SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10

Outcome **5**

DEEWR Question No. **EW0293_10**

Senator Fisher asked on 2 June 2009, EEWR Hansard page 91.

Question

Award modernisation

a) Given that the department was involved in general terms in advising the Government and the Deputy Prime Minister in respect of this issue, can you provide the Committee—presumably on notice—with the basis upon which the calculation was done to justify the Deputy Prime Minister's claim in her letter to the President of the [Australian Industrial Relations] Commission that the average profit margin for cafes and restaurants was 3.8 per cent and 5.3 per cent for catering services?

b) Her letter does say that the figures are based on ABS statistics, and she has utilised an example from 2006- 07, but on what basis was the calculation done to then conclude that this compared with 12.7 per cent average profit margin for all industries?

c) Can the department provide on notice the analysis done to underpin that claim for the 2006-07 year, and can the department also apply identical methodology to show what the results would be if you did that same analysis for the preceding financial year and the post financial year, so 2005-06 and 2007-8 based on ABS data?

Answer

Refer to the Department's response to EW139_10.