

QoN No	Senator	Outcome	Subject	Question Text	Hansard Da
EW0492_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Fair Work Australia	Building Upgrades	"1. What is the cost of the current building upgrades, including an upgrade to the General Manager's office? a. What will become of the current General Manager's office? b. Please provide detailed plans of the building upgrades. c. What will the difference in floor space be for the new General Manager's office to the old office. d. Who will occupy upgraded or renovated offices? e. How are the upgrades being funded? From within existing appropriation? "	Written
EW0493_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Fair Work Australia	Federally Registrable Enterprise Associations	"1. Please confirm that there are no Federally Registrable Enterprise Associations. 2. When did the last Federally Registrable Enterprise Associations deregister? "	Written
EW0494_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Fair Work Australia	FWA - Fair Work Australia Positions	"1. How many current vacancies are there at Fair Work Australia? a. In what positions? 2. How many vacancies are anticipated ahead of the next financial year?	Written
EW0495_12	Abetz, Eric	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Profanity	"1. Would the Government condone the teaching of profanity? 2. Is it envisaged that the teaching of profanity would be included in the final national curriculum? "	Written
EW0496_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman	Sham Contracting	"Reference is made to the second Annual Report of the Fair Work Ombudsman. 1. What evidence is there of sham contracting being a 'growing issue' in the community? 2. Please identify the industries where sham contracting is a 'major issue'. a. For each industry, the number of complaints, contraventions, investigations and legal proceedings. 3. How many staff were involved in the National Sham Contracting Operational Intervention? a. What were the results of this project? 4. Please provide hard copies of all material that shows employers how to ensure that they are compliant with sham contracting provisions and also any materials that show employers how to correctly employ contractors should they wish to. "	Written
EW0497_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	Consultation	"Reference is made to page 52 of Hansard in relation to consultation with stakeholders about the Sham Contracting Inquiry report. 1. Why were the CEPU omitted from the list? 2. Why was the AMWU omitted from the list? "	Written
EW0498_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	Melbourne Site Inspections	By month, please provide a breakdown of the number of site visits in Melbourne and Regional Victoria over the last 3 years.	Written
EW0499_12	Abetz, Eric	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Registered Organisations	Please provide a comparison of the powers in the Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act and the Corporations Act.	Written
EW0500_12	Abetz, Eric	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Half a Million Jobs	"With reference to the Treasurer's Budget speech earlier this year. 1. How does the Department plan on delivering the half a million additional jobs promised in the May Budget by the Treasurer? a. What consultation did the Department have prior to the Treasurer's announcement? b. Is the creation of half a million new jobs by mid 2013 achievable? c. With only 3,200 jobs created in the first three months of this financial year, what job creation projections does the Department have into the next few years? i. How many new jobs will be created as at 1 January 2012 ii. How many new jobs will be created as at 1 July 2012 iii. How many new jobs will be created as at 1 January 2013 iv. How many new jobs will be created as at 1 July 2012 d. What barriers are there to creating new jobs? i. Domestic ii. International iii. Does the level of Government Debt have any impact on job creation? 1. If so, what is the impact? "	Written
EW0501_12	Abetz, Eric	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	International Labour Organisation	1. What is the annual cost of the delegation to the International Labour Organisation? a. Please provide a break down 2. What is the annual cost of renting a house in Geneva for use of the delegation to the International Labour Organisation? a. Are there staff associated with the house to provide services such as cleaning, cooking or other domestic duties? i. If so, what is the cost of these staff? b. How many rooms does the house have? c. How many rooms are occupied on a full time basis?	Written
EW0502_12	Abetz, Eric	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Fair Work Act	"1. Has the Department provided any advice to the Minister that aspects of the Fair Work Act need clarification? a. If so, please provide details including the date, nature of advice and the aspect of the Act. 2. Has the Department provided any advice to the Minister to intervene in any matters before the courts or industrial disputes? a. If so, please provide details including the date, nature of advice and the aspect of the Act. "	Written
EW0503_12	Abetz, Eric	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Workforce Productivity	"Reference is made to comments by the Treasurer, Wayne Swan in relation to productivity and naming that the Government is up for a 'productivity agenda'. 1. Has the Department been approached by the Treasurer or the Treasury about workforce productivity? a. If so, please provide details including: i. Date of approach ii. Details and the nature of the approach iii. Any outcomes and follow up following any approach. 2. What will the Government do from an Employment and Workplace relations perspective in embarking on a new 'productivity agenda'? "	Written

EW0504_12	Abetz, Eric	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Small Business	"1. What is the Government doing to ensure that small business – in particular – are informed and educated on the provisions of the Fair Work Act and their obligations? 2. Please provide a table including all workplace relations regulations and provisions of the Fair Work Act that specifically apply to small business. 3. Please provide a table including all workplace relations regulations and provisions of the Fair Work Act that provide concessions or support to small business. "	Written
