

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2010-2011**

Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman

DEEWR Question No.EW0566_11

Senator Cameron asked on 20/10/2010, Hansard page 37.

Question

FWO ODCO AGENCIES

Mr Wilson—I understand that point. I think that is something we will have to take on notice. The inadequate answer I can give you is that the people we look at at the moment are the people in the workplace. On that basis, we look at those people and then move up to who else might be involved in any offence we may allege. The invitation that you are putting to us is that we take a more sophisticated examination of it. I understand that point. But to date we have not been operating in that manner. Senator CAMERON—I accept you have that approach. Let me tell you that it is on my radar now and it will be on my radar at estimates for the Fair Work Ombudsman. In relation to the successful prosecution of Land Choice Pty Ltd, did the Fair Work Ombudsman contact the Real Estate Employers Federation in relation to their role in this matter? Mr Wilson—We will have to take that on notice. We would need to speak to the investigator and litigator involved in that. I think that was a 2009 case.

Answer

The Fair Work Ombudsman has provided the following response:

During the course of the investigation and prosecution of Land Choice Pty Ltd, the Fair Work Ombudsman did not contact the Real Estate Employers Federation in relation to their role in the matter.

The Real Estate Employers Federation contacted the Fair Work Ombudsman on 22 July 2010 seeking background information on the Land Choice Pty Ltd matter. The Fair Work Ombudsman responded on 6 August 2010 offering an opportunity to meet with the Real Estate Employers Federation once the Court's decision had been handed down.