee: a. What legislation has been considered? b. When was the legislation considered?
EW0907_12	Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman	Abetz	FWO - Complaints about advice given	What steps have been taken to verify the PayCheck a. Conflicting advice
EW0908_12	Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman	Abetz	FWO - Sham Contracting	Of the 379 complaints of sham contracting in 2010-11 financial year, how many were investigated? a. What was the result of each investigation?
EW0909_12	Cross Portfolio	Back	Grants	Has the Department complied with interim requirements relating to the publication of discretionary grants?

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EW0910_12	Cross Portfolio	Back	Media subscriptions	Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to pay TV (for example Foxtel)? • If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what channels. • What is the estimated cost for 2011-12? • What is the cost for this financial year to date? Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to newspapers? • If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what newspapers. • What is the estimated cost for 2011-12? • What is the cost for this financial year to date? Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to magazines? • If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what magazines. • What is the estimated cost for 2011-12? • What is the cost for this financial year to date?
EW0911_12	Cross Portfolio	Back	Freedom of Information	"Has the Department/agency received any advice on how to respond to FOI requests? What was the total cost to the department to process FOI requests for 2009-10 and 2010-11? What is the total cost to the department to process FOI requests for this financial year to date? How many FOI requests did the Department receive for the financial year 2009-10 and 2010-11? For each financial year, how many requests were denied and how many were granted? Did the department fail to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act for any requests? If so, how many? Do any of these requests remain outstanding? How many FOI requests has the Department received for this financial year to date? How many requests have been denied and how many have been granted? Has the department failed to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act for any requests? If so, how many? Do any of these requests remain outstanding? How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests for this financial year to date?"
EW0912_12	Cross Portfolio	Back	Government Stationary Requirements	How much was spent by each department and agency on the government (Ministers/Parliamentary Secretaries) stationery requirements in your portfolio (i.e. paper, envelopes, with compliments slips) this financial year to date?
EW0913_12	Cross Portfolio	Back	Community Cabinets	"What was the cost of Ministers travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings held this financial year to date? How many Ministerial Staff travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date? What was the total cost of this travel? How many Departmental officers travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date? What was the total cost of this travel? List travel type, accommodate and any other expenses. What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date?"

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EW0914_12	Cross Portfolio	Back	Government Payments of Accounts	"For this financial year to date, has the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e.within 30 days)? If not, why not, and what has been the timeframe for payment of accounts? Please provide a breakdown, average statistics etc as appropriate to give insight into how this issue is being approached) • For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year? • Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?"
EW0915_12	Cross Portfolio	Back	Reviews	"For the year 2010-11: • When will each of these reviews be concluded? • What reviews have been concluded? • Which of these reviews has been provided to Government? • When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed? • What is the estimated cost of each of these Reviews? For this financial year to date: • How many Reviews are being undertaken? • What reviews have concluded, and for those that are still ongoing, when will those reviews be concluded • Which of these reviews has been provided to Government? • When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed? • What is the estimated cost of each of these Reviews? • What reviews are planned? • When will each of these reviews be concluded?"
EW0916_12	Cross Portfolio	Back	Commissioned Reports	How many reports were commissioned by the government in your portfolio in 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11? How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in your portfolio this financial year to date? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members. • How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level? • What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?
EW0917_12	Cross Portfolio	Back	Discretionary Grants	Could the Department provide a list of all discretionary grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants for this financial year to date? Please provide details of the recipients, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants. Has the Department complied with interim requirements relating to the publication of discretionary grants?

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EW0918_12	Cross Portfolio	Back	Contractors	For this financial year to date: • Has the department/agency ever employed Hawker Britton in any capacity or is it considering employing Hawker Britton? If yes, provide details. • Has the department/agency ever employed Shannon’s Way in any capacity or is it considering employing Shannon’s Way? If yes, provide details. • Has the department/agency ever employed John Utting & UMR Research Group in any capacity or is it considering employing John Utting & UMR Research Group? If yes, provide details. • Has the department/agency ever employed McCann-Erickson in any capacity or is it considering employing McCann-Erickson? If yes, provide details. • Has the department/agency ever employed Cutting Edge in any capacity or is it considering employing Cutting Edge? If yes, provide details. • Has the department/agency ever employed Ikon Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing Ikon Communications? If yes, provide details. • Has the department/agency ever employed CMAX Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing CMAX Communications? If yes, provide details. • Has the department/agency ever employed Boston Consulting Group in any capacity or is it considering employing Boston Consulting Group? If yes, provide details. • Has the department/agency ever employed McKinsey & Company in any capacity or is it considering employing McKinsey & Company? If yes, provide details.
EW0919_12	Cross Portfolio	Back	Consultancies	"How many consultancies were undertaken in 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10? How many consultancies have been undertaken this financial year to date? Identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc). Also include total value for all consultancies. How many consultancies are planned for this calendar year? Have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and if not why not? In each case please identify the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known. "
EW0920_12	Cross Portfolio	Back	Social Media	Has there been any changes to department and agency social media or protocols about staff access and usage of Youtube; online social media, such as Facebook, MySpace and Twitter; and access to online discussions forums and blogs since publication of the Australian Public Service Commission’s Circular 2012/1: Revisions to the Commission’s guidance on making public comment and participating online? If yes, please explain and provide copies of any advice that has been issue. If no, please explain why not

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EW0921_12	Cross Portfolio	Back	Media Monitoring	"What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office for 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11? What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency for 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office for this financial year to date? • Which agency or agencies provided these services? • What is the estimated budget to provide this same services for the year 2011-12? • What has been spent providing these services this financial year to date? What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency for this financial year to date? • Which agency or agencies provided these services? • What is the estimated budget to provide this same services for the year 2011-12? • What has been spent providing these services this financial year to date?"
EW0922_12	Cross Portfolio	Back	Provision of equipment	Does the department/agency provide their Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices with any electronic equipment? If yes, provide details of what is provided, the cost and to who it is provided. What equipment is provided to department/agency staff? Please list what the equipment is, the cost, the classification of the staff receiving the equipment and the reason why.
EW0923_12	Cross Portfolio	Back	Staffing	"How many ongoing staff recruited this financial year to date? What classification are these staff? How many non ongoing positions exist or have been created this financial year to date? What classification are these staff? This financial year to date, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period? "
EW0924_12	Cross Portfolio	Back	Credit Cards	How many staff in each department and agency have a corporate credit card? What is their classification? What action is taken if the corporate credit card is misused? How is corporate credit card use monitored? What happens if misuse of a corporate credit card is discovered? Have any instances of corporate credit card misuse have been discovered? List staff classification and what the misuse was, and the action taken. What action is taken to prevent corporate credit card misuse?
EW0925_12	Cross Portfolio	Back	Staffing	"How many ongoing staff left in the year 2010-11? What classification were these staff? How many non ongoing staff left in the year 2001-11? What classification were these staff? "

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EW0926_12	Cross Portfolio	Back	Taxi Costs	How much did each department/agency spend on taxis in 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency. How much did each department/agency spend on taxis this financial year to date? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency.
EW0927_12	Cross Portfolio	Back	Staffing	" Please list the SES positions have you in your department/agency in the years 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11 and financial year to date. Identify the different levels and how many are permanent positions. "
EW0928_12	Cross Portfolio	Back	Paid Parental Leave	"Please list how many staff in each portfolio department and agency are eligible to receive payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme? For this financial year to date list which department/agency is providing its employees with payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme? Please list how many staff are in receipt of these payments."
EW0929_12	Cross Portfolio	Back	Staffing	How many graduates have been engaged this year? Where have they been placed in the department/agency? Were these empty positions or are they new positions? List what training will be provided, the name of the provider and the cost.
EW0930_12	Cross Portfolio	Back	Government Advertising	"What was the total cost of all advertising for 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11? For each of those years, list whether the advertising is campaign or non-campaign and details of each advertising, including the program the advertising was for, the total spend and the business that provided the advertising services. Did the Department of Finance and Deregulation provide any advice about the advertising? Provide details of each advertising item. Did the Advertising comply with the Guidelines on Information and Advertising Campaigns by Australian Government Departments and Agencies? Provide the details for each advertising item. Provide details for any other communications program, including details of the program, the total spend and the business that provided the communication services. What advertising – Campaign and Non-Campaign – and other communications programs is the Department/Agency undertaking, or are planning to undertake? "

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EW0931_12	Cross Portfolio	Back	Media Training	<p>In relation to media training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information for this financial year to date: 1. Total spending on these services 2. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification 3. The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted 4. The names of all service providers engaged For each service purchased form a provider listed under (4), please provide: a) The name and nature of the service purchased b) Whether the service is one-on-one or group based c) The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification d) The total number of hours involved for all employees e) The total amount spent on the service f) A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package) Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide: i. The location used ii. The number of employees who took part on each occasion iii. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part iv. Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location</p>
EW0932_12	Cross Portfolio	Back	Executive Coaching and Leadership Training	<p>In relation to executive coaching and/or other leadership training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information for this financial year to date: 1. Total spending on these services 2. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification 3. The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted 4. The names of all service providers engaged For each service purchased form a provider listed under (4), please provide: a) The name and nature of the service purchased b) Whether the service is one-on-one or group based c) The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification d) The total number of hours involved for all employees e) The total amount spent on the service f) A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package) Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide: i. The location used ii. The number of employees who took part on each occasion iii. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part iv. Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location</p>

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EW0933_12	Cross Portfolio	Back	Hospitality and Entertainment	" What is the Department/Agency's hospitality spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total hospitality spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event. What is the Department's entertainment spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total entertainment spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event. What hospitality spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what hospitality spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event. What entertainment spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what entertainment spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event. "
EW0934_12	Cross Portfolio	Back	Staffing	" Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details ie. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc. If there are plans for staff reductions, please give the reason why these are happening. "
EW0935_12	Cross Portfolio	Back	Corporate Cars	How cars are owned by each department and agency in your portfolio? Where is the car/s located? What is the car/s used for? What is the cost of each car for this financial year to date? How far did each car travel this financial year to date?
EW0936_12	Cross Portfolio	Back	Efficiency dividend	How will the efficiency dividend applied in the 2011-12 Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook be implemented in your agency/department? What percentage of your budget must be cut? Will any staff position be cut to meet the efficiency dividend? If yes, provide details of where the positions are locate, the classification, whether the position is ongoing or not. Please list where and what spending has been reduced to meet the efficiency dividend.
EW0937_12	Cross Portfolio	Back	Training for portfolio Minister and Parliamentary Secretaries	For this financial year to date, how much has been spent on training for Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in your portfolio? Itemise each training, cost and for which Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary the training was for. For this financial year to date, how much has been spent on training for staff of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in your portfolio? Itemise each training, cost and for which Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary the training was for. For this financial year to date, how much has been spent on training for designed to better suit the needs of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in

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				your portfolio? Itemise each training, cost and for which Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary the training was for, and how many employees attended and their classification.
EW0938_12	Cross Portfolio	Back	Board Appointments	List all of the boards within this portfolio, including: board title, terms of appointment, tenure of appointment and members. What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio? Please detail any board appointments for this financial year to date.
EW0939_12	Cross Portfolio	Back	Education Expenses	For this financial year to date, detail all education expenses (i.e. in house courses and tertiary studies) for each portfolio department and agency. Include what type of course, the total cost, cost per participant, how many participants and the amount of study leave granted to each participant. Also include the reason for the study
EW0940_12	Cross Portfolio	Back	Cost of Legal Services 2011/12 FYTD	What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for this financial year to date within the department/agency? Please provide a list of each service and costs. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
EW0941_12	Cross Portfolio	Back	Travel costs	For the financial year to date, please detail all travel (itemised separately,) undertaken by your portfolio Minister and Parliamentary Secretaries. Include details of what the travel was for, what cost was spent on travel (including travel type – i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses. For the financial year to date, please provide the same information (itemised separately) for any Minister and Parliamentary staff that accompanied the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary on their travel and include a similar breakdown of the costs incurred by or on behalf of those staff. For the financial year to date, please provide the same information (itemised separately) for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary on their travel and include a similar breakdown of the costs incurred by or on behalf of those staff. For the financial year to date, please detail all travel (itemised separately) undertaken by employees of each department and agency

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				within each portfolio. Include details of what the travel was for, what cost was spent on travel (including travel type – i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses. Are employees taking the most direct route when travelling? If not, please explain why. Are lounge memberships provided to any employees? If yes, what lounge memberships, to how many employees and their classification, the reason for the provision of lounge membership and the cost per employee. When SES employees travel, do any support or administrative staff (such as their Executive Assistant) travel with them? If yes, provide details of why such a staff member is needed and the costs of the support staff travel.
EW0942_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Bernardi	Job Services Australia caseloads	What is the current caseload of Job Services Australia? How many of these job seekers have been on the caseload for 12 months or more? How many of these job seekers have been on the caseload for 24 months or more?
EW0943_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Bernardi	Job seekers in each stream	Can the Department please provide the numbers of job seekers in each Stream? What is the average duration of unemployment for each Stream?
EW0944_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Bernardi	JSA - Stream 1	How many job seekers who have been unemployed for 2 or more years are in Stream 1? Why are these job seekers still classed as Stream 1, given they obviously have significant barriers to finding employment?
EW0945_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Bernardi	Employment Outcomes	Of the entire Job Services Australia Caseload, what percentage have achieved a 13 week employment outcome? Of the entire Job Services Australia Caseload, what percentage have achieved a 26 week employment outcome? Of the caseload, how many job seekers have been unemployed for 5 or more years?
EW0946_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Bernardi	Review into JSA and recommendations from this	I understand that the Nous Group were commissioned by Jobs Australia to undertake a review into the administrative burden of Job Services Australia. Did the Department support the commissioning of this report? How many of these recommendations were accepted and will be added into the next contract? Which recommendations specifically were accepted?
EW0947_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Bernardi	Employment Pathways Fund	What is the total amount currently allocated against job seekers in the Employment Pathways Fund? What is the average amount per job seeker? What has been the total spend over the lifetime of this contract? Is the Department monitoring whether any providers have almost depleted their accounts?
EW0948_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Bernardi	DEEWR Investigative Unit	Regarding the DEEWR Investigative Unit, how many staff are in this unit? What is their role? What are their powers?

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EW0949_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Bernardi	Investigation of providers	Are providers informed if they are being investigated and if so, at what stage? What is the process of investigation?
EW0950_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Bernardi	Number of Investigations and costs incurred and recouped	How many investigations in the last 12 months have been undertaken? How many of these have resulted in providers paying back money to the Department? What has been the total amount recouped? What has been the total cost of these investigations?
EW0951_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Bernardi	Compliance Failures	Regarding compliance failures, what percentage of job seekers had a valid excuse? How many failures were recorded in remote areas? How many job seekers have had more than one compliance failure in the last 6 months? Can the Department provide a breakdown of the compliance failures by type?
EW0952_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Bernardi	Priority Employment Areas	Regarding Priority Employment Areas- how many jobs were created in these areas? What was the unemployment rate in each of these priority areas, in February 2008? What is the unemployment rate in each of these priority areas now? What is the youth unemployment rate in each of these areas (15-24 years old)?
EW0953_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Bernardi	Local Employment Coordinators	What has been the total cost to date of employing the 20 Local Employment Coordinators? Are any of these Coordinators eligible for bonuses, based on performance? How many participants are in the Family Centred Employment Project? How many participants in the Family Centred pilot have entered into work?
EW0954_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Bernardi	Customer Service Line	Customer Service Line- how many full time staff are there currently? Customer Service Line- how many full time staff were there 12 months ago?
EW0955_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Bernardi	Customer Service Line complaints	How many complaints has the Customer Service Line received in the last 6 months from job seekers who had found their own employment, yet had it recorded as 'provider brokered'?
EW0956_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Bernardi	Customer Service Line returning calls	What is the average duration for a Customer Service Line supervisor to return a phone call of a dissatisfied job seeker?
EW0957_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Bernardi	Breakdown of job seekers in Employment Services Stream	Can the Department provide an age breakdown of job seekers in each Employment Services Stream, along with an average duration of time spent with a Job Services provider, prior to regaining employment?
EW0958_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Boyce	Regulation 144	In estimates the Department acknowledged that there were problems with the original draft of Regulation 144 because of errors in the supporting information supplied by the Queensland government. Can you provide the exact detail of those errors?

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EW0959_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Boyce	Regulation 144	Why did the Department consult with the ASU in the formulation of the original draft of Regulation 144 when their coverage of the community welfare sector in Queensland is relatively small?
EW0960_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Boyce	Regulation 144	The Department has said that the \$30 million in supplementation will be sufficient. Did you consult directly with the 316 organisations to ascertain whether they concurred with that view? If so with whom did you consult?
EW0961_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Boyce	Regulation 144	Given that Fair Work Australia has now written to all affected organisations in Queensland warning them of substantial fines if they do not comply, what is the Departments response to this statement by one of the peak employers in the sector in Queensland "the same government who funds us and who has failed to fully supplement the new wage increases is now going to fine us for non-compliance!!
EW0962_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Boyce	Regulation 144	In what way, apart from some more detailed explanations, is the new Regulation 144 better than its predecessor?
EW0963_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Boyce	Regulation 144	Given that the same 316 employers named in the first version of Regulation 144 are named in the latest version, do you expect that there will be High Court case seeking to clarify the definition of a 'trading corporation'/ Does the Department think it does need clarification in law?
EW0964_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Boyce	Regulation 144	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?
EW0965_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations &	Boyce	Regulation 144	Is the Queensland government going to make extra wage supplementation available for community welfare organisations working on their State programs?

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	Economic Strategy			
EW0966_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Boyce	Regulation 144	Why is \$30 million on the table now, when it wasn't before?
EW0967_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Boyce	Regulation 144	Did the Bevis report recommend extra supplementation? If so, how much? Who asked for it – did the Qld Labor Government?
EW0968_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Boyce	Regulation 144	How many employers of the 316 were consulted by Arch Beavis in the preparation of his report? Could you provide me with all the details of who was consulted?
EW0969_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Brown	Chaplaincy program	What is the minimum level of consultation required in schools looking to participate in the National School Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Program (NSCSWP)? Has the standard been revised with the expansion of the program? If so, what was the rationale for the change? Is a school required to complete a new consultation in relation each new application or renewal?
EW0970_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Brown	Chaplaincy program	How many chaplains or welfare workers do not have the minimum qualification as set out in the guidelines because they are exempt or for any other reason? Where are they situated?
EW0971_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Brown	Chaplaincy program	What processes does DEEWR use to verify that the requirements of the program including consultation and qualifications have been met?
EW0972_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Brown	Chaplaincy program	How does the role of a welfare worker differ from the role of a chaplain under the NSCSWP? What is the distinction between a chaplain or welfare worker if a welfare worker is able to provide services with a spiritual content?

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EW0973_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Brown	Chaplaincy program	What is the definition of 'secular' in the context of the Student Welfare Worker? If there is no definition, why not?
EW0974_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Brown	Chaplaincy program	Is DEEWR aware of any providers of welfare worker services that require the welfare workers to be approved by a Christian Church body?
EW0975_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Brown	Chaplaincy program	"Can you provide a breakdown, including by state and territory, on: - How many schools retained chaplains under the new program? - How many schools retained the same person but swapped their designation to a Student Welfare Worker? - How many schools dropped out of the program completely? "
EW0976_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Brown	Chaplaincy program	Please explain in practical terms how students or parents are able to “opt out” of the services or classes of chaplains or welfare workers engaging in religious practices in their schools?
EW0977_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Brown	Chaplaincy program	Is DEEWR aware of any allegations of misconduct by any chaplain in receipt of National School Chaplaincy Program (the previous program) funding?
EW0978_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Bushby	Ethical Clothing Australia	Is it true that the amount that union has received from the Government has exceeded its revenue from all other sources for those years?
EW0979_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Bushby	Ethical Clothing Australia	How are the Service Level Agreements for Ethical Clothing Australia awarded?
EW0980_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Bushby	Ethical Clothing Australia accreditation	How many companies have been accredited per year through Ethical Clothing Australia for each year since its inception?

