

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2013-2014**

Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman

Department of Employment Question No. EM0137_14

Senator Cameron asked on 27 February 2014 , Hansard page 22

Question

FWO - Pay and conditions for young workers in Victoria

Senator CAMERON: Can you provide, also on notice, what resources you would require to make sure that 94 per cent of young workers in Victoria can get their proper rates of pay and conditions? What are the resources you need to deal with this? How many more officers would you need out in the field and how much more money would you need to fix this problem for young workers in this country? Do you have any idea? Ms James: We will take that question on notice. It is a highly speculative question. We will do our best to answer it.

Answer

There are a number of ways that the Fair Work Ombudsman achieves compliance across all industries. This work is not limited to Fair Work Inspectors in the field visiting employers.

The Fair Work Ombudsman recognises that young workers can be vulnerable and has a dedicated Young Workers' team which investigates matters relating to young workers. The team also educates workplace participants on issues that consistently impact young workers including unpaid work arrangements and apprentice and trainee arrangements.

The Fair Work Ombudsman also has a number of educational resources available on its website specifically designed to assist young workers and their employers.

The agency actively engages with young people through social media and targeted communications campaigns.