

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

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

Agency - Fair Work Australia

DEEWR Question No. EW0163_13

Senator Xenophon asked on 28 May 2012 , Hansard page 31

Question

FWA - Were complaints received about FWA Vice-President

Senator XENOPHON: I only have a short line of questioning for President Ross about his opening statement and matters relating to the HSU investigation. Can I just thank you, firstly, for your opening statement. I agree with you on the structural problems, and hopefully they will be rectified. Has Fair Work Australia received any complaints about Vice-President Michael Lawler in relation to the HSU investigation? Professor Ross: In my term as president, I have not received any complaints of that nature. Senator XENOPHON: Are you aware of any complaints prior to your term? Professor Ross: I am aware of Mr Thomson's statement and what he says about that, and what I have read in the media—but, beyond that, no. I assume, if there were any such complaints, they would have been addressed by my predecessor. Senator XENOPHON: Right. Could you take that on notice?

Answer

Fair Work Australia has provided the following response:

Fair Work Australia has received three complaints in respect of Vice President Michael Lawler and the HSU investigation. These complaints were sent to Justice Geoffrey Giudice in December 2011. Justice Giudice sent responses to each complaint in January 2012.