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EW0981_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Bushby	Ethical Clothing Australia firms	What number of firms has the Government determined need to be accredited for the initiative to be a success from its point of view? Given that answer, at what time does the Department believe there will be full compliance within the industry with Ethical Clothing Australia?
EW0982_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Bushby	Ethical Clothing Australia board	How much money has been spent in total on compliance and how much money has been spent in total on promotion through Ethical Clothing Australia? Are there 12 people who sit on the board of Ethical Clothing Australia? And how many of those are union officials?
EW0983_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Bushby	Computers in Schools programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During October estimates hearings, Ms Rhyan Bloor, (DEEWR Broadband and Digital Education branch manager) told the committee that 69 per cent of the computers needed to reach the 1:1 ratio in Tasmania had been installed – what percentage has been installed now? • How many computes does that equate to? • Does that meet the required 1:1 ratio? • Can you please provide a list of all Tasmanian schools that received computers and how many they each received? • Have any schools that were announced as receiving computers, not received them? If so, can you please provide the names of the schools? • Has the Tasmanian government contributed to the cost of providing these computers? If so, how much?
EW0984_12	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	Cameron	ABCC - External Prosecution Agencies	Who within the ABCC is responsible for dealing with the relevant external prosecution agency, e.g. police or DPP, where a decision is made that an ABCC matter be referred for prosecution? Who within the ABCC was ultimately responsible for the decision to refer the Setka/Hudson matter for prosecution?
EW0985_12	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	Cameron	ABCC - Surveillance of Union Officials	In the recent Setka and Hudson prosecution in the Victorian Magistrate's Court, one of the inspectors confirmed that the ABCC had a practice of engaging in covert surveillance of union officials. For how long has this practice been engaged in? How often has it occurred? Who within the ABCC authorises such a practice and on what basis? Does the surveillance ever involve video and/or audio recording?
EW0986_12	Agency - Australian Building and Construction	Cameron	ABCC - Former State or Federal Police Officers	How many ABCC inspectors are former state or federal police officers? Does the ABCC have any policy or protocols relating to the interaction of former police officers who are now ABCC inspectors with serving police officers, including those whom the ABCC inspectors knew from their previous employment?

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	Commission			
EW0987_12	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	Cameron	ABCC - ABCC Investigative Process	Will the ABCC be reviewing its Guidance Note Number 2 'ABCC Investigative Process' in light of the evidence about the preservation, destruction, alteration of documents and other material obtained in the course of investigations which was disclosed in the Setka/Hudson case?
EW0988_12	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	Cameron	ABCC - Disciplining Inspectors	The Setka, Hudson, Shearer and Theodorou cases all exposed ABCC inspectors acting in a provocative and aggressive manner. Has there been any attempt to discipline those inspectors as a result of the exposure of their conduct in the various court cases including issues relating to destruction of evidence, alteration of evidence, retention of evidence and the management of cases?
EW0989_12	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	Cameron	ABCC - Incorrect Evidence	What steps have been taken by the ABCC in relation to the admission by a prosecution witness during the Setka/Hudson matter that he had provided incorrect evidence to the court for which he also subsequently apologised to the court ?
EW0990_12	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	Cameron	ABCC - Cost of Setka/Hudson and Shearer Matters	What has been the total cost incurred by the ABCC in the investigation and referral of the Setka/Hudson and Shearer matters?
EW0991_12	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	Cameron	ABCC - Statements Made by the Previous ABCC Commissioner	Why has the ABCC not corrected the public record in relation to statements made by the previous ABC Commissioner in the media that 'the unions are behind a threat to kill one of my people', particularly given (i) the statement was false, (ii) the charges that were the basis of the allegation were withdrawn, and (iii) the union pointed out that the statements were false when they were made and asked that they be withdrawn?
EW0992_12	Agency - Australian Building and Construction	Cameron	ABCC - Cozadinos [2012] FCA 46	In Cozadinos [2012] FCA 46 the Federal Court recently described the ABCC as engaging in 'sloppy investigation practice.' What remedial steps have been put in place to ensure this practice is not repeated?

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	Commission			
EW0993_12	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	Cameron	ABCC - Failure of the Prosecutions	As a result of the failure of the prosecutions referred to above, has there been any attempt to scrutinise, internally within the ABCC's legal department, prosecutions of that nature? Is the ABCC principally concerned with securing convictions of any description irrespective of their minor, technical or trivial nature.
EW0994_12	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	Cameron	ABCC - Prosecutorial Fairness in Administrative Proceedings	The ABCC has previously said it is not bound by the rules of prosecutorial fairness in administrative proceedings before the AIRC/FWA. This means it takes the view that 'not everything favourable to the respondent has to find its way into witness statements.' Does the ABCC adhere to that view? Does the ABCC take the same view in relation to civil court proceedings? How can the ABCC hold itself out as an impartial regulator when it has said that it doesn't have to disclose matters to the tribunal of which it is aware but which is detrimental to its case? How is this consistent with its duty of disclosure to bodies like FWA? Is this consistent with the ABCC's 'Guidance Note No 1 Litigation Policy'?
EW0995_12	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	Cameron	ABCC - Safety Disputes	The ABCC has publicly accused unions of fabricating safety disputes for industrial purposes. In ABCC v. Stephenson and Anor [2011] FMCA 1026 the Court found that the safety issue that the union relied on and which the ABCC originally alleged was not genuine, was a legitimate issue. What steps has the ABCC taken to publicise the fact that the court made this finding which was inconsistent with both the case brought by the ABCC and its previous numerous public statements?
EW0996_12	Cross Portfolio	Humphries	Contractors	"How many contractors are currently employed in the department/agency? How many contractors have been under contract for a period of more than 2 years? How many contractors have been under contract for a period of more than 5 years? How many contractors have been under contract for a period of more than 10 years? Does the department/agency make a habit of employing contractors to fill positions on a permanent basis? "

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EW0997_12	Cross Portfolio	Humphries	Efficiency Dividend	"What is the effect of the efficiency dividend increase from 1.5 percent to 4 percent on the department/agency's budget bottom line during financial years 2012/13, 13/14, 14/15? What percentage of the department/agency's budget is designated to staffing? What is the size of the department/agency's staffing establishment? Include figures for FTE, PT, casual, contractors, and consultants. What specific strategies will the department/agency adopt to ensure continued operation within budget? Will or has consideration been made to reducing staffing compliment including contractors, and consultants?"
EW0998_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Mason	Endeavour Language Teacher Fellowships (ELTF) program	"In relation to the Endeavour Language Teacher Fellowships (ELTF) program: 1. What is the cost per person of this program? 2. How many of the successful applications for each of the language groups were native speakers of these languages? 3. How many of the successful applications for each of the language groups were not native speakers of these languages? 4. What percentage of time on these trips were spent on recreational activities?"
EW0999_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	McKenzie	Primary Schools for the 21st Century	Please list the Primary Schools for the 21st Century projects that remain unfinished in Victoria. When are they expected to be completed? Are there any yet to commence? What are the reasons behind the delay?
EW1000_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	McKenzie	Cyber-Safety and the Young	The following questions relate to the Government Statement of Response – Joint Select Committee on Cyber-Safety Interim Report High Wire Act: Cyber-Safety and the Young • When did the Safe and Supportive School Communities (SSC) working group first meet and agree to the definition of bullying outlined in the report? • Has this definition been communicated to the Department of Broadband Communications and the Digital Economy? • When will AEEYSOC meet to discuss and agree to the definition? • How long does the Department believe the process of getting agreement to the definition as proposed above will take? • What progress has been made toward investigating the feasibility of recommendation 13? • Has a timeline been set for implementing this recommendation? • When is the first opportunity for this being discussed with state and territory Governments? • Has the Department met with AEEYSOC to address the issues identified in recommendation 14 and its Government response? • Has the Department undertaken any work to progress recommendations 19, 20 and 28?
EW1001_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	McKenzie	Programs Specifically for Regional Areas	Do you run any programs specifically for regional areas, where educational attainment is lower? What programs, if any, do you run that encourage students to choose a particular pathway, for example, to address particular skill shortages? Do any of these programs include agricultural education? Could they?

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EW1002_12	Cross Portfolio	McKenzie	Job in a Regional Area	Recently, the Australian Financial Review (Thursday 9th Feb) claimed that only 306 unemployed persons took advantage of the 2010 Gillard election campaign promise to give \$6,000 to each person when undertaking a job in a regional area. The government was prepared to pay \$14.8 million to this incentive. Additionally, the \$150 million infrastructure employment projects program has also reportedly failed to create jobs in vulnerable areas. Why is there no incentive to move to the country? Is the payment not enough to entice the unemployed? Do we need to invest more in regional services to make it more attractive? Perhaps the \$150 million infrastructure employment projects campaign could have been spent more wisely in the country.
EW1003_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	McKenzie	Pacific Seasonal Worker Pilot Scheme	'What feedback has the department received on removing the burden on employers to pay for their guest worker's travel up front? Has the government considered this measure? What other options have been considered by the government to improve uptake of the program? '
EW1004_12	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Nash	the In Home Care (IHC)	"Refer to ICPA letter to Minister for Childcare Kate Ellis dated 28/10/11 (copied to Senator Nash) regarding the need for greater access to the In Home Care (IHC) scheme for families in rural and remote areas. This scheme is of great importance to these families who live too far from a town to access childcare or learning and educational assistance. It helps fund a live-in carer for children aged 0-16 years. The ICPA explains initially service providers are supplied with a quota of Equivalent Full Time places (1 EFT is equivalent to 35.7 hours). The DEEWR website states IHC is a capped program and there are a limited number of places available for allocation to services. • The ICPA states some IHC service providers have closed down and their quotas are unable to be reallocated. Is the dept aware of this and if it is accurate. If so, can it explain why quotas cannot be reallocated. • There are also cases, according to the ICPA, where some service providers are unable to fill the places while others have a waiting list of up to 12 months. Is the dept aware of this and is anything being done to reallocate places from providers unable to fill them to those who have waiting lists."

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EW1005_12	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Nash	Childcare Crisis as Fees Set to Soar	"Refer to Herald Sun story `Childcare crisis as fees set to soar'. The story refers to a Herald Sun investigation that found unprecedented fee rises of up to \$25 a day because of mandatory changes to staff numbers from 1 Jan 2012. The new regulations will require one staff member to care for four children up to two years old – up from the current ration of five. The Childcare Centres Association of Victoria is also quoted saying most private centres would shed child places rather than burden families with significant fee increases. • Is the dept monitoring the impact of the changes, increased fees and cuts to childcare places on families in regional areas? • If so, how will this be done and will the findings be released, and how often? http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/more-news/childcare-crisis-as-fees-set-to-soar/story-fn7x8me2-1226211751820 "
EW1006_12	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Nash	'Staff hard to come by as childcare centres struggle with reforms'	"Refer to SMH story `Staff hard to come by as childcare centres struggle with reforms'. It specifically refers to a regional centre from Orange in central west NSW at risk of losing accreditation after a fruitless two year search to fill a single vacancy for a university qualified teacher and carer. According to a national survey by Childcare Alliance Australia, two-thirds of private operators could not find the qualified staff they need to meet the govt's new industry rules. The survey also showed almost 70pc of centre providers advertised for staff and 67.4pc said the position remains unfilled. Qld and NSW operators experienced the most difficulty. • Is the govt/dept aware of these difficulties in finding qualified staff especially in regional areas? • How long has it been aware of this issue? • Why did the govt still push ahead with the carer to child ratio to be in place by 1 January given these difficulties? • Will it waive penalties/deregistration for those childcare operators who genuinely cannot find the staff? http://www.smh.com.au/national/education/staff-hard-to-come-by-as-childcare-centres-struggle-with-reforms-20120115-1q1ai.html "
EW1007_12	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Nash	Universal Access for Early Childhood Education initiative	"Refer to ICPA letter to Minister for Early Childhood Peter Garrett dated 27/10/11 (copied to Senator Nash) regarding difficulty parents experience in accessing early childhood programs under the Universal Access for Early Childhood Education initiative. The ICPA states parents are financially disadvantaged due to the high costs incurred in accessing these early childhood programs due to distance and travelling costs. It is also discouraging families from participating. • Has the govt/dept considered more flexible attendance and funding arrangements in rural and remote areas to lessen travel disincentives as called for by the ICPA?"

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EW1008_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Nash	Murray Darling Basin Authority meeting	"Refer to speech by Finley High School principal Bernie Roebuck (attached) to Murray Darling Basin Authority meeting at Griffith last December regarding proposed water cuts in the MDB. Mr Roebuck is representing the NSW Secondary Principals Council which is very concerned about the impact of proposed water cuts on schools and families in MDB communities. Concerns include: 1. Lack of job security / uncertainty for teaching staff 2. Decline in enrolments due to job losses in the towns 3. Less options in terms of curriculum choice due to less students 4. Less students could impact student outcomes 5. Less students mean threat to schools closing and flow on effects to support services and local businesses 6. Students giving up aspirations/commitment to study due to limited job opportunities in the town because of the broader impact of water cuts 7. Students less inclined to return to the MDB area resulting on further shortage of skilled workers and labour. • Will the govt/dept be looking into these concerns given that the draft MDB plan does involve the federal government which will in fact be introducing legislation? NOTE: Senator Back, on behalf of Senator Nash, raised this issue although this question was specifically asked or answered as it was dismissed as a state issue which it is not. "
EW1009_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Nash	'Skills push target needs more work'	"Refer to AFR story 'Skills push target needs more work' – attached. It refers to two reports released by the COAG Reform Council last November that assess the performance on skills and education targets agreed by state, territory and Commonwealth governments. • It states literacy and numeracy is improving among primary school students – does the dept know the results for regional, rural and remote schools? NOTE: this issue was raised by Senator Back, on behalf of Senator Nash, although this question was not specifically asked. http://www.coagreformcouncil.gov.au/timeframes.cfm "
EW1010_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Nash	Students laptops already obsolete	"Refer to Herald Sun story 'Students laptops already obsolete'. It refers to laptops handed out to Victorian schools are obsolete and almost out of warranty as the federal program began 2008. • Can the dept confirm if this is accurate? • If so, how many regional and rural schools are affected? • What is the govt/dept doing to address this matter? http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/more-news/students-laptops-already-obsolete/story-fn7x8me2-1226187057093 "

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EW1011_12	Agency - Australian Curriculum, Assessment & Reporting Authority	Nash	ACARA - NAPLAN test results	<p>"Refer to recent stories on latest NAPLAN test results and Minister Garrett's media release. The report found these students made few advances in literacy and numeracy since 2008. The minister states in his media release the report 'also confirms that there is still work ahead for governments, schools and the community to improve the results of regional and remote, low SES, and indigenous students....' He is also quoted by AAP saying governments could help address the widening gap between students by recognising the challenges schools and students face in regional and remote communities, especially those with high proportions of indigenous students. • Can the dept provide a summary of the findings for regional and remote schools? http://news.ninensn.com.au/national/8407843/gillard-to-blame-for-education-drop-pyne http://au.news.yahoo.com/thewest/a/-/national/12697594/naplan-results-reveal-stagnation/ http://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/education/naplan-tests-show-we-could-do-better-with-indigenous-students/story-fn59nlz9-1226251749119 http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/more-news/test-fails-to-raise-skills/story-fn7x8me2-1226251736345 http://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/education/we-risk-losing-education-race-julia-gillard-warns/story-fn59nlz9-1226251791091 http://www.abc.net.au/news/2012-01-23/australian-students-falling-behind-other-nations/3788458 http://ministers.deewr.gov.au/garrett/naplan-helping-improve-performance-australian-schools</p>
EW1012_12	Agency - Australian Curriculum, Assessment & Reporting Authority	Nash	ACARA - NAPLAN	<p>"Refer to AAP and The Age stories about NAPLAN cheating. A report on NAPLAN reportedly found 54 substantiated cases of cheating or other breaches during the tests in May 2011. 14 breaches were reportedly in NSW, the most nationally. • How many cheating cases were in regional, rural or remote schools state by state and nationally? NOTE: This issue was raised with ACARA however not this question specifically. http://au.news.yahoo.com/thewest/a/-/national/12636475/naplan-pressures-encourage-cheats-expert/ http://www.theage.com.au/national/schools-found-cheating-on-national-tests-20120117-1q4lm.html</p>

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EW1013_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Nash	Assistance for Isolated Children	<p>"Refer to ICPA letter to Minister for School Education Peter Garrett dated 5/10/11 (copied to Senator Nash) regarding Assistance for Isolated Children (AIC) Boarding and Second Home Allowances. In 2011, the Basic Boarding Allowance was \$7141 with an additional \$2366 available subject to parental income, and the Second Home Allowance was \$208.04 per fortnight per child. These have increased slightly in 2012 to \$8813 for Basic Boarding Allowance and \$215.52 for the Second Home Allowance. • The AIC allowance is indexed to the CPI though the ICPA states this small increase each year is nowhere near the actual increase in boarding school fees and rent paid by rural/remote families. Has the govt/dept, or will consider increasing the allowances to reflect the true costs in boarding fees etc. NOTE: Senator Back raised this issue on behalf of Senator Nash though this question was not specifically answered. The dept touched on it but did not say if an increase was being considered. http://www.centrelink.gov.au/internet/internet.nsf/payments/aic_rates.htm"</p>
EW1014_12	Agency - Australian Curriculum, Assessment & Reporting Authority	Nash	Australian Curriculum Website	<p>"Refer to the Foundation to Year 10 curriculum on the Australian Curriculum website , that was endorsed by the Ministerial Council for Education, Early Childhood Development and Youth Affairs (MCEECDYA) last October. In browsing the subjects for each year level, there was overall little mention of agriculture. Year 8 science has the most to do with agriculture but fails to go into detail about the industry, food production and its contribution to the national, state and regional economies. It instead focuses on: `describing how technologies have been applied to modern farming techniques to improve yields and sustainability' and `describing the impact of plant cloning techniques (asexual production) in agriculture such as horticulture, fruit production and vineyards'. The cross curriculum priorities include `sustainability' but again there is little focus on agriculture. The website states: In this learning area, students develop understanding, for example, of the changes in environments over time, the role played by individuals and communities in protecting environments, the emergence of farming and settled communities, the development of the Industrial Revolution and the growth of population, the overuse of natural resources and the rise of environmental movements. • Has the minister/dept say if there is more focus on agriculture in the curriculum that may have been missed or not on the website • Why is there is no focus on agriculture in the years prior to year 8 (given the strong view that primary school children should be learning early about agriculture) • What is the extent of focus on agriculture on schools now, both primary and high school level, compared to what it will be when the new national curriculum is introduced. • Does the dept know how many HSC students study agriculture and go on to study agriculture at a tertiary level. NOTE:</p>

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				Agriculture in the curriculum was briefly raised by Senators Back and McKenzie but the details on the website and questions above were not asked. http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/
EW1015_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Nash	Gonski Review Report	"Refer to the Gonski Review Report. • How many of the 39 schools that the Gonski panel visited were in regional and rural Australia? • The govt's announced a nation-wide consultation process with families, teachers, principals and the wider community. How much of this consultation will take place in regional and rural Australia? • How many public forums will be held in regional and rural Australia?"
EW1016_12	Agency - Fair Work Australia	Ronaldson	FWA - Cooperation with state authorities	I refer to the correspondence between then-Fair Work General Manager Tim Lee and Commander Watson of the New South Wales Fraud & Cybercrime Squad between 24 and 26 of August 2011, as referred to by The Daily Telegraph on 11 January 2012. Mr Lee wrote that because Fair Work has no function under NSW law: I do not consider it appropriate for me, or for any of my staff, to meet with [New South Wales police] to discuss the Fair Work investigation into the HSU National Office. Is it Fair Work policy not to cooperate with other law enforcement agencies? Will Fair Work provide the report into Victorian No.1 branch to Victoria Police, or the Victorian Director of Public Prosecutions, if such a request is made? Will Fair Work require the full cooperation of its staff for any request made by state law enforcement authorities after the report is released?
EW1017_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Ronaldson	Appointing of acting Fair Work General Manager	According to the Department's written answer to Question No.EW0726_12: The Department recommended to the Minister that Ms Bernadette O'Neill was a suitable candidate for appointment as Acting General Manager of Fair Work Australia by virtue of her qualifications and broad range of experience in industrial relations. The recommendation was made following discussions with the President of Fair Work Australia and potential appointees. Was the Department aware before 2 September 2011 that Tim Lee would be vacating the role of General Manager? - Did Mr Lee leave as general manager immediately thereafter? - How much time was the Department given to recommend an acting General Manager? - What process did the Department go through to select an acting

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				General Manager? Was the position advertised? If so, when and by what means? If not, why not? - Who from the Department signed off on the recommendation? - How long did/does the Department envision that Ms O'Neill would be acting in the capacity of General Manager? - Was Ms O'Neill known to the President of Fair Work Australia (Justice Giudice) prior to her appointment? - Who recommended Ms O'Neill to the President? - Did the Department put forward Ms O'Neill with the approval and/or recommendation of the President? - Answer EW0726_12 states that 'The recommendation [to appoint Ms O'Neill] was made following discussions with the President of Fair Work Australia and potential appointees' – who were the potential appointees? - Including Ms O'Neill, how many of 'potential appointees' were there? - Did the Department present a shortlist of applicants to the Minister in addition to the recommendation that Ms O'Neill be appointed?
EW1018_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Social Security job seeker compliance regime	What is the total cost of the Government's job seeker compliance regime, including the costs involved in receiving, investigating and applying participation failures, engaging with employment service providers, undertaking comprehensive compliance assessments and processing appeals regarding participation failures
EW1019_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Social Security waiting periods	"Liquid Assets Waiting Period How many Liquid Assets Waiting Periods (LAWP) were applied in 2010-11? What was the average period applied?"
EW1020_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Income maintenance Periods (IMP)	How many Income Maintenance Periods were imposed in 2010-11? Of the Income Maintenance Periods applied, what was the average period imposed?
EW1021_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Move To Area of Lower Employment Period (MALEP).	"How many Move To Area of Lower Employment Period (MALEP) periods of six months were imposed in 2009-10 and 2010-11? Provide details of the payment types and number of each payment type affected by a MALEP. "
EW1022_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Seasonal Work Preclusion Periods	How many Seasonal Work Preclusion Periods were applied in 2010-11? Of the Seasonal Work Preclusion Periods imposed, what is the average preclusion period? Provide details of the types of payment affected in the numbers of each payment type affected.
EW1023_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Social Security job seeker compliance data	At January 2011, how many staff in the Department of Human Services and the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations were employed on job seeker compliance and participation failure administration? How does this figure compare to January 2010 and January 2009?

