

**Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment**

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

**Agency - Workplace Gender Equality Agency**

**Department of Employment Question No. EM0168\_14**

**Senator Lines asked on 27 February 2014, Hansard page 74**

**Question**

**WGEA - Commission of Audit**

Senator LINES: Did you fill out their survey online? Ms Conway: There was a survey that was forwarded to us by the APSC. Senator LINES: What is the APSC? Ms Conway: The Australian Public Service Commission. Senator LINES: So, it was a survey? Ms Conway: A survey was administered, as I understand it, to us and across the Public Service to be submitted to the Commissioner of Audit and we completed that. Senator LINES: Do you remember if that was due in early January? Ms Conway: My recollection was January. I just cannot remember the exact date. Senator LINES: So you filled that out? Ms Conway: That is correct. Senator LINES: Do you remember how long it was or how many questions? Senator MOORE: How difficult? Ms Conway: The survey was not that long. There was some clarification required about meanings of some of the terms used in the survey. There was a period of clarification that was completed by my staff and then signed off by me. Senator LINES: Do you remember what the clarifications were that you had to sort out? Ms Conway: It was around what the terms meant and what they covered. These were essentially questions, obviously, of a financial nature. We wanted to make sure that we understood exactly what we were meant to be submitting. Indeed, we benefited from the information that was provided generally because these inquiries were not particular to us, they were more generally applicable. The APSC provided some good clarification which enabled us to complete the survey. Senator LINES: If you had questions, did you go back to the APSC? Were they the clearing house? Ms Conway: Yes. They were sending out written clarifications in response to queries raised by various parties. Senator LINES: They sent them out to everyone even if it was not their query? Ms Conway: As I understand it. Senator LINES: Do you remember the other sorts of questions? Ms Conway: I cannot recall them. I am sorry. Senator LINES: Did you keep a copy of the survey? Ms Conway: We would have a soft copy of that. Senator LINES: Can you forward that on to the committee? Ms Conway: Yes.

**Answer**

Disclosure of these documents could reveal matters that are the substance of Cabinet deliberations.