

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

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

Outcome 5

DEEWR Question No. EW0256_10

Senator Brandis asked on 2 June 2009, EEWWR Hansard page 35.

Question

Wilcox Consultations

You might take this on notice please, Mr Kovacic. But let me frame the question to be taken on notice a little more precisely. I would like to know how many departmental officers have worked with Mr Wilcox in relation to the production of his report, what their names are, how many hours each of them has spent working with Mr Wilcox on the matter, and what the cost to the department is in relation to each officer's time. When I say officers I do not just mean professional staff; I mean secretarial and support staff as well.

Answer

The Hon Murray Wilcox QC drafted the content of his report. The Department provided secretariat assistance to Mr Wilcox including providing relevant documents and information on request, as well as typesetting and publication services.

From 1 July 2008 to 24 April 2009, the complete duration of secretariat support provided to Mr Wilcox, the Wilcox Consultation Secretariat was staffed by Departmental employees of the following classifications:

Classification	Period
EL 2 x 75%	1 July 2008 to 24 April 2009
EL 2 x 20%	14 July 2008 to 31 March 2009
EL 1 x 70%	1 October 2008 to 24 April 2009
APS 6 x 50%	1 October 2008 to 24 April 2009
APS 6 x 30%	28 July to 29 August 2008
Graduate x 50%	1 October to 28 November 2008
Graduate x 30%	28 July to 29 August 2008
APS 3 x 5%	1 October 2008 to 31 March 2009

The secretariat function was resourced from existing Departmental allocations at an opportunity cost to other functions.

Note: The Senate Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Committee advised that, as per its normal practice, it would not insist on the provision of the names of officials in relation to this question.