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EW1024_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Siewert	Homelands Education	"National Education Agreement & Smarter Schools National Partnership Agreements 1. Under the National Education Agreement how much of the \$18 billion set aside in National Schools Specific Purpose Payments is going to Homelands schools? 2. Under the Smarter Schools National Partnership Agreements, \$1.5 billion has been granted nationally over 7 years (2008/9 to 2014/15) to support low socio-economic status school communities. Of this funding, \$70.1 million has been allocated to the Northern Territory, how much of this is allocated to Homelands schools? 3. Under the Smarter Schools National Partnership Agreement for Literacy and Numeracy \$540 million has been allocated nationally over 4 years, of which 14.9 million goes to the Northern Territory, how much of this money goes to Homelands Schools?"
EW1025_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	2010-11 DEEWR Annual Report – research and evaluation	"The 2010-11 DEEWR Annual Report identifies a range of research, analysis and evaluation activities that were undertaken over the period. Please provide the Committee with the documents and reports of “major research and evaluation activities” related to the analysis and impacts of the Earn or Learn policy, the Training Supplement and the change in the liquid assets waiting period). Also, provide copies of the research into projects on early school leavers, welfare and activation, employment retention and mature-age workforce participation, conducted by the Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research under the Social Policy Research Services Agreement. (See p. 139, DEEWR, 2010-11 Annual Report)."
EW1026_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	JSA assistance	Please provide the number of jobseekers who participated in each Stream of JSA assistance, and separately for the Work Experience phase, during 2010-11, and the number currently in each stream and in the Work Experience phase, broken down by duration of unemployment and Aboriginal and non Aboriginal participants.
EW1027_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Stream of JSA	Please provide total costs for each Stream of JSA assistance during 2010-11 and for the Work Experience phase, broken down into three categories: service fees, EPF credits spent, and outcome payments.
EW1028_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Employment Pathway Fund	Please provide average expenditures from the Employment Pathway Fund for each Stream and for the Work Experience Phase during 2010-11, broken down by expenditure type, and the same breakdowns for the number of jobseekers assisted with funds drawn from the EPF.
EW1029_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Increased participation requirements -	What is the predicted impact of increased participation requirements across the Parenting Payments, Newstart and DSP announced in the 2010/11 budget on demand for employment support? What increase in funding has been allocated to meet increased

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			impact on service providers	demand on service providers and how has this been distributed?
EW1030_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Siewert	The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Action Plan (q# from Oct)	1. Update on number of Focus Schools (state and region) and total population of those schools.
EW1031_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Job Service Providers	"Ability to meet high level needs 1. What programs are in place to help clients with social inclusion needs? a. How are social outcomes determined and measured? 2. Is it the role of the JSA to ensure clients access appropriate services? a. How do they do this? b. If not, who is responsible? "
EW1032_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Specialist services	"Specialist services 1. How flexible is the system to allow specialist providers to access referrals outside their ESA that match their area of expertise? 2. How are JSAs monitored to ensure job seekers are referred to appropriate English programs and other training? "
EW1033_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Government use of services	"Government use of services 1. At what rate do government departments conducting recruitments make use of JSAs and DESs? What reasons are there for this rate of usage? "
EW1034_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Access to employment	"1. Do JSP's help clients access employment networks? How? 2. How many clients find jobs without assistance from their JSP? (Please provide the total number of people who exit the JSP program and then the number of people for whom the JSP collects a job placement fee, the number of people who exit onto other benefits, the number of people who find a job without triggering a JSP payment and the number of people unaccounted for under the options above) 3. Given that a large number of people access employment through their personal networks and the very vulnerable have small networks, how do JSP's assist these people? "
EW1035_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	jobseekers	Please provide a breakdown of the number of jobseekers during 2010-11 attracting outcome payments, broken down by pathway and full outcome payments, and by 13 week and 26 week outcomes, for each Stream of JSA assistance and for the Work Experience phase
EW1036_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	JSA EPF evaluation	Please provide a copy of the JSA EPF evaluation

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EW1037_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Youth Allowance	"Please provide a breakdown of Youth Allowance recipients by: - 'student' and 'other', and within those categories: - age: 16-17, 18-20, 21-24 yrs, and within those categories: - single or partnered - whether being paid at 'at home' or 'away from home' rates - whether receiving the maximum rate of payment - whether subject to the parental income test - by Indigenous status - those with partial work capacity - by State/Territory "
EW1038_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Newstart Allowance	"Unemployed income support recipients by duration on benefit Please provide the following data on Newstart Allowance recipients at June 2009, June 2010 and June 2011. i. Unemployed/NSA under 12 months. ii. Unemployed/NSA 12 months to less than 24 months. iii. Unemployed/NSA 24 months to less than 60 months. iv. 60 months and over. v. All unemployed income support recipients. vi. 12 months and over, and as a proportion of all income support recipients. vii. 24 months and over, and as a proportion of all income support recipients. viii. 60 months and over, and as a proportion of all income support recipients. "
EW1039_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Parents and 1 January 2013 social security changes	"2.i Please provide a table comparing the various payment rates, income tests, assets, concessions, supplements, etc for a person receiving Parenting Payment (single) at January 2012 with a parent who is moved to Newstart Allowance on 1 January 2013. 2.ii Using the results if 2.i please provide the outcomes for a single parent with earnings of \$50; \$100, \$200; \$300; \$400; \$500; \$600' \$700 and \$800 per week. "
EW1040_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Parents and 1 January 2013 social security changes	3. How many parents affected by the 1 January 2013 changes in Parenting Payment (single or partnered) are in receipt of the Pensioner Education Supplement? Are there transitional arrangements that will allow them to continue their studies?
EW1041_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Connections For Communities – Demographic Data	I refer to a response to DEEWR Budget Estimates 2011-12 Outcome 4, DEEWR Question No. EW0372_12. Regarding the data showing a number of the key indicators used to select the areas for place-based income management. Provide a table by each Local Government Area across Australia listing the key indicators shown, such as unemployment rate; annual change in unemployment beneficiaries; proportion of beneficiaries in receipt of payments for 12 months and over, population, etc. listed indicators
EW1042_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Exemptions from activity test or participation requirements	Provide a breakdown of exemptions from activity test or participation requirements by Indigenous/non-Indigenous recipients.

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EW1043_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Characteristics of income support recipients	"Provide the number of Newstart Allowance, Youth Allowance (other), Youth Allowance (students), Parenting Payment (Single), Parenting Payment (Partnered), Disability Support Pension, Age Pension, Carer Payment recipients as at end of January 2012: i. by state and territory; ii. by age; iii. by gender; iv. by Indigenous/non-Indigenous status; v. total numbers (Australia.-wide)."
EW1044_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Parents and 1 January 2013 social security changes	"1. Please provide the following data: • The number of recipients of Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance who are single with dependent children, broken down by age of youngest child. • The number of children whose principal carer is in receipt of Newstart Allowance or Youth Allowance for singles with dependent children, and a breakdown of ages of these children. • The number of children in couple families where both parents are in receipt of Newstart Allowance, Partnered or Youth Allowance, Partnered, and a breakdown of ages of these children. "
EW1045_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Employment Barriers	"Please provide a breakdown of the most commonly held barriers as recorded in the Employment Services Assessment (ESAt) for jobs seekers in the Streams required to undergo an assessment, broken down by total job seeker numbers and Streams. Identify the barriers, the number of job seekers, the % of Stream in the caseload, and whether the job seeker is Indigenous or not. Or all job seekers, and each Stream, indicate how many job seekers have 1, 2, 3, 4, or over 5 employment barriers. "
EW1046_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Job seeker missed appointments data	"The May 2011 House of Representatives report into Social Security Job Seeker Compliance Bill 2011 directed the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations and the Department of Human Services to collect and publish data in relation to why job seekers without reasonable excuses miss appointments. What data is currently being collected? Where is it published? If it is not published or available, why not? What are the plans for the publishing of data? "
EW1047_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Job Capacity Assessment issues	In 2010-11 and from 1 July to 31 December 2011 how many job seekers (in numbers and percentages) had one, two, three, four or more Job Capacity Assessments?
EW1048_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Job Capacity Assessment issues	In the year 2010-11 and from 1 July to 31 December 2011 How many Job Capacity Assessments were conducted over the telephone, or on the papers alone?
EW1049_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Job Capacity Assessment issues	. In the year 2010-11 and from 1 July to 31 December 2011 how many specialist medical reports were funded (please provide numbers and percentages)? How does this compare to the previous two years?
EW1050_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Disability Employment	Please provide data on the total number of 13 week and 16 week outcomes for 2010-11 and for 1 July to 31 December 2011 for DMS and ESS, in numbers and percentages.

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			Services	
EW1051_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Disability Employment Services	Please provide data on the number of 13 week and 26 week outcomes for 2010-11 and 1 July to 31 December 2011 for DMS and ESS, in numbers and percentages, categorised by primary medical condition of the job seeker.
EW1052_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Newstart Allowance and allowance (payment increases)	"a. What is the cost of increasing all allowance payments by \$20 a week and \$50 a week? b. What is the cost of increasing Newstart Allowance by \$20 a week and \$50 a week? c. What is the cost of increasing Youth Allowance by \$20 a week and \$50 a week? d. What is the cost of increasing Abstudy by \$20 a week and \$50 a week? e. What is the cost of increasing Austudy Payment by \$20 a week and \$50 a week?"
EW1053_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Newstart Allowance (with earnings)	"Please provide data on the number of job seekers with earnings on Newstart Allowance. Please provide details of the numbers of Newstart Allowance recipients with and without earnings using the following categories: I. Newstart Allowance II. Newstart Allowance (Principal Carer) III. Newstart Allowance (Partial Capacity). Please provide a breakdown of the three categories listed above by Aboriginal and Torres Strait island descent and gender."
EW1054_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Pensioner Education Supplement	"Please provide a breakdown of recipients of the Pensioner Education Supplement by the following categories: i. main income support payment type; ii. total number of recipients; iii. gender; iv. state and territory, and v. Indigenous/non-Indigenous status."
EW1055_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Utilities Allowance	"Could you provide details on the cost of extending Utilities Allowance to: i. existing numbers of people receiving all working age payments currently ineligible; ii. Newstart Allowance, Youth Allowance (students and other), Abstudy, Austudy Payment; and iii. Parenting Payment (Single), Parenting Payment (Partnered) recipients. "
EW1056_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Social Security job seeker compliance data	"For the period 1 July 2011 to 31 December 2011 provide: a. the number of people with an eight week no payment penalty. Segregate the data by the reason for the no payment period, such as those found to be wilfully and consistently non-compliant, refused a suitable job offer, voluntarily left employment, wilfully non-compliant, etc. b. the number of 'no show no pay' penalties, indicating number of days served per event e.g. 1 day; 500 recipients; 2 days, 300 recipients, etc. c. the number Comprehensive Compliance Assessments undertaken, (detailing outcomes, review of activity requirements, referrals, eight week penalty, etc). d. eight week no payment periods and 'no show no pay' penalties by the following parameters: age, gender, Indigenous status, and Centrelink area e. the number and percentage of participation failures recommended by Job Services Australia on

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				job seekers subject to current activity requirements, compared to those imposed by Centrelink. f. a breakdown of compliance-related appeals at all levels, and the outcomes g. the numbers of job seekers who accessed the "working off" penalty provisions h. details of how many people sought to access the hardship provisions and how many met the criteria. i. the number of job seekers who had their income support cut as a result of the July 2-11 "missed appointment" changes. j. the number of job seekers with vulnerabilities who also had their payments reduced under these rules."
EW1057_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Social Security job seeker compliance data - financial penalties	"Provide a table showing the number of all financial penalties imposed (eg. eight week, serious, daily, etc) for each quarter since 2009: 1. by Indigenous and non-Indigenous recipients, and 2. by age."
EW1058_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Williams	National Schools Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Program	In relation to the National Schools Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Program, is their funding or subsidy available to support existing chaplains who may have to travel for training under the new requirement to complete the mental health and referral units?
EW1059_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Xenophon	New Enterprise Incentive Scheme (NEIS)	"• How much funding was allocated to the NEIS in the last financial year? • How much of this was provided to NEIS applicants? • Can the department advise how many NEIS business proposals actually go on to be set up as businesses? • How many of these businesses are still trading after 12 months? o After 24 months? o After 36 months? • Is there any further assistance available for people looking to set up a business under the NEIS scheme to cover set-up costs? • Is there any information available on the financial situation of people who set up a business under the scheme in the years after the business was established? "
EW1060_12	Agency - Fair Work Australia	Abetz	FWA - Legal costs	Senator ABETZ: The documentation that we sought under freedom of information. We only got Australian Government Solicitor bills. Clearly the legal bill is a lot bigger than the \$912,562 we were told about yesterday. Ms O'Neill: I have information about the legal expenditure at large, but can I also just say that I will take that on notice but my very clear understanding is that all documents within the scope of the applications have been identified and where possible disclosed.
EW1061_12	Agency - Fair Work	Abetz	FWA - date first briefed Corr	Senator ABETZ: Can I ask on what date were Corrs first briefed? Ms O'Neill: In relation to? Senator ABETZ: The HSU matter, or matters. Ms O'Neill: I will have to take that on notice.

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	Australia		Chambers Westgarth	Senator ABETZ: How long ago, just roughly? We can take the exact date on notice.
EW1062_12	Agency - Fair Work Australia	Abetz	FWA - date GM first discussed with Corrs firm	Senator ABETZ: All right, when did you first talk to them? Ms O'Neill: Again, I will take this on notice, but it was, I suggest, in October of last year.
EW1063_12	Agency - Fair Work Australia	Ronaldson	FWA - comment by Ms Carruthers to Mr Pirani	Senator RONALDSON: So why would Ms Carruthers make that comment to Mr Pirani? Ms O'Neill: Ms Carruthers is not here. I would like to take that question on notice so that we can properly ascertain the situation.
EW1064_12	Agency - Fair Work Australia	Abetz	FWA - regarding previous question EW0727_12 from October 2011 hearing	Senator ABETZ: This answer was tabled nevertheless by Minister Evans' office, was it not? Senator Jacinta Collins: I believe so, but with the change in government I will need to confirm that. Senator Jacinta Collins: I will take on notice which minister's office this question, and its filing, went through, because it may well have been the new minister, Minister Shorten, in this matter.
EW1065_12	Agency - Fair Work Australia	Abetz	FWA - list of documents regarding contacts with FWA in relation to the HUS matter	Senator ABETZ: Can we be given an explanation why that document was not discovered in the list of documents that we sought under Freedom of Information? Ms O'Neill: I will take it on notice, but I imagine the answer is because it was outside the relevant period. Senator Jacinta Collins: I will take that on notice.
EW1066_12	Agency - Fair Work Australia	Ronaldson	FWA - regarding previous question EW0728_12 from October 2011 hearing	Senator RONALDSON: Question EW0728_12 and I think that question from memory was whether there was in existence a memorandum given to FWA by industrial registrar Doug Williams immediately prior to his retirement and if that memorandum is in existence. I understand from my colleague Senator Abetz with any of his FOI applications that that has not been provided. If that does exist, would you undertake to provide that memorandum to the committee please? Ms O'Neill: I will have to take that on notice. In answering the question on notice we do not confirm the existence of that document.
EW1067_12	Agency - Fair Work Australia	Ronaldson	FWA - Mr Williams memorandum	Senator RONALDSON: Did Mr Williams make any recommendations in those early stages or give in that memorandum any indication of his view on the matter? Ms O'Neill: I cannot answer that for the same reason. Senator RONALDSON: I am not asking what he said, I am asking whether indeed that is what was in the memorandum. Ms O'Neill: I will take that on notice.

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EW1068_12	Agency - Fair Work Australia	Ronaldson	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.
EW1069_12	Agency - Fair Work Australia	Ronaldson	FWA - advice on Mr Williams' memo	Senator RONALDSON: Can I just ask who gave the advice in relation to privilege on the Doug Williams' memo? Ms O'Neill: I will have to take that on notice. I cannot immediately recall. Senator RONALDSON: The Australian Government Solicitor? Ms O'Neill: As I said I cannot immediately recall. I will take it on notice.
EW1070_12	Agency - Fair Work Australia	Abetz	FWA - regarding previous question EW0727_12 from October hearing	Senator RONALDSON: Because it would seem a little strange, wouldn't it, that if you got advice from the AGS in relation to the Williams' memo and privilege but you have gone elsewhere to get advice in relation to questions on whether Mr Thomson has been served with his papers is allowable? Thank you. Senator ABETZ: Ms O'Neill, when did you first realise that the answer to which I was referring previously, No. 0727_12, was incorrect? Ms O'Neill: Could I take that on notice? I want to be as accurate as I can be.
EW1071_12	Agency - Fair Work Australia	Abetz	FWA - Phone calls from NSW Fraud Squad to Tim Lee	Senator ABETZ: Can somebody tell me why the then manager Mr Lee did not return the phone calls from the New South Wales Fraud Squad? Ms O'Neill: Not specifically. As I understand it the calls were made and returned within 24 or 48 hours. As I understand it Mr Lee was not in the office on the particular day and returned the call within the next 24 hours or something to that effect. I will take that on notice and correct that if I am wrong. Senator ABETZ: Do you know whether the telephone messages were passed on to Mr Lee? Ms O'Neill: No. I would have to take that on notice.
EW1072_12	Agency - Fair Work Australia	Abetz	FWA - Letter from Tim Lee to commander of Fraud Squad	Senator ABETZ: Are we able to be told whether or not the letter that Mr Lee wrote to the commander of the Fraud Squad was as per legal advice from the Australian Government Solicitor, or was it written by Mr Lee himself? Ms O'Neill: I understand it was on the basis of legal advice. Whether there was any particular kind of deviation, I am not sure so I will take that on notice.
EW1073_12	Agency - Fair Work Australia	Abetz	FWA - matters of suspicion	Senator ABETZ: Could you please take that on notice and get some advice as to whether it is Fair Work Australia's view that it cannot refer matters of suspicion that it stumbles across to the relevant state or territory authorities?

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EW1074_12	Agency - Fair Work Australia	Abetz	FWA - Advice from AGS about contact between Tim Lee and NSW police	Senator ABETZ: I am just going through these bills because I will undoubtedly find it in due course. Now, was Mr Lee specifically told by the Australia Government Solicitor that he could not talk with the NSW Police? Ms O'Neill: I would have to take that on notice, Senator, I do not know.
EW1075_12	Agency - Fair Work Australia	Abetz	FWA - Weekly meetings with Australian Government Solicitor	Senator ABETZ: Right. How many of these weekly meetings have there been, Mr Nassios? Mr Nassios: I could not tell you exactly but they started from March 2011. There obviously would have been individual weeks where we would not have met for one reason or another, but I would have to do a rough arithmetic at the moment. Senator ABETZ: Wait a minute. Are they weekly meetings or not? Mr Nassios: Weekly meetings, yes, except there would be weeks where clearly it was just not possible to have a meeting for absences, et cetera. Senator ABETZ: So, was it fortnightly? Ms O'Neill: It might be more helpful, Senator, to take that on notice and then we can— Senator ABETZ: We have only had twelve weekly meetings discovered to us under the Freedom of Information Act, so I just trust there are not more weekly meetings that have not been disclosed to us. Can I ask you, Ms O'Neill, to take this on notice,
EW1076_12	Agency - Fair Work Australia	Abetz	FWA - Obligation for Commonwealth officials to refer information about possible crimes	Senator ABETZ: as I understand it senior Commonwealth officials are obliged to refer any material information about a possible crime that you come across in your official duties. Is that something that you are aware of? Ms O'Neill: It does not readily come to mind, Senator. Was there a question? Senator ABETZ: That is a concern given the investigative role that Fair Work Australia has, but take that on notice please and come back to us. Ms O'Neill: Yes.
EW1077_12	Agency - Fair Work Australia	Ronaldson	FWA - Invoice from Enmark Pty Ltd	Senator RONALDSON: How many times did he assist you? Mr Nassios: I believe it would have been once. Senator RONALDSON: Once. And the bill was for \$84,392.79. They must have done other work for you as well. Mr Nassios: That cannot be the figure for that. I will have to take that on notice. Senator RONALDSON: Enmark Pty Ltd accounting advises \$84,392.79 and you say that he sat in on one meeting? Mr Nassios: I certainly recall him sitting in on one; I will have to go back and see whether he has assisted with looking at the returns of the No. 1 branch. I do not have a specific recollection of it but if that figure is of \$84,000 it would have entailed that assistance.
EW1078_12	Agency - Fair Work Australia	Abetz	FWA - Attendance by Tim Lee at legal briefings	Senator ABETZ: Yes, we are. Can you take on notice why Mr Lee attended legal briefings? Is it correct that we have agreed to that? Ms O'Neill: Yes. Senator ABETZ: And how many and the dates. That would be very helpful.

