

**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

Outcome2: Higher productivity, higher pay workplaces

Output Group 2.2: Workplace relations implementation

Output 2.2.3 : Workplace relations services

Question Number: W604-07

Question:

Senator Wong asked in writing:

Staff Employed in Call Centres.

Were all employees employed on AWAs in these call centres offered a choice between an AWA and a collective agreement? If so, what was the process surrounding the choice during the offer of employment? If not, what is the rationale for not offering employees a choice?

Answer:

Staff recruited to the WorkChoices Infoline were engaged in accordance with existing DEWR recruitment policy. People applying for the positions from outside the Australian Public Service (APS) did so on the understanding that acceptance of an Australian Workplace Agreement (AWA) was a condition of engagement for all successful DEWR applicants who are new to the APS. AWAs were also offered to those successful applicants who were existing APS employees.

Estimated cost: Based on the FOI calculator it has taken approximately 2 hours at an estimated cost of \$40 to prepare this answer.