EW0505_12	Abetz, Eric	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Modern Awards	"1. Is the Minister aware of any concerns with the operation of Modern Awards? a. Please provide details of each instance. 2. Has the Minister offered any directions or advice to Fair Work Australia in advance of the Review of Modern Awards in 2012? 3. Will the Minister offer any direction or advice to Fair Work Australia in advance of the Review of Modern Awards in 2012? 4. Has the Government considered any changes to modern awards following concerns that have been raised? "	Written
EW0506_12	Abetz, Eric	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Mr Raimond Serafini v Holcim (Australia) Pty Ltd [2011] FWA 4214 (4 July 2011)	"Reference is made to Mr Raimond Serafini v Holcim (Australia) Pty Ltd [2011] FWA 4214 (4 July 2011) where an employee and TWU delegate that was sacked following three warnings for alleged unsafe driving and site safety breaches was reinstated. 1. Did the Government envisage the provisions of the Act working in this way? 2. Does the Government condone unsafe working practices? "	Written
EW0507_12	Abetz, Eric	Outcome 4 - Employment	Older Australians	"Reference is made to the Treasurer's Budget speech where he said 'we believe in extending the benefits of work to every capable Australian – single parents and jobless families, young Australians, the very long-term unemployed, the disabled and older workers whose experience we need and value.'" 1. How will older workers and employers be supported and encouraged to achieve the aim set by the Treasurer? 2. What funding will be made available for retraining? a. Please provide details. "	Written
EW0508_12	Abetz, Eric	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Individual Flexibility Arrangements	Please provide an explanation of how IFA's work as a condition of employment.	Written
EW0509_12	Abetz, Eric	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	FWA Appointments	. Will the Government keep to its commitment that appointments to Fair Work Australia 'will not be an endless tribe of union officials'?	Written
EW0510_12	Back, Chris	Cross Portfolio	Education expenses	"1. For the year 2010-11, detail all education expenses (i.e. in house courses and tertiary studies) for each portfolio department and agency. Include what type of course, the total cost, cost per participant, how many participants and the amount of study leave granted to each participant. 2. For the FYTD, detail all education expenses (i.e. in house courses and tertiary studies) for each portfolio department and agency. Include what type of course, the total cost, cost per participant, how many participants and the amount of study leave granted to each participant."	Written
EW0511_12	Back, Chris	Cross Portfolio	Training for Portfolio Minister and Parliamentary Secretaries	How much is spent on training for Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in your portfolio? Itemise each training, cost and for which Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary the training	Written
EW0512_12	Back, Chris	Cross Portfolio	Corporate Cars	"a) How cars are owned by each department and agency in your portfolio? b) Where is the car/s located? c) What is the car/s used for? d) What is the cost of each car for 2010-11? e) How far did each car travel in 2010-11?"	Written
EW0513_12	Back, Chris	Cross Portfolio	Taxi Costs	How much did each department/agency spend on taxis in 2010-11? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency.	Written
EW0514_12	Back, Chris	Cross Portfolio	Credit Cards	"a) How many staff in each department and agency have a corporate credit card? What is their classification? b) What action is taken if the corporate credit card is misused? c) How is corporate credit card use monitored? d) What happens if misuse of a corporate credit card is discovered? e) Have any instances of corporate credit card misuse have been discovered? List staff classification and what the misuse was, and the action taken. f) What action is taken to prevent corporate credit card misuse?"	Written
EW0515_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Carbon Price Legislation	"a) How was your department/agency consulted in the development of the carbon price package? b) Is the carbon price package consistent with all of the policies in your department/agency? "	Written
EW0516_12	Back, Chris	Cross Portfolio	Staff in communications	How many communications people are there in each of your departments and agency's. List their classification, position description, services they provide to Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and any guidelines they must adhere to.	Written

EW0517_12	Back, Chris	Cross Portfolio	Paid Parental Leave scheme	"a) Please list how many staff in each portfolio department and agency are eligible to receive payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme? b) For the year 2010-11 list which portfolio department and agencies are providing its employees with payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme? Please list how many staff are in receipt of these payments. c) For the FYTD list which portfolio department and agencies are providing its employees with payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme? Please list how many staff are in receipt of these payments.	Written
EW0518_12	Back, Chris	Cross Portfolio	Executive Coaching and Leadership Training	"1. In relation to the purchase of executive coaching and/or other leadership training services purchased by each portfolio department and agency, please provide the following information FYTD: a) Total spending on these services b) The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification c) The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted d) The names of all service providers engaged 2. For each service purchased form a provider listed under (4), please provide: a) The name and nature of the service purchased b) Whether the service is one-on-one or group based c) The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification d) The total number of hours involved for all employees e) The total amount spent on the service f) A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package) 3. Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide: a) The location used b) The number of employees who took part on each occasion c) The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part d) Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location"	Written
