

**SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION
LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**2005-2006 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING
2 and 3 NOVEMBER 2005**

EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Outcome 3: Increased workforce participation

Output Group 3.2: Labour Market Strategies Group

Output 3.2.2: Industry and labour supply strategies

Question Number: W421-06

Question:

Senator Wong asked at Hansard page 141: - Were there any discussions between DEWR and FACS on Senator Patterson's announcement on a particular strategy of family day care workers in the context of sole parents subject to the Welfare to Work regime being recruited as family day care workers? If so, what level did these discussions occur and if there is any working group or other process to develop this strategy?

Answer:

In relation to the first part of the question, there were no discussions between DEWR and FACS about the announcement itself.

In relation to the second part of the question, Senior Officers in DEWR met with their counterparts at FACS to discuss options for addressing skills in demand in the family day care sector through the development of an Industry Strategy. The discussions outlined that there would be a range of job seekers that may be interested in this work without being restricted to a discussion of sole parents.

The particular strategy mentioned is being progressed with the Family Day Care Council of Australia. The FDCCA has submitted a proposal to recruit, train and place sole parents and mature age people as family day care workers. This proposal is currently under consideration by DEWR.