Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012

Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman

DEEWR Question No. EW0737_12

Senator Abetz asked on 19 October 2011, Hansard page 40

Question

FWO - Date fact sheets were published on website

Senator ABETZ: I asked earlier about the ombudsman getting up all the relevant fact sheets for the 2011 annual wage review decision and I was told that these would be made available by 1 July. Please tell us the date on which they were put up because the concern was that there was not sufficient time for those dealing with payrolls to get the information for the next pay period. Please let us know when the fact sheets were put up and whether anything is in place to try to get the decision made for fact sheets to be put up earlier so that people have sufficient time to make the adjustments. Mr Wilson: We will take that on notice.

Answer

The Fair Work Ombudsman provided the following response.

The National Minimum wage decision was handed down by Fair Work Australia on 3 June 2011.

The fact sheets that provide information on the minimum wage and high income threshold were updated following the 2011 annual wage review decision and subsequently published on 1 July 2011. Publishing these fact sheets earlier could have caused confusion to users and would have left them without the information relevant to pre 1 July 2011.

The Fair Work Ombudsman has a range of other pay tools which visitors use to locate minimum wages. The majority of these tools were updated on 24 June 2011.

Additional information can be located in DEEWR Question No. EW0735_12, which outlines the dates on which other pay suite tools were updated to reflect the 2011 annual wage increase.