

Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2012-2013**

Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman

DEEWR Question No. EW0897_13

Senator Abetz asked on 13 February 2013 , Hansard page 39

Question

PayCheck Plus calculator

Senator ABETZ: ... So, have any changes been made in recent times to the wage calculator? Mr Wilson: There have. Between July 2012 and 31 December 2012 I am informed that there were 223 changes, corrections or amendments—however you wish to characterise it. Senator ABETZ: But not necessitated by changes to awards? It stands to reason that when wage increases come through or awards are changed that the calculator will need to be changed. What I want to concentrate on is where it was found to be—and I am trying to think of a neutral term—not as accurate as it otherwise might be. They are the changes that I am looking at. Mr Wilson: They are in that second category, and I have a table, which we can provide on notice, which gives you the categorisation of them.

Answer

The Fair Work Ombudsman has provided the following response.

The following table shows the total number of amendments made to the Fair Work Ombudsman (FWO) Pay Tools for the period 1 July 2012 until 31 December 2012.

Summary of all amendments made to FWO Pay tools			
1 July 2012 - 31 December 2012:			
Issue/Reason for amendment	No. of amendments resulting from external queries	No. of amendments resulting from internal queries and processes	Total
Amendments as a result of Fair Work Commission variations	0	18	18
Correction to, or creation of phased rates of pay	9	31	40
Casual Loading, allowance or penalty was incorrect	28	54	82
Rates in the online tools were incorrectly input	5	26	31
Amendment made to a Pay and	2	6	8

Conditions Guide only			
Amendment made to wording or description only within the Pay Tools	1	19	20
Information added – new data entry	0	17	17
Other (human error not elsewhere classified)	0	7	7
Total amendments	45	178	223