EW0519_12	Back, Chris	Cross Portfolio	Efficiency Dividend	How has the efficiency dividend been implemented? Please list where and what spending has been reduced to meet the efficiency dividend.	Written
EW0520_12	Back, Chris	Cross Portfolio	Executive Coaching and Leadership Training for the year 2010-11	"1. In relation to the purchase of executive coaching and/or other leadership training services purchased by each portfolio department and agency, please provide the following information for the year 2010-11: a) Total spending on these services b) The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification c) The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted d) The names of all service providers engaged 2. For each service purchased form a provider listed under (4), please provide: a) The name and nature of the service purchased b) Whether the service is one-on-one or group based c) The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification d) The total number of hours involved for all employees e) The total amount spent on the service f) A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package) 3. Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide: a) The location used b) The number of employees who took part on each occasion c) The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part d) Any costs the department or agency's incurred to	Written
EW0521_12	Back, Chris	Cross Portfolio	Media Subscriptions	"1. Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to pay TV (for example Foxtel)? a) If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what channels. b) What was the cost for 2010-11? c) What is the estimated cost for 2011-12? 2. Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to newspapers? a) If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what newspapers. b) What was the cost for 2010-11? c) What is the estimated cost for 2011-12? 3. Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to magazines? a) If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what magazines. b) What was the cost for 2010-11? c) What is the estimated cost for 2011-12?"	Written
EW0522_12	Back, Chris	Cross Portfolio	Hospitality and Entertainment	"1. What is the Department/Agency's hospitality spend for the year 2010-11? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events. 2. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total hospitality spend for the year 2010-11. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event. 3. What is the Department's entertainment spend for the year 2010-11? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events. 4. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total entertainment spend for the year 2010-11. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event. 5. What hospitality spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events. 6. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what hospitality spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event. 7. What entertainment spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events. 8. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what entertainment spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event"	Written
EW0523_12	Back, Chris	Cross Portfolio	Commissioned Reports	"1. How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in your portfolio for the year 2010-11? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members. a) How much did each report cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level? b) What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports? 2. How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in your portfolio FYTD? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members. a) How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level? b) What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?"	Written

EW0524_12	Back, Chris	Cross Portfolio	Discretionary Grants	"1. Could the Department provide a list of all discretionary grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants for the year 2010-11? Please provide details of the recipients, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants. 2. Could the Department provide a list of all discretionary grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants FYTD? Please provide details of the recipients, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants. 3. Has the Department complied with interim requirements relating to the publication of discretionary grants?"	Written
EW0525_12	Back, Chris	Cross Portfolio	Grants	Has the Department complied with interim requirements relating to the publication of discretionary grants?	Written
EW0526_12	Back, Chris	Cross Portfolio	Community Cabinets	"1. What was the cost of Ministers travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings held for the year 2010-11? 2. How many Ministerial Staff travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings for the year 2010-11? What was the total cost of this travel? 3. How many Departmental officers travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings for the year 2010-11? What was the total cost of this travel? 4. What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office for the Community Cabinet meetings for the year 2010-11? 5. What was the cost of Ministers travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings held this FYTD? 6. How many Ministerial Staff travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings held this FYTD? What was the total cost of this travel? 7. How many Departmental officers travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings held this FYTD? What was the total cost of this travel? 8. What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office for the Community Cabinet meetings held this FYTD?"	Written
