

Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2011-2012

Agency - Comcare

DEEWR Question No.EW0085_12

Senator Abetz provided in writing.

Question

DEEWR Submission In Support Of Flexible Delivery

Document to be tabled: Email from the DEEWR to Comcare on 16 June 2009 (Doc 61-62) With reference to the email from the DEEWR to Comcare on 16 June 2009 (Doc 61-62) - Attached 1. Is this a response to an invitation to comment on the issues being considered by the "Review"? 2. Looking at the responses from DEEWR including the response to question 1.5 where it says in part: "The variety in delivery mechanisms significantly improves access to training and outcomes for employees and employers". These comments from DEEWR support the retention of the flexible approach to training delivery. How did Comcare take into account the DEEWR's support for keeping a flexible delivery model? 3. Reading again question 1.5, Comcare proposed a number of flexible delivery methods. Looking at the DEEWR's response, did the DEEWR believe that the range of options did not go far enough and in fact suggest that "distance learning" and "e-learning" can be a valuable form of delivery? 4. Why did Comcare disagree with the DEEWR's position? 5. Please confirm if the writer of the DEEWR submission, Michelle Baxter was a member of the SRCC? 6. Which of the other SRCC members were sent the survey? 7. Which of the SRCC members responded? 8. Please provide the text of all the responses received to question 1.5. 9. Did Comcare convey to the SRCC meeting in March 2010 that the Department (the DEEWR) supported keeping and extending the flexible delivery options?

Answer

Comcare has provided the following response.

1. Yes.
2. The response from Commissioner Baxter was given to the consultants along with all the other responses. Commissioner Baxter was also present at the Commission meeting that discussed and later endorsed the revised guidelines.
3. Yes.
4. Comcare accepted the recommendations of the consultants.
5. Yes, Commissioner Baxter is a member of the Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission (SRCC).
6. All members of the SRCC were sent the survey.
7. No other Commissioners responded. However, Commissioner Sue Powell was interviewed face-to-face.

8. There were no other responses.

9. No. Commissioner Baxter was present at the meeting.