

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2005-2006 SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 2

Output Group: 2.4 – Funding for Higher Education

DEST Question No. E674_06

Senator Wong provided in writing.

Question:

- a) How many staff, and at what levels, are allocated to assisting universities comply with the Higher Education Workplace Relations Requirements?
- b) What correspondence has the Minister and DEST received from Vice-Chancellors on the introduction of HEWRRs? Please provide copies of this correspondence.
- c) Does DEST have an estimate of the cost to universities of the introduction of HEWRRs?

Answer:

Higher Education Workplace Relations Requirements

- a) Three employees of the Department of Education, Science and Training, one Director, and two Assistant Directors, are providing advice to universities with respect to the Higher Education Workplace Relations Requirements. An additional Assistant Director is assisting with this work as required.
- b) The Minister for Education, Science and Training has received eight letters and the Department has received two letters from Vice-Chancellors on the introduction of the HEWRRs (see attachment). These letters make representations on behalf of specific higher education providers. Given that the Minister is making his decision on compliance of the higher education providers with the HEWRRs, the Department considers it inappropriate to release the letters at this time.
- c) No.

ATTACHMENT A

Letters to the Minister for Education, Science and Training and to the Department of Education, Science and Training from Vice-Chancellors concerning the introduction of the HEWRRs

Letters to Minister:

DATE	SENDER
11 May 2005	Prof Millicent Poole, Vice-Chancellor, Edith Cowan University
18 May 2005	Prof Paul Greenfield, A/g Vice-Chancellor, University of Queensland
19 May 2005	Prof Daryl Le Grew, Vice-Chancellor, University of Tasmania
23 May 2005	Prof Di Yerbury, Vice-Chancellor and President, Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee
19 May 2005	Prof Roger Dean, Vice-Chancellor, University of Canberra
1 June 2005	Prof Lance Twomey, Vice-Chancellor, Curtin University of Technology
2 June 2005	Prof Glyn Davis, Vice-Chancellor, University of Melbourne.
25 October 2005	Prof Di Yerbury, Vice-Chancellor and President, Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee

Letters to Department of Education, Science and Training:

DATE	SENDER
2 June 2005	Prof Glyn Davis, Vice-Chancellor, University of Melbourne
19 July 2005	Prof A Robson AM, Vice-Chancellor, University of Western Australia