EW0527_12	Back, Chris	Cross Portfolio	Social Media	Has there been any changes to department and agency social media or protocols about staff access and useage of Youtube; online social media, such as Facebook, MySpace and Twitter; and access to online discussions forums and blogs since May 2011? Please explain.	Written
EW0528_12	Back, Chris	Cross Portfolio	Consultancies	"1. How many consultancies were undertaken in 2010-11? Identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc). Also include total value for all consultancies. 2. Were there any changes to any of the portfolio's tenders in 2010-11? Detail any changes 3. How many consultancies have been undertaken or are underway this FYTD? Identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc). Also include total value for all consultancies. 4. Does each department and agency stand by its current tenders on the Austenders website? Have any changes or corrections been made for any tenders advertised on to Government Tenders website (www.tenders.gov.au) for tenders advertised this financial year? Explain. Are up to date with reporting requirements? 5. How many consultancies are planned for this calendar year? Have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and if not why not? In each case please identify the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement as	Written
EW0529_12	Back, Chris	Cross Portfolio	Media Monitoring	"1. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office for the year 2010-11? • Which agency or agencies provided these services? • What is the estimated budget to provide this same services for the year 2011-12? • What has been spent providing these services FYTD? 2. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Department and its agencies for the year 2010-11? • Which agency or agencies provided these services? • What is the estimated budget to provide this same services for the year 2011-12? • What has been spent providing these services FYTD?"	Written
EW0530_12	Back, Chris	Cross Portfolio	Contractors	"Contractors Since May 2011: 1. Has the department/agency ever employed Hawker Britton in any capacity or is it considering employing Hawker Britton? If yes, provide details. 2. Has the department/agency ever employed Shannon's Way in any capacity or is it considering employing Shannon's Way? If yes, provide details. 3. Has the department/agency ever employed John Utting & UMR Research Group in any capacity or is it considering employing John Utting & UMR Research Group? If yes, provide details. 4. Has the department/agency ever employed McCann-Erickson in any capacity or is it considering employing McCann-Erickson? If yes, provide details. 5. Has the department/agency ever employed Cutting Edge in any capacity or is it considering employing Cutting Edge? If yes, provide details. 6. Has the department/agency ever employed Ikon Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing Ikon Communications? If yes, provide details. 7. Has the department/agency ever employed CMAX Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing CMAX Communications? If yes, provide details. 8. Has the department/agency ever employed Boston Consulting Group in any capacity or is it considering employing Boston Consulting Group?"	Written
EW0531_12	Back, Chris	Cross Portfolio	Reviews	Reviews - For the year 2010-11: • How many Reviews were being undertaken by all departments and agencies in each portfolio? • When will each of these reviews be concluded? • What reviews have been concluded? • Which of these reviews has been provided to Government? • When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed? • What is the estimated cost of each of these Reviews? For this financial year to date: • What reviews are planned? • When will each of these reviews be concluded? • What reviews have been concluded this FYTD? • Which of these reviews has been provided to Government? • When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed? • What is the estimated cost of each of these Reviews?"	Written

EW0532_12	Back, Chris	Cross Portfolio	Government Payments of Accounts	"For the year 2010-11, did the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e.within 30 days)? If not, why not, and what has been the timeframe for payment of accounts? Please provide a breakdown, average statistics etc as appropriate to give insight into how this issue is being approached.) a) For accounts not paid within 30 days, was interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year? b) Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined? For the FYTD, has the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e.within 30 days)? If not, why not, and what has been the timeframe for payment of accounts? Please provide a breakdown, average statistics etc as appropriate to give insight into how this issue is being approached.) a) For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year? b)	Written
EW0533_12	Back, Chris	Cross Portfolio	Freedom of Information	"Has the Department/agency received any advice on how to respond to FOI requests? How many FOI requests has the Department received for the year 2010-11? How many have been granted or denied? How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests for the year 2010-11? How many FOI requests has the Department received for this FYTD? How many have been granted or denied? How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests for this FYTD?"	Written
EW0534_12	Back, Chris	Cross Portfolio	Board Appointments	1. What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio? 2. Detail any board appointments for the year 2010-11. 3. Please detail any board appointments for the FYTD.	Written
EW0535_12	Back, Chris	Cross Portfolio	Government Advertising	"1. What advertising – Campaign and Non-Campaign – did the Department/Agency undertaken in 2011-12? Provide details of each advertising, including the program the advertising was for, the total spend and the business that provided the advertising services. 2. Did the Department of Finance and Deregulation provide any advice about the advertising? Provide details of each advertising item. 3. Did the Advertising comply with the Guidelines on Information and Advertising Campaigns by Australian Government Departments and Agencies (March 2010)? Provide the details for each advertising item. 4. Provide details for any other communications program, including details of the program, the total spend and the business that provided the communication services. 5. What advertising – Campaign and Non-Campaign – and other communications programs is the Department/Agency undertaking, or are planning to undertake?"	Written