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EW1079_12	Agency - Fair Work Australia	Abetz	FWA - Number of pages of report	Senator ABETZ: Are we able to be told in rough terms the variation in the number of pages with the five people? For example was one person only sent a couple of pages or did they all receive thousands of pages? Mr Nassios: Can I take that on notice? I do not know the answer off the top of my head.
EW1080_12	Agency - Fair Work Australia	Abetz	FWA - Contact between Tim Lee and NSW Fraud Squad	Senator ABETZ: Did Mr Lee ultimately talk with the New South Wales Fraud Squad? Ms O'Neill: I would have to take that on notice. I do not know. Senator ABETZ: Mr Nassios, are you aware of that? Mr Nassios: I do not know. Senator ABETZ: You were the delegates; you were the ones with control of the documents we were talking about and your evidence is that you do not know? Mr Nassios: I do not know whether the general manager spoke to the New South Wales police.
EW1081_12	Agency - Fair Work Australia	Abetz	FWA - Number of pages of report	Senator ABETZ: Yes, because the impression that was clearly given to me and others was that every letter had attached to it about 6,500 pages that people had to go through and clearly that is not the case. I am not saying that was put out there deliberately, I just want to clarify it in my own mind that the task people had in responding was not to 6,500 pages. Was anybody sent all the documents? Mr Nassios: I would have to say no to that but I would have to take it on notice.
EW1082_12	Agency - Fair Work Australia	Abetz	FWA - Correspondence received about length of inquiry	Senator ABETZ: Ms O'Neill, have you received much correspondence from citizens of Australia expressing concern as to the length of this inquiry? Ms O'Neill: Yes. Senator ABETZ: Are you able to tell us how many? Ms O'Neill: No, I would have to take that on notice.
EW1083_12	Agency - Fair Work Australia	Fisher	FWA - Farewell functions for president	Senator FISHER: In view of the president's retirement from the position, are there functions planned, ceremonies planned or gatherings planned to farewell him? Ms O'Neill: Yes, there are. Senator FISHER: What are those? Ms O'Neill: I might take the detail on notice. There is a ceremonial sitting and some informal internal functions. Senator FISHER: What is the detail around the ceremonial sitting? Ms O'Neill: I will take that on notice, unless you have got a particular— Senator FISHER: Who is invited to it and who do you expect to attend? Ms O'Neill: I am not close enough to it. I would need to take that on notice. Senator FISHER: You are not arranging it. Ms O'Neill: No, I am not. Senator FISHER: I would like to know the number of attendees and whether they are commissioners or external parties as well. Ms O'Neill: I will take that on notice. Senator FISHER: Thank you.
EW1084_12	Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman	Fisher	FWO - Time period for Right Start program	Mr Ronson: I need to double check. But in the case of a program such as Right Start, we would pick a period; we would say, 'Let's look at the last 12 months' or 'Let's look at the last six months'—'Let's look at what names have been listed'—and then we would do a sample.

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				Senator FISHER: On notice can you tell me the time period for that program that is critical to you? Mr Ronson: Yes; sure.
EW1085_12	Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman	Abetz	FWO - Legal advice for independent contracting documents	Senator ABETZ: I received a nice letter on 6 February 2012 from the Ombudsman enclosing documents about independent contracting. I am just wondering whether in their preparation legal advice was sought, and whether it was internal or external? Mr Wilson: I might need to take that on notice. Certainly legal advice would have been sought but as to where I will need to check.
EW1086_12	Cross Portfolio	Abetz	Tabling of FWO Annual Report	Senator ABETZ: So the minister had a full four weeks to consider it and miraculously must have only read it on Thursday, 20 October to then have it tabled on Friday, 21 October, conveniently after Senate estimates. Parliamentary Secretary, I know that you are not personally to blame and the current minister is not personally to blame, but can we try and get a reason or a rationale as to why this document was not tabled in a timely fashion? Senator Jacinta Collins: We will take it on notice.
EW1087_12	Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman	Abetz	FWO - Discrimination based on political opinion	Senator ABETZ: Just out of interest, political opinion is two per cent on this pie chart. Have we had any follow-up investigations in relation to any of those? Mr Lehn: I would have to take that on notice. I do recall that we have investigated at least one of those particular matters.
EW1088_12	Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman	Abetz	FWO - Number of allegations of discrimination based on political opinion	Senator ABETZ: The percentage pie chart is interesting, but what are the raw numbers? Is that shown somewhere? Mr Wilson: Not in the annual report. Senator ABETZ: Could you take on notice what the actual raw numbers of the allegations are? Mr Wilson: Yes.
EW1089_12	Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman	Abetz	FWO - Informing businesses of overpayments	Senator ABETZ: When an audit is one, the business is then told, 'Look, over here you might be underpaying.' But in another one, you might actually would inform them that they are overpaying. It is not something that they would have to ask for. Is it something that you volunteer to them, because in may anecdotal evidence, that is all I have to rely on, it stands to reason that if somebody is told by the Fair Work Ombudsman that they are underpaying, they might be a bit more upset than if they are told that they are overpaying, but no small business has ever told me that as a result of a Fair Work Ombudsman audit, they have been advised that they are actually overpaying their workers. Mr Ronson: I think it is fairer to say that for every audit there would be an audit findings letter that would be sent to the employer and within that letter there would be a reference to whether they have complied

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				with the law or not. There would be a reference to information. Senator ABETZ: If you are overpaying, you are clearly complying with the law. But I am just wondering whether it is specifically drawn to their attention. Take it on notice, if not, that just might be worthwhile to let employers know whether or not that is the case.
EW1090_12	Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman	Abetz	FWO - Length of investigation into Australian Nursing Federation, Victorian Branch	Senator ABETZ: Can I ask where are we at with the investigation into the Australian Nursing Federation Victorian Branch? There was a statement made on 24 November 2011. Mr Lehn: That investigation has concluded. Senator ABETZ: And what has it concluded? Mr Lehn: We took no further action with respect to the issues that were identified in that matter. Senator ABETZ: How long did that investigation take? Mr Lehn: I would have to take that on notice, but it was fairly quick. Senator ABETZ: A couple of weeks? Mr Lehn: I would have to take that on notice to be precise.
EW1091_12	Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman	Abetz	FWO - EW0504_12 - Definition of small business	Senator ABETZ: Supplementary budget estimates, EW0504_12. It was a written question but in the supplementary budget estimates process. Mr Wilson: I am not sure we have that with us. We do not. Senator ABETZ: I will test someone's memory then. You gave me a very helpful table and in it you referred to small businesses fewer than 15 employees. In each of those sections, and I was quoted a whole lot of sections, is the definition of small business in the Fair Work Act the same as it is for the unfair dismissal section where it is a headcount as opposed to full time equivalents? I am just wanting to know whether in the Fair Work Act there is consistency. Mr Wilson: I am not sure we can answer that offhand. We will have to take that on notice.
EW1092_12	Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman	Abetz	FWO - EW0496_12 - Results from investigations into sham contracting allegations	Senator ABETZ: If you could, it would save me a bit of homework if somebody who has that sort of information readily available could assist. I refer you to No. 496, which was a question about sham contracting. We were told in the second paragraph that the answer to question 1: The Fair Work Ombudsman completed 32 investigations into allegations 2009/10. That number increased to 100 in 2010/11. Are you in a position to tell us what happened with those investigations of the 32? Did any result in a prosecution or were you satisfied that none of them were sham contracting? Mr Wilson: I think we will have to take that on notice. Senator ABETZ: If you do not have it readily available, please take that on

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				notice. That is for both 2009/10 and 2010/11. Mr Wilson: Right.
EW1093_12	Agency - Safe Work Australia	Abetz	SWA - no formal response to letter from 9 March 2011	Senator ABETZ: The assertion here is that 'in response to an email that I sent to Safe Work Australia on 9 March 2011, I received an email reply on 17 March that, amongst other things'—and then that was the response. I cannot quite pick it up. He is complaining that it is now November 2011 and he has had 'no formal response to the above letter'. Mr Hoy: I will take that on notice and I will check.
EW1094_12	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	Cameron	ABCC - Case loads within Field Operations Group	Senator CAMERON: So if he comes back from sick leave, what happens to him? It is not hypothetical; you have to know what you are going to do with him. Mr Johns: We are reviewing all matters that are currently under investigation within the Field Operations Group and I cannot tell you whether he currently has an active case load. I can take that on notice, though.
EW1095_12	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	Cameron	ABCC - Cozadinos v CFMEU	Senator CAMERON: Let us go to the Cozadinos v CFMEU [6 Feb 2012] FCA 46. You are aware of that case? Mr Johns: This is the— Senator CAMERON: Justice Peter Gray. Mr Johns: Yes. Senator CAMERON: Justice Gray dismissed the case against the CFMEU Victorian branch and a union organiser, saying the investigator had failed to prove her claim in any respect and ordered the ABCC to pay the union and officials costs in defending the action. Did the Cozadinos case go through this rigorous pre-trial analysis that you were telling us about? Mr Johns: I would have to check when we commenced that proceeding. The fact that it starts with the name of an inspector as opposed to ABCC would tend to suggest to me that it did not. Can I take that on notice, please?
EW1096_12	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	Cameron	ABCC - Provision and cost of legal advice	Mr Johns: Senator, all of these matters were the subject of external legal advice in accordance with our obligations under the legal services directions. We received advice that we had reasonable prospects of success. We formed the view that in the public interest we should commence the proceedings and they were commenced. Senator CAMERON: Can you take on notice how much you paid for that legal advice, who gave you the legal advice and why it was so bad? Mr Johns: I can take on notice who provided the legal advice and its costs.

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EW1097_12	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	Cameron	ABCC - Procedure and costs of case	Senator CAMERON: Can you take on notice what procedure you undertook to take this case where you could not prove it in any way, shape or form to the courts? Mr Johns: Yes, Senator. Senator CAMERON: And how much it costs.
EW1098_12	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	Cameron	ABCC - Econtech Report	Senator CAMERON: Do not do it from an economics perspective. Do it from an industrial relations perspective and tell me whether what Ken Phillips argued should be done on the EastLink project could have been achieved in terms of the industrial situation, because that is important. Senator FISHER: Are you seeking policy advice? Senator CAMERON: I am not seeking policy advice, I am asking Mr Johns to go back and have a look at that because Senator Abetz is using it as the basis for an argument that there is a \$5 billion saving and it is really a crock. There is no basis of a \$5 billion saving. Mr Johns, you have got the report. You commissioned the report—not you personally but the ABCC commissioned it—and you cannot just walk away, wipe your hands, when politicians are using it to say that the ABCC saved the industry \$5 billion. You cannot walk away from it. You must have a look at that. CHAIR: The difficulty I have is that it is not Mr Johns's responsibility on how others portray a report or not. We probably need to move on from here, but, Mr Johns, you have heard what I have said about this particular question. Senator Cameron has asked it. I think you are prepared to take it generally on notice; if you can assist in a way that is appropriate, you can, but you have heard what I have said about the question. (continues page 62)
EW1099_12	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	Thistlewaite	ABCC - Breakdown of prosecutions	Senator THISTLETHWAITE: Mr Johns, I think it was earlier that you stated that in terms of the number of prosecutions that have been brought, that 76 of 90 were successful. Is that correct? Mr Johns: Yes, 76 out of the 90. Senator THISTLETHWAITE: Is it the case that the majority of your prosecutions are brought under the provisions of the Fair Work Act or its predecessor, the Workplace Relations Act rather than the BCII Act? Mr Johns: I might ask our deputy commissioner legal to address that issue, thanks. Mr Corney: I think it is fair to say, without having the final figures in front of me, that there is often a combination of acts used. So that, if I go to one end of the spectrum, there may well be a series of cases where the action is brought under the BCII Act. There are other cases where there is an amalgam of both the Fair Work Act and the BCII Act. In previous times, before the— CHAIR: You guys want to go outside? Thank you. Now, back to Mr Corney. Mr Corney: Thank you, Chair. I think perhaps if I just recap what I just said for the assistance of the committee. I think there is a range of acts in which the civil prosecutions are taken. At one end of the

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				<p>spectrum, there will be matters under the BCII Act alone. There will be other matters, of course, that are under the BCII Act and the Fair Work Act. There are others under the Fair Work Act. There are others that would be a combination of the BCII Act and the old Workplace Relations Act when matters were well back. I think you have to see it across that whole spectrum. In respect of the assertion you make about most of the cases coming or not coming under the BCII Act, I would think, without having the final figures in front of me, that there would be something in the order of around 25 per cent of matters would be solely under the BCII Act. Senator THISTLETHWAITE: So the other 75 per cent would be either a combination of or solely under the Fair Work Act? Mrs Cornish: They would be a combination. I think it is taking it too far as a matter of fact, to say it is just under the Fair Work Act. I think that would give you an incorrect skew on what our matters are. As I say, they are broadly indicative, those figures. Mr Johns: Senator, it would also depend on what is being litigated. If it was unlawful industrial action, more likely than not that would proceed under the BCII Act as opposed to the Fair Work Act provisions because they are specific to the building and construction industry. If it was a right of entry matter, it would be exclusively under the Fair Work Act because those provisions do not exist in the BCII Act. It depends on what is being litigated. Senator THISTLETHWAITE: Perhaps you could take it on notice and give us a breakdown of those 90 matters. Do not go into any detail, but tell us what proportion were brought under the Fair Work Act or the Workplace Relations Act alone, what proportion were brought under the BCII Act alone and what proportion were brought under a combination of those acts. Mr Johns: We are happy to take that on notice.</p>
EW1100_12	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	Abetz	ABCC - Setka Case	<p>Senator ABETZ: Clearly, and it is five years old. It stands to reason that there would have been even further savings made over that five year period. Can I start off where Senator Cameron started, and that is with the Setka case. Just to confirm, this was in relation to a head-butting and assault? Mr Johns: There were allegations of assault. Senator ABETZ: Yes, head-butting and assault. Mr Johns: Those matters were not proven and those charges were withdrawn. Senator ABETZ: Yes, but did the withdrawal occur because the head-butting and assault had not occurred or because it was not known who it was perpetrated by? Mr Johns: The decision to withdraw charges was made by the Victorian police and not by us. I cannot go into their minds as to the basis on which they decided to withdraw charges. Senator ABETZ: Right, but nothing was passed onto the ABCC by Victoria Police indicating the reason? Mr Johns: I will take that on notice. Certainly I have not received any report or anything from them. Senator ABETZ: As I understand it, the ABCC</p>

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				was, in effect, the complainant or the provider of information to Victoria Police— Mr Johns: Our inspectors were witnesses called by the Victorian police in that prosecution. Senator ABETZ: In those circumstances one would assume that the Victoria Police may have. I do not put it stronger than that, but I would be pleased if you could confirm that. If you cannot, that is understood. Mr Johns: I will take that on notice.
EW1101_12	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	Abetz	ABCC - Study into industry perceptions of ABCC	Senator ABETZ: All right. Can we turn the page to page 24. I understand you commissioned a qualitative study into industry perceptions of the ABCC. Mr Johns: Yes. Senator ABETZ: What did the initial study find? Mr Johns: I would have to take that on notice. I do not have a copy of the report here with me. Senator ABETZ: Is that on the website? Mr Johns: I do not think it is. Senator ABETZ: If you can take that on notice. How much did it cost? Mr Johns: I will take that on notice. Senator ABETZ: All right. Who undertook the study? Mr Johns: I will also take that on notice. Senator ABETZ: All right. Then also take on notice, I would assume, how broad the study was, whether the tracking study has commenced, what the methodology is, what it will cost and what the purpose of this study is. Mr Johns: I am happy to take those on notice.
EW1102_12	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	Abetz	ABCC - Recruitment and staff turn over.	Mr Johns: Senator, you were asking questions about turnover. In EW751_12, we did answer questions about recruitment that had occurred since October 2010. But it might be that you have questions that go beyond that? Senator ABETZ: Yes, it was a statistics thing in relation to staff turnover, and I do not think we have had that specifically provided. Mr Johns: I think you are correct, Senator. I am happy to take it on notice. Senator ABETZ: Yes, for the last two or three years—something like that, please. Mr Johns: I am happy to do that.
EW1103_12	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	Abetz	ABCC engaging a consulting firm	Senator ABETZ: To follow up, why did we spend \$65,615 on this task through engaging a consulting firm—that is, if I am reading the annual report of 2010-11, page 80, correctly. Mr Johns: Can I take that on notice exactly the scope of that work? I will do that. Senator ABETZ: Yes, the scope of the work and then why it was deemed necessary. Mr Johns: Yes. Senator ABETZ: What services or value-add were provided by Sabine Muller-Glissman? Mr Johns: I will take on notice the scope of that work. Senator ABETZ: I am reliability informed that a Google search turns up an address for the company of Sabine Muller-Glissman at 42

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				Nangor Street in Waramanga—an ACT resident. This is a house in a suburban street. Could you possibly take all of that on notice and provide us with an explanation as to how that firm was chosen— Mr Johns: Yes. Senator ABETZ: and whether it had undertaken similar work for other agencies or businesses.
EW1104_12	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	Abetz	ABCC - Sabine Muller-Glissman	Senator ABETZ: Finally, in relation to the annual report, I go to page 115, where 'Separation and redundancy' shows an increase from \$3,000 in 2010 to \$773,000 in 2011 in the item 'employee benefits'. I am just wondering if I am reading that right. That seems a substantial increase. Mr Johns: Sorry, Senator; did you say page 115? Senator ABETZ: Yes. I hope I have got the right page number with that. As I indicated earlier, I do not actually have the document with me, but I have the notes that were taken when reading the document. Mr Johns: Yes, I can see that figure now. Senator ABETZ: Excellent. That seems to be a huge increase and I am just wondering. That was also what motivated my earlier question about staff turnover. Can you give us a breakdown of that? Mr Johns: Yes, we can give you a breakdown of that. Senator ABETZ: Without mentioning names, of course. I do not want to know the names—just classifications or job descriptors. Mr Johns: Yes.
EW1105_12	Agency - Comcare	Bilyk	Comcare- exercise program	Senator BILYK: We have been waiting for some time on details of the medical rehabilitation program and exercise program. Can you tell me when it was first explained to my constituent that Comcare would not be developing an exercise program and that this would be a matter for her rehabilitation provider? Could you take that on notice for me and let me know? Mr O'Connor: Yes, I am happy to take that on notice.
EW1106_12	Agency - Comcare	Bilyk	rehabilitation program	Senator BILYK: I understand that they have made no commitment to pay for the rehabilitation program. Have you been able to give any advice to the constituency about the agency's obligations, or do you do that? Mr O'Connor: I am not aware of that development, but I will certainly make sure— Senator BILYK: Are you able to look into that for me and get back to me on that one? Mr O'Connor: Yes.
EW1107_12	Agency - Comcare	Bilyk	Comcare - obligation to issue the advice under section 37	Senator BILYK: I am pleased to hear that after 23 years people might finally be focused, but it is still a great concern to me, Mr O'Connor. I would have thought that we might have been able to have this resolved within this time frame, but it just seems to linger on. I am concerned that the agency may not be committed to ensuring an outcome that is suitable

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				to the client. What point in the development of a rehabilitation program is the obligation to issue the advice under section 37? Do you know that? Mr O'Connor: I would have to take that on notice.
EW1108_12	Agency - Comcare	Bilyk	section 37 of the SRC Act	Senator BILYK: What advice have you given the agency about their obligation to issue written advice when they make determinations under section 37 of the SRC Act? Mr O'Connor: I will take that on notice to be able to give you the specific instructions. I have not been part of that conversation with the case manager but I can take advice from our recovery and support staff, who have been working with the agency and their people, who I understand are now focused on the importance of this matter and for them to fully and deeply understand that their obligations as the rehabilitation authority continue, even these many years after your constituent has left the workforce and that particular workplace.
EW1109_12	Agency - Comcare	Bilyk	Comcare - massage program	Mr O'Connor: I can advise that my understanding is that the clinical panel advice in speaking with the treating practitioners also took regard of what is the evidence-based clinical justification for continuing a massage program and trying to understand if that is the right clinical intervention, but I will certainly double-check for you and advise you if that is different. Senator BILYK: Would there be any documentation about that? Would there be notes or minutes? Mr O'Connor: I expect so. Senator BILYK: Am I able to have access to those? Mr O'Connor: I would assume so, subject to the normal privacy concerns, if the constituent is comfortable with that. Senator BILYK: If you could forward them to us as well, that would be of great help.
EW1110_12	Agency - Comcare	Bilyk	Comcare - office not open	Mr O'Connor: My understanding is that one of our executive team was in contact with the Sydney registry of the AAT to share the concerns that were discussed at the meeting at your office with the constituent and also that the concerns that the constituent had about Comcare not being open, honest, fair and reasonable in the tribunal processes were made clear. I understand that we also apprised the Office of Legal Services Coordination about that in accordance with the usual process. Senator BILYK: Would that advice have been in writing? Mr O'Connor: I can confirm that for you, Senator. Senator BILYK: If it is, can you also give me a copy of that? If it was not, I really would like to know why not. Mr O'Connor: I believe the correspondence I shared with your office highlighted that there was a telephone conversation. What I am not sure about is whether or not that telephone

