

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

**2006-2007 BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING
29TH AND 30TH MAY 2006
EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO**

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Outcome: Corporate

Question Number: W178-07

Question:

Senator Wong asked in writing:

In response to question W753-06 you responded that 'DEWR does not place restrictions on who is authorised to conduct AWA negotiations on behalf of the department.'

- a) Surely this does not mean that any employee can initiate AWA discussions with any other employee? Is there any particular level of delegation required?
- b) How many different persons, and at what grade, have represented the department in AWA negotiations over the past 12 months?

Answer:

No, employees cannot initiate discussions with any other employee. There is no level of delegation required. An employee or their manager can initiate discussions with each other. Employees can also negotiate within their line of management. The Remuneration Subcommittee approves AWA submissions, and prior to approval, the AWA is indicative.

DEWR does not have statistics about the number of employees and their levels, who have represented the department in AWA negotiations over the last 12 months.