EW0536_12	Back, Chris	Cross Portfolio	Staffing	Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details ie. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc. If there are plans for staff reductions, please give the reason why these are happening.	Written
EW0537_12	Back, Chris	Cross Portfolio	Staffing	"How many permanent staff recruited for the year 2010-11? What classification are these staff? How many temporary positions exist or have been created for the year 2010-11? For the year 2010-11, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?"	Written
EW0538_12	Back, Chris	Cross Portfolio	Government stationery requirements	How much was spent by each department and agency on the government (Ministers/Parliamentary Secretaries) stationery requirements in your portfolio (i.e. paper, envelopes, with compliments slips) in 2010-11? What is the estimated cost for 2011-12?	Written
EW0539_12	Back, Chris	Cross Portfolio	Travel Costs	"3. For the year 2010-11, please detail all travel (itemised separately,) undertaken by your portfolio Minister and Parliamentary Secretaries. Include details of what the travel was for, what cost was spent on travel (including travel type – i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses. 4. For the year 2010-11, please provide the same information (itemised separately) for any Minister and Parliamentary staff that accompanied the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary on their travel and include a similar breakdown of the costs incurred by or on behalf of those staff. 5. For the year 2010-11, please provide the same information (itemised separately) for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary on their travel and include a similar breakdown of the costs incurred by or on behalf of those staff. 6. For the year 2010-11, please detail all travel (itemised separately) undertaken by employees of each department and agency within each portfolio. Include details of what the travel was for, what cost was spent on travel (including travel type – i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses. 7. For	Written
EW0540_12	Back, Chris	Cross Portfolio	Cost of Legal Service's 2010/11 and 2011/12 FYTD	"1. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for the year 2010-11 within the department and agency? Please provide a list of each service and costs. 2. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for the year 2010-11 from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs. 3. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for the year 2010-11 from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs. 4. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for the year 2010-11 from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs. 5. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services FYTD within the department and agency? Please provide a list of each service and costs. 6. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services FYTD from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs. 7. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services FYTD from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs. 8. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services	Written
EW0541_12	Back, Chris	Cross Portfolio	Staffing for FYTD	"How many permanent staff recruited this FYTD? What classification are these staff? How many temporary positions exist or have been created this FYTD? This FYTD, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?"	Written

EW0542_12	Bernardi, Cory	Outcome 4 - Employment	Job seeker compliance failures - JSA	In the last financial year, how many job seekers recorded a compliance failure? What percentage of job seekers had a valid excuse? How many failures were recorded in remote areas? How many job seekers have had more than one compliance failure in the last 6 months? Can the Department provide a breakdown of the compliance failures by type?	Written
EW0543_12	Bernardi, Cory	Outcome 4 - Employment	Comprehensive Compliance Assessments - JSA	How many Comprehensive Compliance Assessments have been undertaken? What have been the outcomes?	Written
EW0544_12	Bernardi, Cory	Outcome 4 - Employment	No Show No Pay Failures - JSA	How many no show no pay failures have been upheld?	Written
EW0545_12	Bernardi, Cory	Outcome 4 - Employment	Connection Failures and Financial Penalties - JSA	How many connection failures have been applied to job seekers in the last 6 months? How many financial penalties have been imposed in this period?	Written
EW0546_12	Bernardi, Cory	Outcome 4 - Employment	Income support suspended - JSA	How many job seekers have had their income support suspended?	Written
EW0547_12	Bernardi, Cory	Outcome 4 - Employment	Job Seeker Compliance legislation	Since the Job Seeker Compliance legislation came into effect, has there been a noticeable increase in the number of compliance failures?	Written
EW0548_12	Boyce, Sue	Agency - Australian Curriculum, Assessment & Reporting Authority	ACARA -NAPLAN/Special needs students	Can you confirm whether students with special needs, such as an intellectual disability or who may not speak English as a first language, whether these students sit the same NAPLAN test and must meet the same assessment criteria as children without disabilities?	Written
EW0549_12	Boyce, Sue	Agency - Australian Curriculum, Assessment & Reporting Authority	ACARA - minimum standard in the NAPLAN	Does the Department believe that students with special needs are unfairly expected to meet a minimum standard in the NAPLAN test under current assessment methodology?	Written
EW0550_12	Boyce, Sue	Agency - Australian Curriculum, Assessment & Reporting Authority	ACARA - NAPLAN/Special needs students	Does the Department currently have any methods of assessing special needs student improvement?	Written