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				conversation was then followed up in a written note. Senator BILYK: But you will undertake to seek that out for me? Mr O'Connor: Yes.
EW1111_12	Agency - Comcare	Bilyk	Comcare	Senator BILYK: In your correspondence you also mentioned that the AAT has advised the Office of Legal Services Coordination and that they are considering whether further action is necessary. Have you got any idea on what the timeline might be for that? Mr O'Connor: No, I do not have any update on that time frame. Senator BILYK: Are you able to find out? Mr O'Connor: I can make that inquiry and share that with your office. Senator BILYK: Thank you.
EW1112_12	Agency - Comcare	Bilyk	Comcare - Ms Morrison	Senator BILYK: Bearing in mind it took until August 2011 for Comcare to accept any liability for the 1988 condition, I am still not completely happy about the reasoning behind those concerns. We can follow that up with Ms Morrison or someone else as well. Looking quickly at your mail again, I did notice—some might call it sarcasm; I will call it irony—that your logo is 'Putting you First'. I have to say: that did make me laugh, Mr O'Connor. Has that been around for 20-odd years or is it a new one? Mr O'Connor: No, that is fairly recent. It tries to embrace the approach within the Australian government to put citizens at the centre of everything that we do. Senator BILYK: Well, yes. Mr O'Connor: In some cases it can be an aspiration that we continue to strive for.
EW1113_12	Agency - Comcare	Abetz	Comcare - Approved Courses—HSR training courses	Senator ABETZ: There was a document that is headed 'Approved Courses—HSR training courses approved under the WHS Act 2011.' I think reference was made to 11 providers. Mr Kibble: That is correct. Senator ABETZ: Can you take me through that list because, as I count it, I got 13. Undoubtedly, there are two that are combined into the one or something. Do you have that list handy? Mr Kibble: We do not, but we can take that on notice and clarify that for you.
EW1114_12	Agency - Comcare	Abetz	Comcare - Improvement notices	Senator ABETZ: Right, sorry. Just as well I did ask that because I was thinking there were no such notices but just investigations that might lead up to an improvement notice. Sorry to detain you, but can I have that detail please? Three improvement notices? Mr Kibble: Yes. These notices cover a variety of issues, including improvements to emergency signage, fire-

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				fighting equipment, electrical hazards and general maintenance. I can take on notice, Senator, their status. As I understand it, they are all still ongoing. I do not think the date for finalisation has come yet. Senator ABETZ: If you could take that on notice for me.
EW1115_12	Agency - Comcare	Abetz	Comcare - location of 3 improvement notices	Senator ABETZ: There were three improvement notices. In relation to which centres were they issued? Mr Kibble: I will take that on notice too, Senator. Senator ABETZ: You cannot tell us? Mr Kibble: I do not have that information with me now. Senator ABETZ: All right. CHAIR: Thank you, Mr O'Connor and Mr Kibble for your presentation and attendance at the estimates today.
EW1116_12	Agency - Safe Work Australia	Fifield	SWA - penalties in New South Wales prior to the new regime	Senator FIFIELD: Could you please take on notice what the penalties were in New South Wales prior to the new regime. Mr Hoy: We have a table of all those provisions preharmonisation, which we can make available to the committee. Senator FIFIELD: Do you have that with you at the moment? Ms Ross: We have the table of all the provisions, but it does not contain the penalties. We can insert the penalty levels into that table. Senator FIFIELD: I am a little surprised, given the public debate that there has been about penalties, that you do not have that to hand, but I appreciate you taking that on notice. Will the table that you provide have the penalties that were existing in the cases of New South Wales? Mr Hoy: We have them, but we do not have them in a particular table we can easily hand over. Senator FIFIELD: Will that also have how volunteers were described in the pre-existing legislation? In other jurisdictions, were they called other persons in the workplace or some other term? It might vary from legislation to legislation. Ms Ross: Yes.
EW1117_12	Agency - Safe Work Australia	Fifield	Office for the Not-for-Profit Sector	Senator FIFIELD: I know it is a relatively new agency, but what was the first time that the Office for the Not-for-Profit Sector became involved in discussions about the effects of the new OH&S regime on the voluntary sector? Mr Hoy: I am not sure of the precise date. We will need to take that on notice. But it was some time in 2011, I think. It may have been earlier than that. I just cannot remember. Senator FIFIELD: Perhaps you could take that on notice.

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EW1118_12	Agency - Safe Work Australia	Fifield	SWA - ScoutsAust	Ms Ross: We have been speaking with Scouts Australia. We are actually meeting with several members of Scouts Australia next week. We think they are misinterpreting some of the provisions in the new laws, so we are going to be working with them and we are going to be developing material for them that they can then distribute, especially at the club level, to make it clear how the laws will operate and whether they will actually operate in the local clubhouse, because there may not be any work being carried out; there may be purely recreational activity going on there. We put that up as a question on our website. We had it up there as a myth busting question. Scouts contacted us and asked us to take it down for the moment, until we had the meeting with them and came up with some more tailored responses that would assist them. Senator FIFIELD: Could you table a copy of that myth busting page that was on your website, if you have it—or take it on notice and provide it? Ms Ross: Yes.
EW1119_12	Agency - Safe Work Australia	Fifield	SWA - Meals on Wheels volunteers and Victorian OH&S laws	Senator FIFIELD: Obviously, the more these sorts of examples can be widely disseminated, the better. I will add to that a scenario which has been raised with me by a number of my constituents in Victoria, and that is the situation of Meals on Wheels volunteers. You would know better than I whether their situation would be changed if Victoria did legislate. Is that something you are able to share at the moment? Ms Ross: We will take that one on notice as well because we need to look into whether they are employers, for a start. Senator FIFIELD: They would have full-time staff. Ms Ross: If they are employers then they are covered by the current Victorian OH&S laws. Senator FIFIELD: No; the people that actually go out and deliver meals are volunteers. Ms Ross: The current Victorian OH&S laws extend to other persons at the work place. Senator FIFIELD: Could you take that on notice and see if there is any change in how they are characterised. Ms Ross: Yes.
EW1120_12	Agency - Safe Work Australia	Abetz	SWA - safe dive practices	Senator ABETZ: It is asserted that no dive fishery industry organisation has been consulted and we have, as I understand it, once again the attempt to get a one size fits all, with divers that operate I think on oil rigs et cetera somehow being linked in with, in effect, commercial fishermen who dive for abalone. Mr Hoy: We will just need to check the sequence of meetings with them.

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EW1121_12	Agency - Safe Work Australia	Abetz	SWA - endorsement of codes of practice	<p>Senator ABETZ: Is it correct that the first three that I mentioned were only endorsed by a majority? Mr Hoy: I would just need to check the minutes on that. Senator ABETZ: And what does 'majority' mean? Is that 50 per cent plus one? Mr Hoy: No, under the Safe Work Australia Act, decisions are made by a majority of voting members present and voting. Fifteen actually attend the meetings, but only 14 vote because I am a non-voting member. In addition to the simple majority, it needs to be two-thirds of the jurisdictions present voting, so you need to get six out of nine. I can recall, certainly in the case of some of these, that Victoria did not vote because of their particular position in terms of implementing the legislation. I would need to check the minutes. [Referring to: There were six codes that Safe Work Australia agreed to in December. They are First Aid in the Workplace, Managing Risks in Construction Work, Preventing Falls in Housing Construction, Managing Electrical Risks at the Workplace, Managing Risks of Hazardous Chemicals, and Managing Risks of Plant in the Workplace.]</p>
EW1122_12	Agency - Safe Work Australia	Thistlewaite	SWA - state codes	<p>Senator THISTLETHWAITE: The examples that are cited in the draft code, I think you said earlier, are derived from some of the state codes that were in existence. Is it the case that some of those examples may be in those codes because they are outlines of circumstances that have occurred in particular cases in various jurisdictions? Mr Hoy: I think we would need to check the jurisdictions.</p>
EW1123_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Provider brokered outcome claims	<p>Senator SIEWERT: Thank you for that, but you still did not tell me what percentage of provider-brokered outcome claims that represented. Mr Parsons: From all providers that were selected, it was 100 per cent of their provider-brokered outcome claims. Senator SIEWERT: I understand that. A bit under 10 per cent of the providers are subject to the audit. How many claims over that period of time would the 106 have made? Ms McKinnon: I would have to take that on notice. I am not comfortable recollecting.</p>
EW1124_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Program assurance reviews	<p>Senator SIEWERT: Could I assume from that that, of the 17, some have been escalated to the national level? Mr Parsons: Yes. Senator SIEWERT: So how many of the national ones have been escalated from a state? Mr Parsons: To give you the correct answer I would have to take that on notice, I am sorry. Senator SIEWERT: You will probably have to take this on notice too. This is tied up with the next question that is going on in my head, I am sorry; that's why you can hear that funny noise—that's the gears crashing! When the issue gets elevated to the national level, or gets a more state-wide focus, are we talking about one particular extensive provider, a national provider, or are you talking about a specific issue, or is it a combination of both? Mr Parsons: All of the above. Ms Parker: It depends on the</p>

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				<p>issue. Senator SIEWERT: How many of those various audits have resulted in people or providers having to repay, pay other penalties or in fact discontinue? Mr Parsons: Again, I do not have that with me. I have a gross figure for the amount of money recovered, but I cannot break it down. Senator SIEWERT: Give me that, because I might as well get that now. But if you could take those other questions I just rattled through—I am sorry, I could not repeat them—on notice, that would be good.</p>
EW1125_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Bernardi	Work experience placements	<p>Senator BERNARDI: How many of these job seekers had more than one training course funded through the employment pathways fund? Ms McKinnon: We would have to take that on notice. Senator BERNARDI: Can you give me a breakdown of the certificate level qualifications funded by the employment pathways fund? Ms McKinnon: Again, we would have to take that on notice. The system does not in fact record the certificate level. Ms Paul: We will have a look at that and see what we can find. Senator BERNARDI: I did ask you for the breakdown at 30 November, and you have agreed to provide that. If you can table the same details over the course of the program, I would appreciate that as well.</p>
EW1126_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Bernardi	Work for the Dole	<p>Senator BERNARDI: What is the pool of people eligible for Work for the Dole? If I recall at the last estimates, I was given a figure of around 120,000 or 121,000. Ms Parker: You mean those who were in Work for the Dole, or who were eligible? Senator BERNARDI: Those eligible for Work for the Dole. Ms Parker: Any job seeker. Ms McKinnon: 706,890. Senator BERNARDI: Where am I getting the 121,000 from? Don't tell me I am making it up. Ms McKinnon: It could be, and is likely to be, job seekers who are actually in the work experience phase. After 12 months of service, a job seeker enters the work experience phase, but job seekers at any time can choose to do training or Work for the Dole. Senator BERNARDI: Thank you for that. I appreciate that. Would you be able to give me that figure, please. Ms McKinnon: We would have to take that on notice. Senator BERNARDI: Thank you. Would you be able to break down by state as well the figures that you have undertaken to get me about the people who relate to the 121,000 or something that I said before?</p>

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EW1127_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Bernardi	Work for the Dole	Senator BERNARDI: Could you tell me the average duration that a participant spends in a Work for the Dole activity? Ms Laker: It is quite variable. There is no fixed requirement for the length of a Work for the Dole project, and many JSA providers deliver Work for the Dole on a sort of rolling basis—people do it for a certain period, and other people may do it for a longer period—so we will have to take that on notice. Senator BERNARDI: There would be an average. If you could provide it, I would appreciate that. Ms Paul: Perhaps we can give you a sense of the range too. An average might not mean much if the range is really wide. Senator BERNARDI: Very good, Ms Paul Senator SIEWERT: Could you also break it down into Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal clients? Is it possible to do that? Ms Laker: We will certainly try to do that for you.
EW1128_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	13 and 26 week outcomes for all streams split by Indigenous/Non-Indigenous	Senator SIEWERT: In the answer to question 0779.12 you gave me a table from July 2009 to July 2011 which had the various stream outcomes. If you could give me a table that is broken down like that, but obviously with the most up-to-date figures, and against Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal, that would be appreciated. It sounds like somebody has got it there. Ms McKinnon: For Indigenous, you would like all streams or stream 3 and stream 4? Senator SIEWERT: All streams. I will get you to take it on notice so I am not taking up people's time while I am scribbling down figures. [discussion began on page 100 with regard to 13 & 26 weeks outcomes] [Also on Pg 100, Senator SIEWERT: Yes, please. I was going there anyway. I would like it broken down into Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal job seekers, please. To be fair, I have a whole lot of other statistics that I want to ask for, but I will ask for them on notice.]
EW1129_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Previous question EW0684_12 from October 2011 hearing	Senator SIEWERT: Thank you. I also want to go to another answer to a question that you gave me breaking down the compliance data against vulnerability indicators? Ms Parker: The number? Senator SIEWERT: I beg your pardon. It was 0684. I stupidly did not ask for you to break it down into Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal. They are actually for the financial year. Could I have that broken down into Indigenous and non-Indigenous.
EW1130_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Bernardi	Income support recipients (% on Newstart)	Senator BERNARDI: Yes, Centrelink-granted exemptions for job seekers. Ms Milliken: Overall, there were 66,966 income support recipients at the end of November who had an exemption from the activity test or participation requirements. Senator BERNARDI: What percentage of those were on Newstart allowance? Ms Milliken: I do not have that information by payment type; I am sorry. I could take that on notice.

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EW1131_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Bernardi	Connection failures (update previous question EW06804_12 from October 2011 hearing)	<p>Senator BERNARDI: Senator Siewert has been very helpful in suggesting that you update your list from last time. Senator SIEWERT: Do you want it now or do you want to take it on notice, Senator Bernardi? Senator BERNARDI: If you have it now, I would like it now. Ms Parker: We only have the question on notice from last time. Is that what you are talking about? Senator SIEWERT: Yes. Senator BERNARDI: Could you update those figures. Ms Milliken: For the December quarter, that data is currently being quality checked by the department. That is done six weeks after the end of a quarter to ensure that the majority of appeals have flowed through and decisions have been applied. That data has recently been drawn, and we are validating that data. If we take the question on notice we will be able to provide December-quarter data. Senator BERNARDI: That would be excellent, thank you. Finally, does that data include how many no-show-no-pay failures there were? Ms Parker: Yes, it does. Senator BERNARDI: Does it show how many connection failures have been applied to jobseekers in the last six months? Ms Milliken: Yes, it does. Senator SIEWERT: Will you break it down? Ms Milliken: Yes. Ms Parker: So you are saying to update 0684? Senator SIEWERT: Yes.</p>
EW1132_12	Agency - Skills Australia	Waters	Resourcing Our Future	<p>Senator WATERS: That is good. I have got some follow up questions then. In that report, it is asserted at one point: Each additional job in the resources sector may lead to a further one to three jobs in other industries ... What do you understand to be the basis for that claim? Ms Paul: It is probably best if I take this on notice and we can actually tell you where the research came from precisely. But, for example, in the resources sector, this would be covering the flow-on to construction. Many of the jobs in the mining sector actually are to do with construction of the local communities, of the mines themselves and so on. That is just one example of a mining community, which, as you might imagine, in a boom area creates services industry jobs as well. Whether they be in retail or other services industries. It would be that sort of flow-on that would be talked about there. Given that I am stretching my memory backwards to 2010, I can come back with some more precision on that if you would like. Senator WATERS: I would appreciate that, particularly on how that figure of one to three was arrived at and the calculations and assumptions that lie behind that. Ms Paul: Sure. It would have been well researched. It would have been from our own economists or from other economic research. I would be pretty confident. We can identify that for you.</p>

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EW1133_12	Agency - Skills Australia	Waters	Resourcing Our Future	"Senator WATERS: Great, I look forward to that. Do you know if those underlying calculations—again, if you need to take that on notice that is fine, but I will put it to you anyway—do you know if those underlying calculations allow for the effect on employment in other areas from an expansion of mining driving up the exchange rate, driving up interest rates and driving up wages in certain areas? Does it factor in those negatives as well as those positives? Ms Paul: I cannot answer that. I would have to take that on notice. It sounds to me like it is what I was describing, which is that it is saying that there is a positive flow-on effect to other sectors from a resources sector development, which you would expect. But as to whether it goes to other economic factors— "
EW1134_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Waters	Staff in the Resources Sector	Senator WATERS: There is a lot of discussion about the skills shortages in mining. Obviously, that is exacerbated by the high staff turnover in the industry. Has the department got any view on what causes that high turnover? Ms Paul: High turnover in the resources sector? Senator WATERS: Of staff in the resources sector. Ms Paul: It is a range of factors. The fly-in fly-out nature of some of that employment can be a factor. There would be a whole range of different factors. Much of it is remote. Much of it is young people and it is just a life cycle impact and so on. If you like, I can come back with a bit more on that too. Senator WATERS: Yes, thanks.
EW1135_12	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Waters	FIFO Coordinators	"Senator WATERS: Can you tell me a little more about the FIFO coordinators? Ms Paul: We can talk particularly about the Cairns one. Senator WATERS: Is that the only one on foot at the moment? Ms Paul: The Cairns one exists, and there is a commitment for four more. I am not sure whether they have been established yet. The reason you are having to rely on me is that the officers who are experts on this have been moved to the other department. That is why they are not with me. Senator WATERS: Do you know where the other four will be based? Ms Paul: I cannot recall. I will get it for you on notice. Senator WATERS: And as much detail as you have on their terms of reference, their scope and purpose, and how well resourced they are to do that work in liaison with the industry. "
EW1136_12	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Waters	FIFO Arrangements	"Senator WATERS: I am interested in what research the department has done on the impact of those FIFO arrangements on the families of the workers and the communities to which they fly, particularly the remote communities. Could you tell me a bit and take on notice to provide some of the detail of that? I know it is a massive area and I am sure you have looked into it in detail. Ms Paul: We have just done a submission to the fly-in fly-out inquiry that is currently underway. It may be early days for a formal evaluation—I imagine it would be—nonetheless I will get you what we have. That probably means I will need to

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				go to the other department. "
EW1137_12	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Bernardi	National Workforce Development Fund	"Senator BERNARDI: With respect to the National Workforce Development Fund— Ms Paul: Which is now part of the other department, but try me anyway. I am only a couple of months out of date. Senator BERNARDI: I am interested in how many childcare positions have been offered under this program. Ms Paul: I will take it on notice, if that is okay. "
EW1138_12	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Bernardi	Workforce and Productivity Agency	Senator BERNARDI: To your knowledge, when will the agency be established? As it is, it is going to depend on the legislation. Ms Paul: I will get the exact date for you
EW1139_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Bernardi	Relocation pilot	Senator BERNARDI: How many of that those received the maximum allowable of \$6,000? Ms McKinnon: Two participants have reached this maximum amount. Senator BERNARDI: Are you able to provide me with a breakdown of where people have moved from and to? Ms McKinnon: Certainly. Senator BERNARDI: I do not want all 315 of them right now. but perhaps you could just table it. Ms McKinnon: I can do it by metropolitan, regional and remote if you like.
EW1140_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	Previous questions EW0773_12 from October 2011 hearing (people with a disability accessing JSA)	Senator SIEWERT: I want to follow up a question I asked last time, being question 0773, which is the result of discussion that, Ms Parker, you and I were having around the percentage of people with a disability who were accessing JSA. It seems to me that under Newstart almost a third of the people that were accessing JSAs were those with some indicator of disability. What I would like to do if possible is ask—if you have them now, yes, but if not take this on notice—whether you have got figures later than that on the breakdown as to those with a disability and those who are not. Ms Parker: To update the previous ones? Senator SIEWERT: Yes, to update it. Obviously, I am interested in that

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				because of the change in the eligibility criteria. Ms Parker: Yes, we will take that on notice. Senator SIEWERT: I would like the Newstart one now if you have it; if you do not I will ask for it on notice. Ms Parker: Not an update since then, since 31 August. Senator SIEWERT: Okay. Basically I want that same breakdown updated for the same period as we have talked about earlier. Ms Parker: Certainly.
EW1141_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Siewert	increase or decrease in specialist providers	Senator SIEWERT: Thank you. Have we had an increase or decrease in specialist providers in 2010 or 2011? Ms Buffinton: I think we will have to take that one on notice.
EW1142_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Abetz	Queensland Industrial Relations Commission decision—	Mr Kovacic: There are no organisations that would have received funding in respect of the Queensland Industrial Relations Commission decision— Senator BOYCE: Okay. I will stop there. Senator ABETZ: First of all, can we have the letter and attachment tabled, please? How will this \$30 million find its way to the providers? Have you given that to the Queensland government to distribute? Mr Kovacic: That is an issue that we are still working on with the Department of Finance and Deregulation. Senator ABETZ: Before the coalition's intervention in this matter there was no \$30 million on the table. Is that correct? Mr Kovacic: It is my recollection that the issue of funding at that stage had not been determined by the government.
EW1143_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Siewert	\$30 million	Senator ABETZ: In the initial regulation, which was later withdrawn, there was no talk of \$30 million, was there? Mr Kovacic: There was no decision at that stage as to whether the government would provide— Senator ABETZ: I was not asking about a decision. Was there any talk of \$30 million. Ms Paul: We have answered the question. At that stage a decision had not been taken. Senator ABETZ: Was there any consideration of \$30 million being advanced. Mr Kovacic: I will have to take it on notice. I cannot— Ms Paul: We will have to take on notice when the briefing was done. Senator ABETZ: Let's not beat around the bush. Whilst I appreciate that briefings are private, when we raised these issues with the minister's office and the department, one of the issues that was raised was the lack of funding. I hope I do not divulge too much; suffice it to say we were told that assurances had been given by the Queensland government that they had fully supplemented these providers and that the argument of shortfall had no substance. That \$30 million from

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				federal coffers was somewhere in the mix at that stage, quite frankly, defies belief, Mr Kovacic, given the discussions that we had. When did the federal government come to the view that the Queensland government's assertion of full supplementation was in fact not correct and that there was the need for this extra \$30 million? Mr Kovacic: If I am to be precise, I would have to take that on notice.
EW1144_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Abetz	Fisher Case	Senator Jacinta Collins: Senator Abetz, for fullness' sake you should also be aware that the community sector wages group that I chair has also been addressing providers concerns about the nature of supplementation. Senator ABETZ: On a national scale or with the Fisher case? Senator Jacinta Collins: Both. Senator ABETZ: As of when? Can you let us know? Senator Jacinta Collins: I would have to take the precise date on notice. Senator ABETZ: Please do.
EW1145_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Abetz	QLD govt supplementation	Senator Jacinta Collins: Certainly the government has been looking at the Queensland government experience to inform how we may deal with supplementation in the future. Senator ABETZ: So state governments are now going to help subsidise the national case. Senator Jacinta Collins: So it is not fair to say that the government was unaware of provider concerns with respect to the nature of the Queensland government's supplementation. Senator BOYCE: Why were you persisting with the regulation in the House? Senator ABETZ: If you were aware why were you persisting with a line to us that you were convinced that the state government had provided full supplementation? Senator Jacinta Collins: I am sorry, I have not ever expressed that position. Senator ABETZ: No, but the department and the minister's office have. Ms Paul: I am not sure that we have made that assertion either. I would like to check, so I will take that on notice, too.

