

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10**

Agency: Safe Work Australia

DEEWR Question No. EW0009_10

Senator Cash asked on 17 June 2009, provided in writing.

Question

Consultation on Chairperson for the Safe Work Australia Council

I refer to the announcement by the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations, the Hon Julia Gillard MP, on 27 May 2009, appointing Mr Tom Phillips AM as the Chair of the Safe Work Australia Council.

Was there a requirement that prior to the appointment of the Chair of the Safe Work Australia Council - consultation was to occur with Workplace Relations Ministers' Council? If Yes,

- i. Was the Workplace Relations Ministers' Council consulted in relation to the appointment?
- ii. On what dates did this consultation occur?
- iii. Was the consultation completed prior to Mr Phillips' appointment being finalised?
- iv. What were the nature of the discussions the subject of the consultation?
- v. If no consultation occurred with the Workplace Relations Ministers' Council prior to the appointment being finalised, was this with the sanction of the Minister and if not why did this consultation not occur?

Answer

Yes.

- i. Yes.
- ii. The appointment of the Chair of the Safe Work Australia Council was canvassed at meetings of the Workplace Relations Ministers' Council (WRMC) on 12 February 2009 and 3 April 2009.
- iii. Yes.
- iv. Ministers were asked to provide their nominations for the position of Chair to the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations as Chair of WRMC.
- v. Not applicable.