

**Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment**

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

**Cross Portfolio**

**Department of Employment Question No. EM0451\_14**

**Senator Cameron provided in writing.**

**Question**

**Bargaining**

1. Has the Department been involved in any discussions about plans to freeze wages in the Department of Employment? 2. Is the Department aware of any plans to impose a wage freeze on the Department? 3. Can the Department confirm the Government's policy is to cap wage increases for APS employees at 2.5 per cent a year? If so, how will this policy be implemented in the Department of Employment? 4. Can the Department confirm APS employees could get as little as 1.5 per cent a year - or even nothing - unless they agree to surrender some of their 18 days combined carers' and sick leave and accept an annual cap of 15 days instead?

**Answer**

The department has not been involved in any discussions about freezing wages in the department.