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EW1146_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Boyce	Regulation 3 of 2012	<p>Senator BOYCE: Can I ask one last question, given that I think we are not going to make any breakthroughs here? The form that organisations are asked to fill in asks them to tick one of two boxes that say: I consider the organisation is a constitutional corporation. You may wish to provide details. and: I consider the organisation may be a constitutional corporation. You may wish to provide details. If they tick the 'may be a constitutional corporation' box what happens next? Who decides? Mr Kovacic: We retained a barrister who can provide advice to providers to clarify the issues, because it is a complex issue and in some respects can be a difficult legal issue. It is really part of the package of providing assistance to providers to assist them to clarify whether they are indeed covered by the regulation. Senator BOYCE: Who will pay his costs? Mr Kovacic: The Commonwealth. Senator BOYCE: Have you developed a contract with him? How is he to be reimbursed? Mr Kovacic: It will be— Ms Anderson: I have not got those details on me. Mr Kovacic: We will take that on notice. Senator BOYCE: Would it be sessionally or— Mr Kovacic: I presume it would be, but can we take that on notice. Senator BOYCE: Tell us if it is and what it would be intended that he be paid per session. Mr Kovacic: Certainly.</p>
EW1147_12	Agency - Fair Work Australia	Abetz	FWA - Thomson matter	<p>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.</p>
EW1148_12	Agency - Fair Work Australia	Abetz	FWA	<p>Senator Jacinta Collins: I know of no better than what Ms O'Neill put to you this morning. Mr Kovacic: And I am in the same situation, Senator. Senator ABETZ: I am not sure that Ms O'Neill told us how many other such inquiries there had been. Senator Jacinta Collins: I think she said that there were these two that she was currently investigating and there had been one under the previous legislation. Senator ABETZ: Under the previous legislation— all right. Senator Jacinta Collins: That is my recollection. Senator ABETZ: This is not supposed to be a memory test. What I want to know is—possibly, if we can then find out— when the minister's office was informed, if at all, at the time, under the old legislation as to the fact that an inquiry or investigation was being undertaken. Ms Paul: Is that a question on notice essentially for Fair Work Australia? Mr Kovacic: It would be really difficult for us to answer that. Ms Paul: It probably is. Senator ABETZ: And I suppose the minister's office as well. Thank you for that guidance, Ms Paul. If somehow the secretariat or somebody could make sure that that finds its way to Fair Work Australia— CHAIR: Questions on notice are open until, I think, next Thursday.</p>

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EW1149_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Abetz	Department FWA contact	Senator ABETZ: Is there a go-to person within your department that liaises with Fair Work Australia? Ms Paul: There would be a range of liaison. We can take it on notice, but we would not have had any chance to today. Senator ABETZ: I am not only talking about today. Mr Kovacic: I am happy to take it on notice. Senator ABETZ: If it exists. It may be that the department, as is usually the case, is aware of these things before it finally comes out in public, so the fact that it was only raised this morning is not—with respect—necessarily a cover as to whether or not the department has known about it or whether it has made inquiries as to its existence. Ms Paul: To do the correct thing by you, we will take it on notice.
EW1150_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Abetz	Appointments - Mr Lee resignation	Senator ABETZ: Thank you. A simple yes would have done. Was the department aware before 2 September? The answer to that is yes. Did Mr Lee leave as general manager immediately thereafter? Mr Kovacic: Mr Lee resigned, if that is the correct word—he took up his appointment as a commissioner of Fair Work Australia on 8 September, so his last day, from memory, would have been 7 September. Senator ABETZ: Can you please take on notice for me when he actually did leave— Mr Kovacic: Certainly. Senator ABETZ: the Fair Work Australia administrative side to go to the commission side? Mr Kovacic: The appointment was made by the Governor-General on 1 September and he commenced as a commissioner on 8 September, as I mentioned. Senator ABETZ: Just as a technical point, for the appointment, did he have to resign before the Governor-General— Mr Kovacic: No. I will double-check on this as well, but I think that technically the appointment is not made until the Governor-General makes the appointment and— Senator ABETZ: So you would not want to resign beforehand, would you? Mr Kovacic: No. You would be perhaps in limbo, if I can describe it that way. Senator ABETZ: Or do they resign pending the Governor-General's commission? Mr Kovacic: I will take that on notice.
EW1151_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Abetz	Qantas informaion	Senator ABETZ: Let us be polite and simply indicate that there is not a meeting of our minds on that issue. Parliamentary Secretary, In an article on the 14 February 2012 in the Australian Financial Review, it is stated: Mr Shorten told the Fairfax radio network yesterday that an internal Qantas review aimed at reducing in-house maintenance would be announced "within days" ... How did Mr Shorten know that? Senator Jacinta Collins: I will take that on notice. Senator ABETZ: Did he obtain that information by a leak out of Qantas or by a private briefing from Qantas? If it was a private briefing from Qantas, was he authorised to make that statement public? Potentially that could have an impact on share prices and other issues. It is appropriate that a minister be pre-briefed, but, of course, that

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				<p>confidentially needs to be maintained. When you are a cabinet minister, in particular, that is vitally important. That sort of information getting out to the market place can have some very serious consequences. If we can be advised how he got that information and why he—</p> <p>Senator Jacinta Collins: Indeed, if that is appropriate. Senator ABETZ: Sorry? Senator Jacinta Collins: I will take the question on notice, and, if it is appropriate that you be advised how the minister was advised, taking into account the very points you have just made, we will respond. Senator ABETZ: It could only have come from one quarter. It would not have come from the department; it would have come from Qantas.</p>
EW1152_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Abetz	Appointment - Presidency of FWA	<p>Ms Paul: Obviously, I am not going to go into personnel. But, in terms of process, the process will unfold in the way that it should in terms of consultation and so on. I can step through where it is up to if you wish. Senator ABETZ: When do we anticipate that we will have an announcement, just roughly? Ms Paul: I am not sure when there will be an announcement, but it is— Senator ABETZ: When do you think you will be in a position to make a recommendations or to provide a list to the minister? Ms Paul: I have done that. Senator ABETZ: The list is with the minister? Ms Paul: That is right. Senator ABETZ: Parliamentary Secretary, when do you think the minister will be in a position to indicate? Senator Jacinta Collins: I have no knowledge of this matter but I will take that on notice. CHAIR: So I am not on the list? Senator Jacinta Collins: Sorry, Senator Marshall. CHAIR: Can you rule me out? Senator Jacinta Collins: I do not know. Did you apply? Senator ABETZ: Be careful—it could prejudice things. Senator Jacinta Collins: Did you apply? Is that a preselection ticket? CHAIR: I did not know you had to apply. Senator ABETZ: Senator Feeney could be interested, though. All right—</p>
EW1153_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Abetz	Building and construction amendment bill-	<p>Can I go to the building and construction amendment bill and turn to the switch-off provisions. At the Senate committee's hearing on this bill we were told that the switch-off provision was not sought by the trade union movement, and was not supported by the trade union movement; was not sought by the employers, and was not wished for by the employers; and that it had not come up with departmental consultations during the development of this bill. So, Parliamentary Secretary, I think you or the minister's office must be the harbour of the reason why the switch-off provision was thought of and why it has found its way into the bill, when it seems to be a bit of an orphan. Neither the unions nor the employers want it, and it did not come up in departmental consultations. Senator Jacinta Collins: Senator Abetz, I cannot claim credit for it, so I will have to take that</p>

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				question on notice. Senator ABETZ: You are very generous to say 'claim credit for it'. I am not sure you would actually want to claim credit for it. It seems to be an orphan. Nobody knows how it came about, nobody wants it and one wonders what it is doing in there. I would imagine, Parliamentary Secretary, that you will take this on notice: can the minister's office assure us that his office was not involved in what has now been labelled the 'dirt file' on Ms Kathy Jackson that is allegedly doing the rounds in the government? Senator Jacinta Collins: I have no knowledge of a dirt file myself, so yes, I will take it on notice. But you are asking: did Minister Shorten's office have knowledge of such?
EW1154_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Abetz	AHRI research report of Jan 2012	Senator ABETZ: All right. Who in the department would have read it? Ms Paul: We would probably have to take that on notice and find out. Your point is: to what extent can it be relied upon? At this stage we are not really able to make a judgement like that so we will have to take it on notice. Senator ABETZ: It came out last month; it has been around and it has been commented upon. I would have thought that the department would have prepared a brief on that. Has the department prepared a brief in relation to this for the minister's office? Ms Paul: I do not know but I am happy to take that on notice.
EW1155_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Abetz	FWA Appointments	Senator ABETZ: But I will not ask about that. In supplementary budget estimates QON 0784_12 I asked about Fair Work Australia appointments and I asked about a shortlist that was submitted to the minister's office. From memory, there were 10 applicants. Mr Kovacic: That is correct. Senator ABETZ: I then asked about the background of the 10. Was Mr Lee selected from this group of 10? Mr Kovacic: That is correct. Senator ABETZ: How was he classified? Was he one of those employed in government or was he one who was a former trade union official? Mr Kovacic: Senator, could you just repeat the number of the question? Senator ABETZ: It was 0784. Mr Kovacic: He would have been one of those classified as 'in government'. It is based on the most recent employment experience of the shortlisted applicants. Senator ABETZ: What about the other person that was employed in government? Did he or she also have former trade union experience? Mr Kovacic: I would have to take that on notice just to refresh my memory as to who it was.
EW1156_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Abetz	Government's response to union's influence	Senator ABETZ: Parliamentary Secretary, the unions allegedly are pushing for the Gillard government to make greater use of its purchasing power to drive pay and condition improvements outside of the enterprise bargaining system. What is the government's response to that? Senator Jacinta Collins: I will take that on notice.

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EW1157_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Abetz	1.5 Hour Case	Senator ABETZ: Thank you. I have just come across another Professor McCallum quote but I will not aggravate anybody. I will just move on. Is the government intervening in the Federal Court case, which started on 1 February, in relation to student minimum hours—the 1½ hour case? Mr Kovacic: No. Senator ABETZ: So the government does not have a view in relation to what would be good policy in that regard, Parliamentary Secretary? Senator Jacinta Collins: I will take that on notice.
EW1158_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Abetz	parliamentary question on notice 1327	Senator ABETZ: In parliamentary question on notice 1327 I asked a whole list of questions, including questions (6), (7) and (8). This relates to the Qantas dispute: (6) At what time was a teleconference with ministers convened. (7) At what time did the teleconference with ministers take place and which ministers were involved. (8) Were any other people who were not Ministers involved in the teleconference; if so, who. We are told in answer to (6), (7) and (8) that the issue has been addressed in public statements made by Minister Evans and Minister Albanese. Can you please draw to my attention anywhere where, in public statements by Minister Evans and Albanese, they told us who else was involved in the teleconference? Mr Kovacic: I would have to take that on notice.
EW1159_12	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Abetz	Fair Work Act review background paper	Senator ABETZ: Can I ask about the Fair Work Act review background paper. On page 9, they finally talked about productivity. They have an approach to productivity that is there for all to see. Without going into too much detail, would you agree with me that on page 125 of the annual report, under the heading of 'Productivity', we are told the most common measure of productivity growth, GDP per hour worked in the market sector, is the measure—and then we are told how it has decreased by one per cent, but that is not the point here—so that here in the annual report, we are referring to a different measure to that to which the background paper refers? Is that correct? Mr Kovacic: I do not have the annual report in front of me. Senator ABETZ: On page 125 there is a subheading about 10 lines down the page headed 'Productivity'. We are told the most common measure of productivity growth is GDP per hour worked in the market sector. That is not the same measure that is being spoken of in this paper. Mr Kovacic: Can I just take that on notice, because I actually wonder whether the description of trend labour productivity in the market sector might be a different way of saying exactly the same thing. Ms Paul: Yes, I suspect it is the same. Mr Kovacic: I suspect it is. Ms Paul: But I think that given the hour we might need to take it on notice. Senator ABETZ: All right, take that on notice.

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EW1160_12	Cross Portfolio	Abetz	Department Tweeting	<p>Senator ABETZ: Could you please take on notice and just give us a brief as to what you are actually doing in that area. Who is the departmental tweeter? Senator Jacinta Collins: Not me. Senator ABETZ: Nobody in the room? Nobody is putting up their hand? Mr Kovacic: You are looking at the wrong person here. Senator ABETZ: I am with you on that one. We finally found a common cause. The tweeter tweeted an AWU tweet, or retweeted an AWU tweet, which talked about the harmonised health and safety laws, which is fine. But it includes 'Our union has a long and proud history of standing up', et cetera, which I must say is possibly not something that the department ought to be involved in. Can you go to the tweeter and ask them just to give us a list of how many trade union tweets they have retweeted and how many employer organisation tweets they have retweeted. I understand they have not retweeted any of mine, much to my chagrin. .. Senator ABETZ: ... Do we know when tweeting started in the department? Ms Paul: I cannot recall. I am not familiar with these cases either, but I am happy to take it on notice. Senator ABETZ: All right. Over the last 12 months— Ms Paul: Sure. We have probably been tweeting for less time than that. Senator ABETZ: and how many union tweets have been retweeted and how many employer organisation tweets have been retweeted. Senator Jacinta Collins: How long have you been tweeting for, Senator Abetz, just so we can track yours?</p>
EW1161_12	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Back	special childcare benefit—the in-home care program.	<p>Senator BACK: Is that the number of applications received or is that the number— Ms Taylor: That is the number approved. Senator BACK: And can you tell me how many would have been rejected in that quarter, let's say? Ms Taylor: That would be a matter for the Department of Human Services, but I am happy to take it on notice.</p>
EW1162_12	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Back	Special Childcare benefit - Rejected Payments	<p>Senator BACK: Yes. That is what I am saying—in terms of the payments being reinstated. Can you tell us how many, if any, of those rejections have subsequently been overturned and now have payments reinstated? Ms Taylor: I can give you some information on that, but that is the detail that the Department of Human Services has, so I will take it on notice to get the accurate detail. But I understand they are looking at around 60 cases. I think that is the number. I understand that they have reinstated a large proportion of those cases. I do not have the figures on that. As they are going through that process, it is changing. So I can take that on notice and get that for you. Senator BACK: If you would, I'd be appreciative. I would also be keen to know, in providing that information, if you could give us some indication of where you are against budget targets for the time period that you are</p>

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				able to provide that information for. I am interested in knowing if you are going to underspend or if there is going to be a budget blowout. That would be of great interest to me.
EW1163_12	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Back	special childcare benefit is not a capped program	Ms Taylor: The special childcare benefit is not a capped program. It is a demand driven program. Ms Paul: No. There is no link between how DHS makes its decisions and the expenditure. The expenditure just grows according to the number that are accepted. Senator BACK: Right. Also, in providing that information to me, could you also provide for me please the sort of time frames that it takes for the actual approval of a special childcare benefit.
EW1164_12	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Back	Childcare in rural and regional areas of Australia	Senator BACK: Could focus now with me on rural and regional areas of Australia? I understand from that data that 13 per cent of women are finding themselves in the position of either being unavailable for work or unable to work more hours because there are not places available. It may have referred to non-metropolitan areas or areas outside large regional centres. Can you assist there? And can you take on notice and provide me with information—perhaps on a state by state basis—on whether your comment of there being adequate positions overall is also accurate for rural and regional areas in different states please? Ms Taylor: We will certainly take that on notice. We can look at our vacancy data by state and where those vacancies are. I take your point, and I will take that on notice. Senator BACK: Thank you.
EW1165_12	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Back	Special Child Care Benefit	Ms Caldwell: It was DEEWR question number EW0861_12, and relevantly— ACTING CHAIR: There were 11,490 families. 'Of these, 3,850 families benefitted from more than a single 13 week approval ...' Ms Caldwell: Yes. ACTING CHAIR: Very good. It states: In 2010, 53 per cent of approvals of Special Child Care Benefit were in respect of a child at risk and 47 per cent due to temporary financial hardship. You have not got an update of those figures? That was for 2010. Are you not yet in a position to provide us with more current figures. Ms Taylor: I can take that on notice. I will just check that the data has come through on that.

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EW1166_12	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Back	centre-based care - expenditure for this year to date	ACTING CHAIR: Perhaps you will need to take this question on notice as well—that is, the number of parents of children in centre-based care who are currently eligible. Is that something that you would be able to inform us of? Ms Taylor: I can tell you the number of children. Again, this goes back to the March quarter, 2011. The number of children in long day care was 11,150. I can tell you outside school hours care as well. There were 218 before school, 640 in after school and 2,130 in vacation care. ACTING CHAIR: Thank you. And the expenditure year to date? That \$98 million was for 2010-11. We do not have a figure for expenditure for this year to date for this financial year? Ms Taylor: We do not, but I am happy to take that on notice.
EW1167_12	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Back	Grant for long day care quality framework transition support - complaints	Mr De Silva: I don't have any stats of any complaints that have come to the department, but I can double check and take that on notice. I don't think we have had any correspondence in relation to this, saying, 'I think I should get a grant.'
EW1168_12	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Back	mychild website	Mr De Silva: The mychild website was created in 2008. It was an election commitment in 2007, but I will double check the exact date the mychild website went live. Senator BACK: Excellent. Thank you. When you are looking at that for me, Mr De Silva, I would be very interested in getting some indication of the popularity of the site based on the number of hits either per day or per week or month. I want it over a period of time. I just want the trends—is it going up? Mr De Silva: We can take that on notice.
EW1169_12	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Back	mychild website - vacancy information	Ms Caldwell: Centres report their vacancy data to us and that is updated at least three days a week. We ask them to report on the Friday so that we can have current vacancy information for the Monday. We also do uploads on Wednesday and Friday so that they can provide any updates to us as well. I would need to check whether we do a check on the information provided by services before we load or whether that is fully automated. But certainly the vacancy information is updated very frequently, based on what the services have provided.
EW1170_12	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child	Back	MyChild Site	Senator BACK: So you will provide us with information on the pattern of the number of hits? Mr De Silva: I can actually tell you that from 1 January 2011 to 31 December 2011 there were 660,000 unique hits to the My Child site. Senator BACK: Thank you. Again, it would be good to know back from the beginning when the website was first launched. We will be very keen to follow that. I now want to go on to the childcare rebate, if I may. Can

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	Care			you tell us the number of families that have claimed the maximum child care rebate since the beginning of this financial year?
EW1171_12	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Back	immunisation & exemptions in Childcare	Senator BACK: You have had instances where applications were rejected when children had not been immunised. Can you give me some background on that? Ms Caldwell: I would have to take on notice the particular numbers of children who were not compliant. There is a staged approach to giving warnings to children until such time as their immunisation is done. It is only after a number of cautions that we ultimately need to decide that we should go further. Senator BACK: Would you also give on notice the number of exemptions from immunisation granted.
EW1172_12	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Back	concessional arrangements to meet families' needs	Senator MCKENZIE: Fantastic. Could you please, on notice, provide a mapping exercise, if you like, of what is available where, because it is all fine and well, I think, to say that the service is out there, but it would be great to know where it is available. Is that possible? Ms Caldwell: And the information is also in the handbook of the range of concessional arrangements to meet families' needs. Ms Taylor: And we are happy to provide copies of the childcare handbook, if you like.
EW1173_12	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Back	DG and the CEOs	Senator MCKENZIE: So, you can take on notice the DG and the CEOs, the date it was sent, the types of additional activities the government will be undertaking to raise awareness of government programs in the early childhood space, and any funds allocated to awareness raising exercises around the states. Ms Paul: Happy to do so. I will take it on notice, and then if there is more detail we can offer this afternoon, and if you are here this afternoon, we will make sure we do that too..
EW1174_12	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Back	community based centres	Senator BACK: I will go back and re-examine that, then. Did you provide me with information on the number of those centres that are community based? Is that a question I have asked you in the past? Ms Caldwell: You asked for numbers, and we provided numbers, but we can take on notice the update.

