

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2012-2013**

Outcome 4 – Workplace Relations and Economic Strategy

DEEWR Question No. EW0043_13

Senator Abetz provided in writing.

Question

Australian Financial Review

"Reference is made to the story in the Australian Financial Review on 28 March 2012 where ACTU Secretary Jeff Lawrence says ""There's no way that unions are going to say that there's any trade-off"" in respect of superannuation. 1) What endeavours did the Minister make to ask trade unions to consider the increase in superannuation in wage claims over the implementation period? 2) Was it considered having this matter included in the legislation? 3) Is the Minister now concerned that the trade union bosses have not agreed with his request? 4) Will the Minister continue to pursue this matter? a) If so, how? b) If not, why not?"

Answer

1) The Minister will not outline the contents of private discussions with stakeholders, including employers, unions or their peak bodies.

2) No.

3) No.

4) The Government will monitor the implementation of the increase in the superannuation guarantee as part of its ongoing monitoring the performance of the economy and the national workplace relations system.