EW0551_12	Boyce, Sue	Agency - Australian Curriculum, Assessment & Reporting Authority	ACARA - NAPLAN/Special needs students	Parents can request their child be exempted from sitting the test. Can the Department identify the number of students in the respective grades that were exempted from sitting NAPLAN 2011? What were some of the most common reasons?	Written
EW0552_12	Boyce, Sue	Agency - Australian Curriculum, Assessment & Reporting Authority	ACARA - NAPLAN/Special needs students	"According to the Department assistive technology can be made available during testing for students who employ such technology in standard learning environments. Would the Department provide examples of which samples of students with disabilities will have access to such technology, and for what reasons?"	Written
EW0553_12	Boyce, Sue	Agency - Australian Curriculum, Assessment & Reporting Authority	ACARA - NAPLAN- English proficiency	What accommodation is made for students with, for example, cognitive disability or lower standards of English proficiency?	Written
EW0554_12	Boyce, Sue	Agency - Australian Curriculum, Assessment & Reporting Authority	ACARA - making NAPLAN more accessible to special needs students.	I understand the Department has followed on from the Committee's recommendation in investigating making NAPLAN more accessible to special needs students. Can the Department update the Committee on the progress of investigations into making NAPLAN more accessible to these students? Can the Department articulate methods identified so far that can make the test more accessible to special needs students? When will the Department finalise its investigation and begin implementing changes that allow special needs students better access to NAPLAN?	Written

EW0555_12	Cash, Michaelia	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Providing \$80million Over Four Years to Support up to 31,000 Training Places	In the Women's Budget statement for 2011-2012, it is stated that the Australian Government is providing \$80 million over four years to support up to 31,000 training, at the Certificate II level or above, for single and teenage parents on income support. Funding will be provided to the states and territories under a new National Partnership Agreement to commence in January 2012. a) What is the status of the National Partnership Agreement? b) Will it commence in January 2012? c) How many training places are expected to be supported in the first 6 months of 2012? d) What monitoring arrangements are in place by the Office of Women to track how many women are being supported by this initiative? e) Please outline how the \$80 million will be invested?	Written
EW0556_12	Edwards, Sean	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Safe Rates	"With reference to the media release by Senator the Hon. Jacinta Collins in relation to the introduction of safe rates from 13 October 2011 stating that the Safe Rates Advisory Group met on 13 October to finalise the Government's response into the Safe Rates, Safe Roads directions paper. 1. Has the Department been consulted in formulating this response? 2. If so, how? When? 3. Has the Department undertaken an economic impact analysis, a cost benefit analysis or any other any other analysis to determine the cost impact that the introduction of safe rates would have? 4. If not, why not? Will an analysis be completed? If so, when? Will it be made public? 5. If so, will this report be made public? If not, why not? If so, when? 6. What were the findings of this analysis? 7. What impact would the implementation of safe rates have on transportation costs? 8. What impact would the implementation of safe rates have on the price of goods to consumers? 9. For example, what impact would it have on the price of a litre of milk?"	Written
EW0557_12	Fierravanti-Wells, Concetta	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Community Infrastructure Grants – Youth Commitment communication	Is the Government aware of the threat made by Craig Thomson MP, the Member for Dobell in a text message to Mr Greg Best, the CEO of the CCGT that read 'Bye-bye job incubator', a message that clearly threatened the future of the Skills Centre and the promised funding?	Written
EW0558_12	Fierravanti-Wells, Concetta	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	CCGT funding commitment	Why after a delay of some 14 months has the funding commitment made by Minister Albanese and Craig Thomson of \$2.7 million to the Central Coast Group Training Centre (CCGT) not been honored by the Gillard Government.	Written
EW0559_12	Fierravanti-Wells, Concetta	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	CCGT correspondence	Why did the CCGT receive correspondence from the Department of Employment, Education and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) in April 2011 advising it that the grant was now available and that it needed to apply under the Community Infrastructure Grants – Youth Commitments program?	Written
EW0560_12	Fierravanti-Wells, Concetta	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Community Infrastructure Grants – Youth Commitments program deadline	Why did DEEWR twice extend its deadline for applications under the Community Infrastructure Grants – Youth Commitments program, first until the close of business on 10 August 2011 and then for reasons unknown until close of business on 22 August 2011. In relation to each of these extension, please provide copies of any documents in relation to each, including any correspondence between the department, the Minister's office and the Member for Dobell, Craig Thomson.	Written
EW0561_12	Fierravanti-Wells, Concetta	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Community Infrastructure Grants – Youth Commitments: late applications	Why did DEEWR then accept a late application from Wyong Council on 22 August at 10.25pm? Please provide copies of any correspondence in this respect.	Written
EW0562_12	Fierravanti-Wells, Concetta	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Community Infrastructure Grants – Youth Commitment: application from Wyong Council	Who made the decision to accept the late application from Wyong Council? Please provide details of the full process leading up to this decision, including any correspondence between the department, the Minister's office and the Member for Dobell, Craig Thomson.	Written