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EW1175_12	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Back	staffing levels	<p>Senator BACK: Also, too, I am interested in knowing the number of centres that do not have a four year degree qualified person on staff. Is that information you can provide me with on notice? Ms Taylor: I will take it on notice, but I am not sure that we have that information about the staffing levels in all sorts of centres. There are requirements that are coming in and being phased in through the national quality measure that go to the qualification level of staff, including the teaching degree. As part of the implementation of the national quality framework, though, there has been a grandfathering of the three year trained teachers who are in the system at the moment. Ms Caldwell: And again, the department conducted the national workforce census as well, and a copy of that was provided to the committee on notice at the last hearing also. Senator BACK: In that update I would be very keen to also receive a breakdown in terms of metropolitan, non-metropolitan, regional and rural, of course.</p>
EW1176_12	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Back	teenage parent pilots	<p>Senator BACK: Can I go to the teenage parent pilots. I have had advice that in Burnie in Tasmania there is currently a shortage of places for children up to the age of two years. I understand that this is a centre for one of the teenage parent pilots. Can you explain to me, first of all, whether it is the case that there is a shortage of places in Burnie and, if there is, where does the department expect that these places can be found for these young children, so that their parents can actually rejoin the workforce? Ms Caldwell: I would need to take on notice the details of vacancies or shortages in Burnie itself.</p>
EW1177_12	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Back	Advertising for family day care	<p>Senator BACK:....Can you confirm whether, given this being the case, if a family day carer was to have a decal on their car or to wear a shirt with a logo advertising it, they would be in breach of the regulations? Mr De Silva: I am aware of the section. I am aware that there was a question put to the New South Wales Department of Education and Communities in relation to the Education and Care Services Act as it operates in New South Wales. We coordinated with ACECQA, the national body, in providing advice back to the service. I do not have the exact details. My understanding of it is that the requirement for only an approved provider to advertise would not preclude a family day care educator acting as an agent for the larger body, but I would have to take on notice the exact detail of the answer.</p>
EW1178_12	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child	Back	formal qualification for family day care providers	<p>Senator BACK: Okay. Could you give us an indicator, in terms of the future, of how many family day care providers will need to gain a formal qualification to comply before 2014? Ms Taylor: The ratios that come in under the national quality framework from 1 January 2014 have a ratio of one to seven, with a maximum of four children under school age in that centre. Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and the ACT already have that ratio in</p>

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	Care			place. In relation to the other states and their ratios I am happy to take that on notice.
EW1179_12	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Back	family day care educators	Senator BACK: Do they advise family day carers if English is their second language? Is that information you collate? Mr De Silva: I am not entirely sure we do collect that information from family day care educators. Ms Taylor: But it may be in the national workforce census. Senator BACK: It would be interesting to know. It would be interesting to know the proportion of carers that might have a language other than English as well.
EW1180_12	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Bernardi	National Workforce Development Fund	"Senator BACK: Of which \$369 million is new funding and \$199 million is through the previously announced Critical Skills Investment Fund. Can you tell me now or can you take on notice the proportion of those funds that are set aside for regional Australia. Ms Taylor: That is now in with the transfer of our skills colleagues to the industry area but having had some involvement in that fund previously I know there is a 30 per cent guarantee for that fund to be directed towards regional. Our skills colleagues can obviously give you more up-to-date detail. But when I was last involved it had exceeded that regional target. Senator BACK: Would that information be available on a state-by-state basis, do you know? Ms Taylor: It should be. It is a project based fund but I am sure one of the difficulties with that might be, without trying to answer for my skills colleagues, in identifying where the actual workers are as opposed to the project. But you might want to refer that to— Senator BACK: Sure. Ms Caldwell: We can take it on notice, if you like. These functions have gone to a different committee now but I am happy to take it on notice and we will follow through. Senator BACK: Yes, thank you. "
EW1181_12	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Mason	Indigenous Early Childhood education centres	Senator MASON: I have dropped back down to 76th! Ms Taylor, how many sites have been identified and agreed to in addition to the 33 out of 38 already? Ms Taylor: Thirty-three physical sites have been identified in consultation with communities. The remaining five sites, which are Mackay, Logan and Rockhampton in Queensland, Roebourne in WA and Swan Region in WA will be identified. Their timing according to the state governments was they were not due to be identified yet. I will take that on notice and get an exact date from their implementation plans, but they will be identified shortly.

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EW1182_12	Agency - Australian Curriculum, Assessment & Reporting Authority	Mason	ACARA - national minimum standards	<p>Senator MASON: It just struck me the national minimum standards seem to be very low. Where are these national minimum standards? Can we get a hold of them and have a look at them? Dr Hill: Absolutely, yes. Senator MASON: Who devised them? Dr Hill: They were devised as a collaborative exercise by all of the states and territories working with the federal government. Senator MASON: How long ago? Dr Hill: I cannot put a date on it precisely. Mr Adams: I think the development of the national minimum standards would have happened around about 2007, prior to 2008. They were developed with an understanding of the benchmarks that pre-existed them. So as Dr Hill explained, the location of the benchmarks for identifying a student's ability to deal competently with schooling was used to consider the distribution and the trialling that was done prior to NAPLAN, and it was in that year that the national minimum standards were established. I need to check the 2007, but I am fairly confident that is the date.</p>
EW1183_12	Agency - Australian Curriculum, Assessment & Reporting Authority	Mason	ACARA - NAPLAN	<p>Senator MASON: Do we know what percentage of students sat the exam in that year—the year before 2008? Dr. Hill: It would all be on a state and territory basis and it would depend on local practice. Senator MASON: Even using that basis, do we know, in each individual state, what percentage of students sat that particular state or territory examinations? Dr. Hill: ACARA does not hold that information. Senator MASON: You do not hold that information. I am sure our friends in state government would be delighted to assist. Do you have the data from 2008? Dr. Hill: Yes. Senator MASON: What percentage of students sat the exam in 2011? Dr. Hill: We have the approximate numbers, but I do not have the exact percentage here. I can take that on notice and get it to you. The relevant figure would be very close to 100 per cent. The interest would be in the first or second decimal point, because it is very close to 100 per cent. Senator MASON: It is close to 100 per cent and you will provide the committee with the precise figure? Dr. Hill: We can provide that, yes.</p>
EW1184_12	Agency - Australian Curriculum, Assessment & Reporting Authority	Mason	ACARA - NAPLAN (allegations of cheating)	<p>Senator MASON: When states and territories set and administer the tests, are you aware of any allegations of cheating? Dr. Hill: I do not have any information about that. I actually was not in Australia when this was happening, so I do not have any personal corporate memory of it. I do not know whether Mr Adams does. CHAIR: It definitely was not you, Dr Hill. Senator MASON: Do you, gentlemen—Mr Randall or Mr Adams? Prior to September 2008, when we had examinations administered by state and territory governments, were there allegations of cheating? Mr Adams: That would be a question we would have to ask states and territories because we do not have information on that. I imagine that it would exist, but it is not part of our data because it predates our involvement. Anecdotally, I would</p>

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				have thought the answer would be yes, but we do not have data on that. That would be state and territory based. Senator MASON: If you can get it for the committee, that would be great. I
EW1185_12	Agency - Australian Curriculum, Assessment & Reporting Authority	McKenzie	ACARA - cyber safety	Senator McKENZIE: My question refers to the government's response to the interim report of the Joint Select Committee on Cyber-Safety. In this, they do mention the national curriculum's role in ICT specifically. What discussions have there been? What meetings have there been and with whom around that issue? Dr Hill: I will hand over to Mr Randall, our general manager responsible for curriculum. He has been overseeing the development of ICT as a general capability and establishing the work we have been doing in curriculum, as ICT is a part of the curriculum. In both of those areas, ethical issues such as that play a prominent role. Mr Randall: As Dr Hill outlined, we are aware of the report and we have had discussions with officers involved in that. Where it fits— Senator McKENZIE: Which officers specifically? Mr Randall: I would need to check that. Senator McKENZIE: That would be great. Mr Randall: It has been transmitted to me and we have had discussion, but there are a lot of people I talk to, but I do not— Senator McKENZIE: That is fine. Just take it on notice. Mr Randall: I will come back to you with more detail on the contact.
EW1186_12	Agency - Australian Curriculum, Assessment & Reporting Authority	Mason	ACARA - national minimum standards	Senator MASON: To expedite matters, I might ask some questions. I suspect you will need to take them on notice. I have one other issue and that will be it. I am interested in who is meeting the national minimum standard that we discussed earlier. Could you possibly provide a list of those schools in which 100 per cent of students who achieved the minimum standard for their year levels across the years 2008 and 2010? Then could you provide a list of those schools in which 95 per cent of students achieved the minimum standard for the year levels across the years 2008 and 2010, and then a list of those schools in which 90 per cent of the students achieved the minimum standard for the year levels across the years 2008 and 2010, and then the same list in which 85 per cent of students achieved the minimum standards for the year levels across 2008 and 2010? Finally, could you provide a list of those schools in which 80 per cent of students achieved the minimum standards for the year levels across the years 2008 and 2010? Will that be possible, Dr Hill?

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				Probably not right now, I understand. Dr Hill: We will take that on notice.
EW1187_12	Agency - Australian Curriculum, Assessment & Reporting Authority	Mason	ACARA - curriculum (agriculture)	Senator MCKENZIE: Mr Randall, I am very conscious of time, so could you just detail the organisations that you have met with and a rough time line in terms of phasing that in. Mr Randall: Sure.
EW1188_12	Cross Portfolio	Mason	AusTender contract - Next Teacher program	Senator MASON: The contracts all up are worth \$18 million roughly? Mr Storen: At the time of going to tender the program value was up to \$18 million. Senator MASON: What contract numbers, CRNs, have resulted from this request for tender? Mr Storen: I do not have the contract numbers with me, but we can provide that to you on notice. I can tell you the names of the entities that we are contracting with. Senator MASON: Can you give that to the committee and then take the rest on notice? Is that all right? Mr Storen: That is fine. It is the Deakin University, the University of Melbourne, the University of Wollongong, Teach for Australia and Edith Cowan University.
EW1189_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Mason	AusTender contract (374) - contract with Prof Richard Teese of Uni of Melb	Senator MASON: Really? Can that research be made available to the committee? Mr Storen: I can take that on notice and look at the completion date. Senator MASON: That sounds interesting to me, Ms Paul. I quite like the sound of that. Ms Paul: I am happy to take it on notice. [ref bottom pg 39 - Mr Storen: I can help a little bit with the contract, but possibly not too much with the topic. This was a contract with Professor Richard Teese of the University of Melbourne.]

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EW1190_12	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Mason	Childcare centre - Snugglepot Day Care Centre in Taree	Senator MASON: Who made the decision? Ms Paul: I am not sure whether it was the department or the minister. I would have to take that on notice. It would have been one or the other. Senator MASON: Can you take on notice when the decision was made and who by? Ms Paul: Sure. Senator MASON: How would it have come about that this became an issue? Would the centre have contacted the department? How would the issue have percolated up to the department or indeed the minister to decide to provide this? How would the information have got out that there was this governance issue? Mr Manthorpe: I could imagine that the service may have contacted the department, but I am speculating. Ms Paul: We can add it to the question on notice, because it will not be hard to find out. It could have been through our state office. Our state office staff are in regular contact with providers and so on. I imagine we can pin it down.
EW1191_12	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Mason	similar contract that provides 'financial management support' (similar to CN461359)	Mr Manthorpe: There are two points that I would reiterate about that. I am aware of at least another case that is very similar. Senator MASON: Do you know what the name of that case is? Mr Manthorpe: No, I do not. Senator MASON: Can you find out? Mr Manthorpe: Yes.
EW1192_12	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Mason	AusTender Contract CN461370 Program Analysis of Budget Based Funding Program	Senator MASON: That makes perfect sense. CN461370: review of budget based funding program. The supplier is PricewaterhouseCoopers. Am I correct in thinking that this contract is for the review of that budget base funding program associated with the operation of childcare services? ... Senator MASON: Will the results of PricewaterhouseCoopers's work be published? Mr Manthorpe: I would have to take that on notice.
EW1193_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Mason	Average cost for each student in school	Senator MASON: You may need to take this on notice but you will understand where I am heading, I am sure. How much does it cost taxpayers on average for each student in a public school—either on average or indeed maybe the average cost in each state and territory, in each jurisdiction? How much does it cost taxpayers to educate a student in a public school in each of the jurisdictions, in each state or territory? Ms Paul: The average cost of a student in a government school is measured. It is measured through the AGSRC, which is their current indexation mechanism. We can give that to you. We probably would have to take it on notice, but we can give it to you state by state for primary and secondary students. Senator MASON: Clearly this might be more difficult because the disparity is significant, but how much does it cost taxpayers for each student in independent or

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				Catholic schools? Ms Paul: Sure. Senator MASON: Clearly they will vary enormously but if even the aggregate cost per jurisdiction—does that make sense?—could be provided to the committee that would be very useful. Ms Paul: Sure.
EW1194_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Scullion	SEAM Trials	Senator SCULLION: I understand we are getting ready to take some questions in regard to the SEAM trials. Can you give us a breakdown of the costs of the SEAM trials just by jurisdiction? Ms Donaldson: We have the costs overall but not by state. The costs overall for the SEAM funding for the entire trial is \$31.1 million. Senator SCULLION: Would it be possible to take that on notice. Later you can tell me if it is impossible, or whatever. That would be useful.
EW1195_12	Outcome 4 - Employment	Scullion	SEAM Trial Evaluation Report	Senator SCULLION: You recently released the SEAM trial evaluation report and it provides a number of statistics relating to school enrolment and attendance rate. You might be able to clarify a couple of things for me. The minister's release said that out of 4,688 parents within the scheme only 85 were suspended under the enrolment component of the scheme and seven under the intent of the attendance component. The 85 came from page 56 of the report, from a diagram. But the executive summary says that seven parents in the Northern Territory had payments suspended for enrolment, as were 108 in Queensland. Would you be able to clarify what the actual enrolment and attendance sanction figures were? Mr Matheson: Can you just refer me again to the— Senator SCULLION: I can. Perhaps you can take that on notice. It is obviously an attendance enrolment. I just want to make sure that we are quoting from the same thing. Mr Matheson: There are some instances of multiple incidences where individuals are suspended a couple of times, so we will come back to you. Senator SCULLION: Specifically the 85 that were suspended under the enrolment component came from the minister's release; and seven under the attendance component, which I sort of thought was the case. But the executive summary says that seven parents in the NT were suspended under the enrolment. The inconsistency was that one says 'attendance' and the other said 'enrolment' and it is the same seven. Could you clarify that? I think you should probably take that on notice. Mr Matheson: Yes, we will come back

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				to that. It sounds like an error in the wording there, yes.
EW1196_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Scullion	SEAM - reasonable attendance - difference in definition NT and Qld	<p>Senator SCULLION: What are the specific differences in the trigger between the Northern Territory and Queensland? Mr Matheson: In Queensland, as I said, it is up to the discretion of the school, so the school decides whether attendance is satisfactory or unsatisfactory.</p> <p>Senator SCULLION: Will each school have a different trigger in Queensland? Ms Hanlon: Could be. Mr Matheson: Could do, yes, that is right. Senator SCULLION: Do the ones within the SEAM trial? Ms Paul: I will just see if we know. Senator SCULLION: I am not being pedantic. Are there significant differences between them? Mr Matheson: It is probably something we could take on notice. It relies on the Queensland authorities making the referral to Centrelink, so it is not based on a benchmark that we impose. It is something that we would have to have a look at and get back to you, I think, on that question.</p>
EW1197_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Scullion	school attendance	<p>Senator SCULLION: In addition to that, Ms Paul, I asked about what we think is an attendance level. It is perhaps a fact that we do not have a national level of what we think is required in terms of attendance to be able to get an education. We have different schools deciding themselves. The Northern Territory government, in terms of their attendance benchmarks, seem to be pretty accurate in budgeting. They actually budget for only 33 per cent of Indigenous students attending more than 80 per cent. They are always on the money, because they only just fell short—they budgeted 32.1 per cent. While I am not saying that is the norm, sometimes people and organisations want to make themselves look as good as possible, so if you are setting indicators—these are critical performance indicators from the Northern Territory government—nobody wants to say, ‘Listen, we are breaching all of these people.’ I know that is human nature, but I think it would be of use and it would be useful if you could report back at the next set of estimates what they do internationally, what level of attendance is necessary to meet a minimum educational requirement. Ms Paul: What we might do is see whether we can find if there is any</p>

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				<p>research on this question of a potential link between attendance levels and learning outcomes, which you put as getting a good education. I would put it in a more jargonny way of learning outcomes. The targets, for example, for attainment at year 12 level, for certain standards of literacy and numeracy and so on, tend to be more about the outcome itself not the means to the outcome. I remember when the target on achieving year 12 was set. There was actually debate in the education community about whether it should be attainment or just having done it—just retention, just having been there in year 12—and everyone went for attainment because you actually want to know not only that the child has been there but that they have actually done something, that they know something. My guess is—but we will take it on notice and have a look—that it is a bit like what Mr Cook was saying, that attendance is a bit fraught. Obviously, you would think the more you attend, the better you are going to do.</p>
EW1198_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Siewert	breakdown of funding (primary and secondary students)	<p>Senator SIEWERT: Is it possible to provide a breakdown of the funding? I will take a step back, sorry. Is it possible to have an analysis of the proportion of primary school students and the proportion of secondary school students against the funding? Of the funding that is available for this, what proportion is being spent on— Ms Hanlon: We will take that on notice, but we can get that to you.</p>
EW1199_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Siewert	school attendance	<p>Ms Hanlon: I could possibly add to that, too. In some case studies that we have around the national partnerships in schools, particularly, that have large numbers of Indigenous students we now have school level information of increased attendance. When you actually look at why they are attending, it is the way in which the school has engaged and is doing their job on a day-to-day basis. Senator SIEWERT: Has that already been provided to the committee and I have missed it? Ms Hanlon: No. Senator SIEWERT: Could you provide that information because that would be extremely useful? Ms Hanlon: At a case study level? Senator SIEWERT: At case study level of, basically, what you have been outlining: the increased attendance with the funding for the national partnerships. Ms Hanlon: Certainly. Senator SIEWERT: That would be really helpful. Mr Cook: Certainly, some of that practice is actually about practical, vocational type programs in schools in the secondary classes. I know the Northern Territory is particularly focusing on that, actually engaging students in the real-life, practical components of education and delivering their education through that. Senator SIEWERT: It would be appreciated if you could provide that information on notice. Ms Hanlon: Absolutely. Senator SCULLION: Perhaps you could take that on notice because you can obviously understand—and I can recall as a recidivist truant</p>

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				<p>myself—that you need to make sure you were already ticked off on the roll before you ran off. Some schools do it in the morning and the afternoon and it would be useful, again, in looking at the data. A second thing is, talking about what, I suppose, are more generally remedial issues—and I know they are fundamentally the responsibility of the states and territories: one of the great issues about actually getting kids to school is that as soon as you get further up the tree, in terms of the ones that have been recidivist, non-attendees for a very long time, is that they are the ones who are going to be the most disengaged and if you just put them back into a classroom it is going to be a zoo. So, this remedial process of parallel and accelerated process is not only about just having quality teachers, it is about having more of them and a whole range of resources. I think if people accept that if there are lots of people who are not going to school, it is only going to go one way. Perhaps you can, just on notice, outline what sort of thinking you have had in terms of costs that are going to be required in terms of the remedial stuff and whether the states and territories have discussed that. They have certainly discussed other matters around that; perhaps you could include that in the report. Ms Paul: I think it goes to what Mr Cook and Ms Hanlon were saying in response to Senator Siewert’s question, so in our question on notice we will have a look at that whole area.</p>
EW1200_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Scullion	keeping children in school	<p>Mr Cook: Part of that will be the national partnership money currently in schools around low-SES and literacy and numeracy. A lot of school communities are working with their state jurisdiction to develop a range of programs to keep children in school, to engage them while they are there and, in some cases, to provide additional teachers. Some of the case study examples that we can provide will actually show that Senator SCULLION: I am keen not to weigh you under with a bunch of work, but if Mr Cook indicates that there are now schools and jurisdictions that are active in dealing with some of those, can you provide those? Ms Paul: Yes, we will.</p>
EW1201_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Scullion	school attendance	<p>Senator SIEWERT: I will try and be quick. In terms of the next lot of evaluation potentially the situation is marginally better than it was in 2009, but my reading of this report is that it still does not demonstrate a clear improvement overall for having the SEAM trial for attendance because of the backwards and forwards. Yes, there are a few more kids going to school or the attendance rate, as we said, improves for a little while and then drops back again. Are the figures that you have been getting since this report was done an improvement over the 2010 figures? So, in other words, is the preliminary data you are getting for 2011, showing improvements over 2010? Mr Cook: I am not sure we would have</p>

