

**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 workplaces

Output Group: 2.1 Workplace relations policy and analysis

Outputs: 2.1.1 Workplace relations policy advice

Question Number: W320-06

Question:

Senator Marshall asked in writing:

Can the Department please explain what measure or definition it gives to ‘average real wages’?

Answer:

The Department takes Average Weekly Ordinary Time Earnings (AWOTE) of full time adults from the ABS Average Weekly Earnings (AWE) publication (Cat No 6302.0) and discounts them for movements in prices as measured by the Consumer Price Index (Cat No 6401.0).