

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

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

Outcome 4 - Workplace Relations and Economic Strategy

DEEWR Question No. EW0934_13

Senator Back asked on 13 February 2013, Hansard page 93

Question

Agencies' Concern about Budgetary Position

Senator BACK: Thank you, Chair. Following the communication from Ms O'Neill this morning regarding adequacy of the budget for the Fair Work Commission, can you tell us what other agencies may have expressed concerns to you about their budgetary positions in the current financial year? Mr Kovacic: I am not aware of any other agencies expressing concern about their budgets. We certainly have ongoing conversations around issues, both policy and budget. In terms of this financial year I am not aware of any other agency expressing that sort of view. Senator BACK: It is the only one, is it, the Fair Work Commission? Mr Kovacic: As far as I am aware. I am happy to double check on that, but that is certainly my recollection.

.....Senator BACK: Just while the officers are coming, if I could follow up on my question earlier. You kindly told me you were not aware of any other agencies that have come to you with regard to financial difficulties between now and the end of the financial year. Can you advise us of any cutbacks that agencies in the portfolio may be facing between now and the end of the financial year?

Answer

No agencies expressed concerns about their budgetary positions in relation to the current financial year.

Portfolio agencies are not facing any cutbacks in addition to those announced in the 2012–13 Portfolio Budget Statements.