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				2011 data as yet. Ms Hanlon: We actually do have monitoring data, but I am not sure that I could actually tell you now what that improvement—or not—trend actually is, so we might take that on notice and have a look at that compared to what is in the evaluation.
EW1202_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Mason	Boarding schools	<p>Senator MASON: I have in front of me a press release from Jenny Macklin, the Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, and also Mr Cameron Dick, the Queensland Minister for Education and Industrial Relations. The media release talks about a new boarding school for Weipa in 2012. The progress in the Northern Territory makes me shudder. I am a bit concerned, given the lack of any development there, as to whether this will be equally redundant. The press release states: The Australian and Queensland government has announced a new residential boarding facility in Weipa, in Queensland's western Cape York, that will open in 2012, this year. It is a 120-bed residential campus and the Australian government is providing \$30 million to build the new facility, as well as \$2.5 million towards operational costs. It is expected to open in the first half of 2012. What can you tell the committee about that? Mr Goodwin: That facility was constructed by Minister Macklin's department in Weipa. It is a facility, not a boarding school. Senator MASON: It is not a boarding school? Mr Goodwin: That is my understanding. It is not a boarding school. Senator MASON: It states in the media release 'New boarding school for Weipa in 2012'. Mr Goodwin: I would have to refer you to FaHCSIA for detailed information. Ms Paul: I think we might take it on notice, unless you want to go next door. I am happy to take it on notice. Senator MASON: You can see my concern after what has happened in the Northern Territory. Ms Paul: Of course. Senator MASON: I have lost my confidence. Ms Paul: We will take it on notice and come back with what the detail is and the timeframe.</p>

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EW1203_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Mason	Reward Payments for Great Teachers	<p>Senator MASON: I understand that this is from the Age newspaper, not from the Australian, where the Victorian government was set a goal of recruiting 70 schools to take part in a trial of this policy, Reward Payments for Great Teachers. They have only been able to sign up 49 due to problems with the magnitude of change. The source is the newspaper. Ms Paul: I think we might have to take it on notice. I am aware that Victoria has been doing things, but I do not know what our answer would be to a newspaper report about a particular level of success or not. Senator MASON: I will give you a reference. It is 16 January 2012 the Age, page 6: 'Victorian teachers seem deeply ambivalent about getting bonuses for high performance, with fewer than expected signing up to merit pay trials.' Were you aware of that? Ms Davy: We would have to check with Victoria, but I think this is a trial under the Teacher Quality National Partnership, and Victoria has been undertaking this trial for I think this would be the second year initially with a very small number of schools. I am not sure about the numbers that are quoted in that article. We would have to check.</p>
EW1204_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Mason	draft Productivity Commission Report on bonus pay	<p>Ms Davy: The draft Productivity Commission report did make some comments around the Rewards for Great Teachers Initiative in terms of In our response to the Productivity Commission's draft report we will be indicating that decision, so in part—or in full perhaps—that will probably answer their initial concerns. Senator MASON: When will we find out whether that will answer their concerns? Ms Davy: I would have to take on notice the actual timing of the finalisation of the Productivity Commission's report.</p>
EW1205_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Bilyk	National Safe Schools Framework	<p>Senator BILYK: You might need to take this on notice. Do you have any information on how many schools have taken it up and are using the website? Mr Davies: I could take that on notice. From memory, there have been over 10 million page views, which is one indicator that there is a lot of use. It is a very popular site for many different audiences. Senator BILYK: I suppose there is no way that you can work out who is accessing it, whether it is the students, the parents or grandparents? Mr Davies: I would have to take that on notice. I cannot recall whether we have that sort of information. Senator BILYK: That is probably a bit technical. If you can get back to me, that would be really good.</p>
EW1206_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	McKenzie	Cybersmart and Bullying. No Way! websites	<p>Mr Cook: Certainly. Just to confirm, that is the Cybersmart website that we are talking about—cybersmart.gov.au? Senator MCKENZIE: Yes. Do you have any other online resource website? Mr Cook: There is Bullying. No Way!, which is the other website. Senator MCKENZIE: Can you provide me with information on both of those? Mr Cook: Sure. I will take it on notice.</p>

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EW1207_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	McKenzie	Consultation regarding definition of bullying	Senator McKENZIE: Do you know if the other jurisdictions involved in this conversation are also conducting consultations around the definition of bullying? Mr Davies: I do not have the details on that. I can certainly ask our colleagues in that committee. Senator McKENZIE: That would be great.
EW1208_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	McKenzie	Funds allocated to awareness raising exercised around cyber safety	Senator McKENZIE: I am hoping that the department, on notice, can provide me with a list of the funds allocated to the awareness-raising exercises that are undertaken around cybersafety.
EW1209_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	McKenzie	ACMA student mentoring pilot	Senator McKENZIE: So, will one of the things on the agenda be ACMA's student mentoring pilot? Mr Davies: I cannot recall off the top of my head, but I would be able to check that out. Senator McKENZIE: How often does AEEYSOC meet? Ms Paul: I am not completely sure what the routine is. It would meet between four and eight times a year, but probably more like five or six. Senator McKENZIE: Can you give us the last two years? Ms Paul: Yes. The dates are generally attached to ministerial council dates. Senator McKENZIE: Understanding that you are in discussions and it is a priority for the next meeting, when do you expect you will get agreement on implementing the mentoring pilot? Mr Davies: As I said, I cannot recall the details of that one off the top of my head, so I am not sure even whether there has been a decision to do that or not. Senator McKENZIE: There might not have been a decision, so I am asking for your expectation. Mr Davies: I do not know. I would need to talk with ACMA, if it is in their domain. I could ask them what they anticipate the time line is for consideration. Senator McKENZIE: That would be good. I would like some comment around the progress that has been made towards investigating the feasibility of a nationally consistent legislative approach to add certainty to the authority of schools to deal with incidents of inappropriate student behaviour in and outside of school hours. Ms Paul: You are going to the definitional issues again. Mr Cook: It is a bit further than that. Senator McKENZIE: Yes, it is a bit further than that. It is about a legislative and nationally consistent legislative approach. Mr Davies: Can I take that on notice?

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EW1210_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	McKenzie	Consistent cyber safety education	<p>Senator McKENZIE: Yes, you can. Has the department met with AEEYSOC to address issues around national core standards for cybersafety in education, and a national scheme to encourage all Australian schools to accept acceptable use policies? Mr Davies: Can you explain a bit more about what you meant by 'core standards'. I am not sure I understand that. Senator McKENZIE: National core standards for cybersafety education in schools, so that we are all doing the same thing on the same issue in different places. Mr Davies: Not that I am aware of, but again, please allow me to check back on notice. I do not want to mislead you on that. Senator McKENZIE: That is great. Mr Cook: It is likely that conversation would have happened around the Alannah and Madeline Foundation eSmart program, which is why some states and territories are now rolling it out at a state level. There would be consistency, for example between Queensland and Victoria, around the information that is within that training program. But, as Mr Davies has said, we will take that on notice and provide you with some additional information.</p>
EW1211_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Back	Teach for Australia pilot program	<p>Senator BACK: I want to go to the Teach for Australia pilot program placing non-teaching graduates after six weeks training into disadvantaged schools. I think it is correct that \$22 million was allocated from the budget for this program. Forty-five graduates began the program in 2010 and the advice to me is that half of them are no longer teaching; is that correct? Ms Davy: Yes, \$22 million is the contract price for the program. Yes, in cohort 1 there were 45 associates. Of those 45 associates that started in cohort 1, three withdrew during that process and so we are talking about 42. Of that 42, 25 were placed in schools teaching this year. Senator BACK: And the others? Ms Davy: I would have to check, but I think there are seven who are currently doing further education study and others have taken other opportunities in other employment.</p>
EW1212_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Back	Teach for Australia pilot program	<p>Senator BACK: Is there a pattern in the schools that they went to geographically? Can you give me an idea of whether they were city based schools? Were they country schools or regional schools? Perhaps you can take it on notice, but just in general terms anecdotally can you tell me what happened? Ms Gordon: We can certainly take it on notice to give you more precise information.</p>
EW1213_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Back	Teach for Australia pilot program	<p>Senator BACK: Of those who have not survived, do they tend to be ones who have gone to schools away from their residential base so that they have the added challenge of moving to a new location and also a disadvantaged school? Ms Gordon: I would need to take that one on notice.</p>

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EW1214_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Back	High school completion rates	<p>Senator BACK: I will organise for it to be passed on to you so that you can be aware. Whilst I am able to, I will just go to assaults on Northern Territory teachers. I think we can regard from the previous discussion that that matter has been dealt with. Although the question really that was asked was, has there been a cover-up in terms of this information? But I will let that one go for the moment. I want to come back to something drawn to my attention, and that is: a skills push target needs more work referring to two reports released by the COAG Reform Council in November last year assessing the performance on skills and education targets agreed to by state, territory and Commonwealth governments. We have not been able to open the reports on the website, but it is talking about the target to lift high school completion to 90 per cent by 2015 from 85.6 per cent in 2010. Can you tell us what has been the actual result to date in regional, rural and remote schools of high school completions? Ms Paul: We will take it on notice to get that level of detail.</p>
EW1215_12	Agency - Australian Curriculum, Assessment & Reporting Authority	Back	ACARA - Literacy and numeracy improvement	<p>Senator BACK: Also, if you can then take on notice—this is going further into it—literacy and numeracy and the fact that it is improving. Again, we would like to know what those results are. Ms Paul: Sure.</p>
EW1216_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Mason	Funding agreements	<p>Ms Gordon: That is the agreement with the government sector. We enter into funding agreements with the non-government sector to cover their involvement in the initiative. Senator MASON: Have any of those been signed? Ms Gordon: Yes, more than half of them have already been signed and we are waiting to hear— Senator MASON: Can you tell the committee now or take that on notice? Ms Gordon: I would need to take that on notice. They are coming in as we speak. We are anticipating them all coming in over the next week probably.</p>

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EW1217_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Williams	Macintyre High School	<p>Senator WILLIAMS: At the end of 2011 schools were required to reapply for funding to ensure school community support and so on. Macintyre High School—an excellent secondary school in Inverell—experienced difficulties with a computer program and contacted DEEWR who advised them an email would suffice. The email was sent, but difficulties followed and as a result the school will not know whether it has funding until 2 March. This school has had an excellent program, so why should they now face uncertainty and be disadvantaged when they followed DEEWR’s directions. Mr Sheedy: I do not know the details of that particular case, however I do know that we had staff available late at night in those close-off periods and we offered a number of work-arounds to enable people to submit their applications by the deadline and, in fact, we extended the deadline to give them plenty of opportunity to get them in. We followed up case by case, so we had an individual working with them. If they were an existing school wanting to continue into this year and they had met all the requirements—and the most significant one is that there is continuing school community support for the program—then I cannot see why they would have to wait until March to find out, but I can offer to follow up the details.</p>
EW1218_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Back	TRIPS program	<p>Senator BACK: I just want to ask you some questions about a report that was undertaken by Edith Cowen University for the Australian Primary Principals Association funded by the department involving both government and non-government schools in Victoria, Western Australia and South Australia. Is someone familiar with that study? Ms Hanlon: I will have a go. I think you are referring to a program called TRIPS. Senator BACK: Am I? Good. I do see TRIPS here somewhere, yes. Can you confirm that there were 33 schools involved in the study? Ms Hanlon: I may have to take these questions on notice, because I do not actually have information with me on TRIPS. Senator BACK: When you do take that on notice, I wonder would you also, in confirming how many schools there were, give us a breakdown on those in metropolitan, regional, rural and remote areas?</p>
EW1219_12	Agency - Comcare	Marshall	Comcare - Unresolved Cases	<p>CHAIR: I am just wondering whether there are any thoughts being given to, again, a task force or something, for want of a better description, that might involve you and the other authorities involved to actually grab these dozen or so—I would actually like you to take it on notice and give me a figure if you can—cases and actually get rid of them. They keep coming up and when you look at them, they are tragic cases and they have caused enormous disadvantage to people over a long period of time. It really would be good to get rid of them or resolve them.</p>

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EW1220_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Back	Trade Training Centre Program	Senator BACK: Can you tell me of that total number, how many, if any, are in non-government schools? Ms Smith: Are you asking for a subset on the approved? Are you looking for approved or on the construction? Senator BACK: Why don't you take it on notice and give me a breakdown of each of those areas that you have been good enough to highlight?
EW1221_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Mason	number of student in the schools connected to NBN	Ms Bloor: As of the end of last year, there were eight secondary schools, four secondary only and four combined, that have been connected to the NBN. Senator Jacinta Collins: That is 12 secondary schools. Senator MASON: It would be eight; wouldn't it? Ms Bloor: Twelve in total. Senator MASON: We will just take it slowly. I am very slow. It has been a long week—a long week. What have we got? This is at the end of last year? Ms Bloor: Yes. Senator MASON: At the end of 2011 what do we have? What has been connected? Let us go to secondary schools? Ms Bloor: Four secondary only and four combined, so secondary and primary. And four primary only. Senator MASON: I would call that eight secondary. Ms Paul: I would too. Senator MASON: Do we agree on that? Ms Bloor: Yes. Senator MASON: Can you tell me how many have been connected now as of the middle of February. Ms Bloor: The 12 schools are the latest figures— Senator MASON: Are they the latest? Ms Bloor: Yes. Senator MASON: Eight secondary schools, right. Do you know roughly how many students there are in those eight secondary schools? Ms Bloor: No, I do not. I would have to take that on notice.
EW1222_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Mason	second-release sites announced by the NBN	Senator MASON: Of the 175 schools in the 19 second-release sites and 138 schools in the additional 28 second-release sites announced by the NBN on 18 October 2011, do you know how many of those secondary schools? Ms Bloor: Those figures are estimations. I think— Senator MASON: Best estimates, I think. Ms Bloor: in October the NBN rollout maps were not finalised and so they were very much the department's estimation of the number of schools. Again, I would have to take that on notice as to how many secondary schools—
EW1223_12	Agency - Safe Work Australia	Fifield	SWA - Harmonisation	Senator FIFIELD: Indeed. Perhaps rather than me present scenarios to you, maybe you could provide us with a scenario where a group of volunteers under pre-harmonised laws in that particular jurisdiction would not have been considered workers and subject to the pre-existing OH&S regime but under the new regime would be. Mr Hoy: I am loathe to provide hypotheticals. Senator FIFIELD: I am not asking for a hypothetical, I am asking for an example of where the situation would have changed as a result of the harmonised laws. Worked examples are a pretty common thing. Mr Hoy: I will take it on notice, but as I said,

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				I am loathe to cook up— CHAIR: Won't this be in the table? I think you have presented the table you talk about already to the committee. Mr Hoy: It may not necessarily cover it.
EW1224_12	Agency - Australian Curriculum, Assessment & Reporting Authority	Mason	ACARA - National Minimum standards	Ms Paul: I think it is highly technical and highly expert. Dr Hill actually is a measurement expert. He probably could have gone into the technical aspects of how that is set— Senator MASON: He might not have thought I was not up to it—up to numbers. Ms Paul: This goes back to 2008 and before. It has been going for some time. There is a lot of national kind of technical discussion about where you would strike it. There is actually a range of technical aspects to it which if you do want set out we would probably take it on notice, but you would probably get almost a technical tutorial from a car. That is probably what you really want. Nonetheless, if you would like me to take it on notice and see if we can get— Senator MASON: If you can
EW1225_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Mason	BER project closures	Senator MASON: Of all the projects that disappeared since the beginning of the program, which was about 223 as at the October estimates, can you provide a breakdown of how many projects have dropped off for different reasons and, for example, how many because of school closures, school amalgamations and so on? Mr Thomas: I would have to take that on notice. We should be able to do that. The reasons for the project closure should be recorded.
EW1226_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Mason	BER school closures	Senator MASON: I accept that, but the argument is also the converse. They should have predicted it. Can you tell me how many schools have been closed down subsequent to receiving funding from the BER? Do we know that? Mr Thomas: I would have to take that on notice. We responded to a question on notice from the last estimates regarding schools that have closed since their project was completed, but that is a different angle on that question. Senator MASON: It is. If you can take that on notice, and also what is the combined cost of those BER projects for those schools that closed down. Mr Thomas: Yes, we can take that on notice.

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EW1227_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	McKenzie	EW632_11 - Youth Climate Coalition	<p>Senator McKENZIE: Thank you. I think that is it. I have questions for 2.11, Youth Support. I am asking these on behalf of Senator Nash. This relates to a question on notice No. 632. We refer to the question on notice response from the budget supplementary estimates hearing in October regarding funding for the Australian Youth Climate Coalition. Does that one have a special way of saying it? Ms Paul: AYCC. Senator McKENZIE: The department advises that the AYCC was due to submit a report on how it spent the \$70,840 in federal funding set out in a funding agreement last November. Was the report submitted? Mr Davies: I am not sure. I thought I had that with me. I will have to take it on notice. Senator McKENZIE: Let us say it has been submitted. Mr Davies: I am reasonably confident. Ms Paul: We might have to take it on notice. Senator McKENZIE: We can take it on notice, but if it had been submitted will it be released? Ms Paul: We will take that on notice, too. Senator McKENZIE: We could not find it on the DEEWR or the AYCC website. If you are taking that on notice then can we have a copy of it? Ms Paul: We will take that on notice as well.</p>
EW1228_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	McKenzie	Youth Development and Support Program	<p>Mr Davies: Yes. There are some specific additional projects that they have received under the Youth Development and Support program. Senator McKENZIE: What are the specific projects that have been funded in addition to the \$440,000? Mr Davies: I do not have that list here for the \$167,000. I would have to get that for you. Senator McKENZIE: That would be good</p>
EW1229_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	McKenzie	Cost of evaluation of National Youth Week	<p>Senator McKENZIE: How much did the evaluation of the week cost? Mr Cook: I would have to take it on notice. Mr Davies: I have to take it on notice, I am sorry.</p>
EW1230_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	McKenzie	PR services and arrangements for Youth Week	<p>Senator McKENZIE: Could you take on notice what PR services were actually delivered in support of Youth Week 2011, and outline what the PR arrangements are for Youth Week 2012? Mr Davies: Yes.</p>
EW1231_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	McKenzie	MC at Commonwealth Youth Forum	<p>Senator McKENZIE: I am now going to the tender for the MC at the Commonwealth Youth Forum. My first question would be: who was the master of ceremonies at the Commonwealth Youth Forum? Mr Davies: I may not have that level of detail with me. I do not think I do. I will have to take it on notice. Senator McKENZIE: That is fine. Take it on notice the services that they provided and who they were. Were travel costs to Perth included in the contract price, and how many different events did the MC preside over, because at \$13,000 it is a nice little earner?</p>

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EW1232_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	McKenzie	staffing budget for the Office for Youth	Senator MCKENZIE: What is the staffing budget for the Office for Youth? Mr Davies: I do not think I brought that departmental cost with me. I did not. I need to take it on notice. Senator MCKENZIE: Thank you. The number of staff, both head count and EFT? Mr Davies: Yes.
EW1233_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	McKenzie	body image code of conduct	Senator MCKENZIE: On the body image code of conduct—this is my second last question and there will be questions on notice—are we ready to go with the body image code of conduct? Mr Cook: Yes. Senator MCKENZIE: That is excellent. How many businesses have signed up for the voluntary code of conduct? Mr Davies: I will need to take that on notice. I do not have that number at this stage. Senator MCKENZIE: Could you break those businesses down into sort of industry— Mr Davies: Categories? Senator MCKENZIE: Yes, that would be great. What efforts have been made to increase the number of businesses signed up to the code? Mr Davies: I think that primarily the approach is going to be a body image award winner symbol that will be seen as attractive to businesses to use. Senator MCKENZIE: How are they going to know about it? Mr Davies: There will be not a campaign but communication activities to promote it as part of the awards process.
EW1234_12	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	McKenzie	Positive Body Image Award	Senator MCKENZIE: How many nominations have been received for the inaugural positive body image award, or is that secret? Mr Davies: I do not have those figures with me. I will have to get them for you. Senator MCKENZIE: Thank you. You do not have to tell us who the winner is before the day, but if you could let me know when the award winners will be announced and the prizes. Mr Davies: Yes. Mr Cook: The announcement is expected mid-2012. Senator MCKENZIE: That is fantastic. Do we know the prizes yet? Mr Cook: We will take that on notice. Senator MCKENZIE: Thank you. And who is funding the prizes. Mr Cook: Yes.