EW0563_12	Fierravanti-Wells, Concetta	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Community Infrastructure Grants – Youth Commitment: extension of deadline	Why was this second extension of the deadline only communicated to CCGT 2 days after it had been given and after CCGT's application had been lodged in accordance with the published closing date for applications?,	Written
EW0564_12	Fierravanti-Wells, Concetta	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Community Infrastructure Grants – Youth Commitment: tender process	Is this tender process inequitable and requiring further investigation? (Note that clause 4 of the program guidelines headed 'probity' requires the process to be fair.)	Written
EW0565_12	Fierravanti-Wells, Concetta	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Community Infrastructure Grants – Youth Commitment: Wyong Council	Did the application from Wyong Council comply with program guidelines?	Written
EW0566_12	Fierravanti-Wells, Concetta	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Community Infrastructure Grants – Youth Commitment: extension of deadline request	Did Craig Thomson MP, Member for Dobell, ask for an extension to the program deadline? If so, please provide full details.	Written

EW0567_12	Fierravanti-Wells, Concetta	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Community Infrastructure Grants – Youth Commitment correspondence	Is the Government aware of the numerous letters and correspondence from DEEWR to CCGT indicating they would be receiving the grant funding and then inducing them to expend some \$50,000 on the applications?	Written
EW0568_12	Fierravanti-Wells, Concetta	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Community Infrastructure Grants – Youth Commitment documentation	Can all documentation relating to the non-delivery \$2.7 million commitment to the CCGT, including any communications from the Member for Dobell and the Minister, and the between Mr Thomson's office and DEEWR be provided?	Written
EW0569_12	Fifield, Mitch	Outcome 4 - Employment	Social Inclusion: Expenditure	For the 2010-11 financial year, please provide a breakdown of total expenditure (departmental and administered) for the Social Inclusion Team. Please provide a breakdown of total expenditure (departmental and administered) over the forward estimates for the Social Inclusion Team.	Written
EW0570_12	Fifield, Mitch	Outcome 4 - Employment	Social Inclusion: Staff	For the 2010-11 and 2011-12 financial years can the Department provide a breakdown of the number of staff the Social Inclusion Team has, broken down by APS level.	Written
EW0571_12	Fifield, Mitch	Outcome 4 - Employment	Social Inclusion: Travel	For the 2010-11 financial year please provide a breakdown for the Social Inclusion Team for the following: 1. The total number of flight segments flown by members of the Social Inclusion Team, broken down by fare type (fully flexible, other fare types), class (saver, flexible, economy, premium economy, business, first), airline (Qantas, QantasLink, Jetstar, Virgin, Tiger Airways, other) and city pair route (Melbourne to Sydney, Brisbane to Sydney, Brisbane to Melbourne, Adelaide to Melbourne, Adelaide to Sydney, Melbourne to Perth, Perth to Sydney, Hobart to Melbourne, Canberra to Melbourne, Canberra to Sydney, Canberra to Brisbane, Canberra to Perth, Canberra to Adelaide), and destination (domestic or international) for the 2010-11 financial year. 2. The total value of flights flown by members of the Social Inclusion Team, broken down by fare type (fully flexible, other fare types), class (saver, flexible, economy, premium economy, business, first), airline (Qantas, QantasLink, Jetstar, Virgin, Tiger Airways, other) and city pair route (Melbourne to Sydney, Brisbane to Sydney, Brisbane to Melbourne, Adelaide to Melbourne, Adelaide to Sydney, Melbourne to Perth, Perth to Sydney, Hobart to Melbourne, Canberra to Melbourne, Canberra to Sydney, Canberra to Brisbane, Canberra to Perth,	Written
EW0572_12	Fifield, Mitch	Outcome 4 - Employment	Social Inclusion: Advertising Expenditure	What was the total value of advertising expenditure by the Social Inclusion Team in the 2010-11 financial year?	Written
EW0573_12	Fifield, Mitch	Outcome 4 - Employment	Social Inclusion: Hospitality and Entertainment	a) What was the Social Inclusion Team's expenditure on hospitality for the 2010-11 financial year? b) Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events. c) Please detail any catering costs, listing the cost of food and beverages, and include a separate list of alcohol costs.	Written
EW0574_12	Fifield, Mitch	Outcome 4 - Employment	Social Inclusion: Information and Communications Technology	For the 2010-11 financial year, provide a breakdown of the total value of expenditure on information and communications technology by the Social Inclusion Team, including equipment (computers, ipads, phones) and services (contractors).	Written
EW0575_12	Fifield, Mitch	Outcome 4 - Employment	Social Inclusion: Consulting	What was the total value of expenditure on consulting by the Social Inclusion Team for the 2010-11 financial year?	Written
EW0576_12	Fifield, Mitch	Outcome 4 - Employment	Social Inclusion: Staff Education and Training	For the 2010-11 financial year, provide a breakdown of the total value of expenditure on staff education and training (university courses, classes, seminars, workshops) by the Social Inclusion Team.	Written
EW0577_12	Fifield, Mitch	Outcome 4 - Employment	Social Inclusion: External Accounting	What was the total value of expenditure on external accountants by the Social Inclusion Team for the 2010-11 financial year?	Written
EW0578_12	Fifield, Mitch	Outcome 4 - Employment	Social Inclusion: External Auditing	What was the total value of expenditure on external auditing by the Social Inclusion Team for the 2010-11 financial year?	Written
EW0579_12	Fifield, Mitch	Outcome 4 - Employment	Social Inclusion: External Legal Advice	What was the total value of expenditure on external legal advice by the Social Inclusion Team for the 2010-11 financial year?	Written
EW0580_12	Fifield, Mitch	Outcome 4 - Employment	Social Inclusion: Memberships	What was total value of expenditure on memberships to stakeholder organisations by the Social Inclusion Team for the 2010-11 financial year?	Written
