

**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

Outcome 2: Higher productivity, higher pay workplaces

Output Group 2.1: Workplace relations policy and analysis

Output 2.1.1: Workplace relations policy advice

Question Number: W613-07

Question:

Senator Wong asked in writing:

Award Review Taskforce – report is titled ‘Award Review Taskforce Final Report on Rationalisation of Wage and Classification Structures’

Were the difficulties identified by the ART considered by DEWR when it was setting the timeframes for the ART’s review and reporting on wage and classification structures? If not, why not, given one of the most common criticisms of the Award system is its duplication, complexity and uncertainty?

Answer:

The Government’s decision to establish the Award Review Taskforce (the Taskforce) reflected its concern about the duplication and complexity of the award system. The Taskforce’s findings clearly demonstrate that and the need for rationalisation in this area.

Estimated cost: Based on the FOI calculator it has taken approximately 3 hours at an estimated cost of \$60 to prepare this answer.