

**SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION
LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**2005-2006 BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING
30, 31 MAY and 3 JUNE 2005**

EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Outcome 2: Higher productivity, higher pay workplace

Output Group 2.1: Workplace Relations Policy and Analysis

Output 2.1.1: Workplace relations policy advice

Question Number: W312-06

Question:

Senator Marshall provided the following question in writing:

Could the Department please detail the sort of consultation with stakeholders that has been managed or conducted by DEWR over the past year? Has this consultation included small businesses in regional areas?

Answer:

The Department meets with a wide range of stakeholders. A wide range of issues are raised in those meetings. On 30 March 2005 the Department issued a discussion paper on "Proposals for Legislative Reforms in Independent Contracting and Labour Hire Arrangements". Submissions were invited from interested parties. Sixty three submissions were received from a range of stakeholders including employer organisations, labour hire companies, trade unions and state governments. Beyond that, the Department has not undertaken any formal consultation with stakeholders on the Government's reform agenda.

The Department does not have access to meetings and consultations that the Minister has undertaken on workplace relations reform.