

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

**2006-2007 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING
2ND NOVEMBER 2006**

EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

AUSTRALIAN FAIR PAY COMMISSION SECRETARIAT

Outcome 1: Set federal minimum and classification wages to promote the economic prosperity of the people of Australia

Question Number: W512-07

Question:

Senator Wong asked in writing:

Fair Pay Commission - Cost of AFPC Professor Ian Harper is engaged as a part-time chair of the AFPC.

- (a) Is he a tenured employee of the Commission?
- (b) What is the employment relationship?
- (c) If he is an employee, how was money of \$11,827.55 paid to Harper Associates Australia, which is Mr Harper's company and not to the individual himself
- (d) What exactly was this remuneration for?
- (e) How many hours worked did the payment relate to - as it was reportedly paid for reimbursement for Prof Harper's work for DEWR

Answer:

- (a) Professor Ian Harper was appointed by the Governor-General on 15 December 2005 for a period of five years.
- (b) Professor Harper's remuneration and allowances are determined by the Remuneration Tribunal in their determinations on 'Remuneration and Allowances for Holders of Part-Time Public Office'.

The following responses have been provided by the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations as the issues relate to a period prior to the establishment of the AFPC Secretariat.

(c), (d) & (e) The payment was reimbursement for expenses incurred by Professor Harper in his capacity as Chair of the Australian Fair Pay Commission prior to the establishment of the Australian Fair Pay Commission Secretariat. The expenses relate to media advice and travel related costs.

Estimated cost: To prepare this answer has taken approximately 4 hours at a cost of \$220.