

**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. EW0014_13

Senator Abetz provided in writing.

Question

Modern Awards

1. In relation to modern awards – is it correct that Woolworths have to pay their check out operators at their service stations based on the panel beaters award?
2. With enterprise agreement discussions, does this mean 20% increase in wages for all check out staff to equate with the panel beaters award?

Answer

Fair Work Ombudsman (FWO) has provided input to the following response.

1. FWO investigations indicate that console operators employed in Woolworths branded petrol outlets are paid under the Woolworths Petrol Enterprise Agreement 2010 [AE885066].
2. There is no connection between the wages paid to console operators in Woolworths service stations, and 'check out' operators in Woolworths supermarkets. These employees are paid under different instruments. The entitlements for check out operators in Woolworths supermarkets, including pay rates, are typically provided by the Woolworths National Supermarket Agreement 2009 [AE877944], with coverage determined by the *General Retail Award 2010* [MA000004].