EW0581_12	Fifield, Mitch	Outcome 4 - Employment	Social Inclusion: Office Locations	"Please provide a list of all office locations used by the Social Inclusion Team broken down including the following: a) whether the office location is leased or owned; b) by size (in square metres); c) the value and depreciation of buildings that are owned; d) and the rent per square metre of buildings that are leased. "	Written
EW0582_12	Fifield, Mitch	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Australian Disability Clearinghouse on Education and Training	What was the Department's expenditure on the Australian Disability Clearinghouse on Education and Training (ADCET) in 2010-11? What is the expected Departmental expenditure on the ADCET over the forward estimates? How many hits did the Australian Disability Clearinghouse on Education and Training website receive in 2010-11?	Written
EW0583_12	Fifield, Mitch	Outcome 4 - Employment	Disability Employment Service - Caseload	How many jobseekers on the DES caseload are currently voluntary jobseekers? What was the average payment to providers per jobseeker in Disability Employment Services in 2010-11? Of jobseekers that were employed through DES in 2010-11, what percentage worked more than 15 hours or more per week? Of jobseekers that are employed through DES, what percentage claimed a partial rate of the Disability Support Pension for 2010-11?	Written

EW0584_12	Mason, Brett	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Indigenous early childhood education centres	How many sites have been identified and formally agreed to?	Written
EW0585_12	Mason, Brett	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Indigenous early childhood education centres	Has construction commenced on any sites other than Whittlesea, Halls Creek and Bridgewater?	Written
EW0586_12	Mason, Brett	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Indigenous early childhood education centres	How many staff are currently employed in connection with the centres?	Written
EW0587_12	Mason, Brett	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Indigenous early childhood education centres	How many interim locations are providing services at the moment?	Written
EW0588_12	Mason, Brett	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Indigenous early childhood education centres	Is the government still expecting to have 22 centres constructed by 30 June 2012?	Written
EW0589_12	Mason, Brett	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Mapping of funding and regulatory arrangements	"I refer to the June 2011 report by the Melbourne Graduate School of Education (which report was commissioned by the Ministerial Council for Education, Early Childhood Development and Youth Affairs -MCEECDYA) mapping the funding and regulatory arrangements across the Commonwealth and State and Territories in relation to school funding. a. Has any consideration been given to a similar report in relation to mapping the funding and regulatory arrangements in relation to higher education? "	Written
EW0590_12	Mason, Brett	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Regulation and compliance costs	"Will the Minister provide: a list of all the instances (including the program) where the Department requires universities to provide information or data to the Department (to qualify for funding, to comply with any law or regulation, or any other reason)?; What information the university has to provide in each instance?; An estimate of the cost (in terms of man-hours or expenditure) that the university has to incur in order to provide that information or data?; The timing and frequency of each reporting requirement? "	Written
EW0591_12	Mason, Brett	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Regulation and compliance costs	Since both the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research (DIISR) and the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) share the responsibility for universities (research and teaching functions respectively), has there been any effort to coordinate information gathering between the departments to ensure that there is no doubling up and the universities are not asked to provide the same information twice (or more) to different departments, or different branches of the same department?	Written
EW0592_12	Mason, Brett	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	University compacts	Will the Minister please provide the Committee with a general state of play update on the negotiation of university compacts?	Written
EW0593_12	Mason, Brett	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	University compacts	At the previous Budget Estimates on 1 June 2011, Ms Hazlehurst advised the Committee that the compacts that had been negotiated with each university "will be signed shortly". Has that in fact yet happened? If not, when will it occur? What has been the reason for the delay? When will compacts with universities become fully operational?	Written
EW0594_12	Mason, Brett	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Consultancy Higher Education Standards Framework	"With respect to the following components of the Higher Education Standards Framework, will the Minister please advise what is the timeframe for the development of each of these standards, including any proposals to release the components in draft form: (a) Provider Standards; (b) Qualification Standards; (c) Teaching and Learning Standards; (d) Information Standards; and (e) Research Standards. "	Written

EW0595_12	Mason, Brett	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	ALTC - Consultancy	"1. At the Budget Estimates on 1 June 2011, the Committee was informed that Ms Alison Johns had been appointed as a consultant, to work for DEEWR between July and September 2011. (a) What was the period during which the consultancy actually occurred? (b) Has the consultancy now concluded? If so, when? If not, when will it cease? (c) Was Ms Johns paid a daily rate, and if so what was that daily fee? (d) If Ms Johns was paid on another basis to a daily fee, please provide details? (e) What were the total costs of engaging Ms Johns as a consultant, including any disbursements and other expenses? (f) Was Ms Johns provided with secretariat support by the Department, and if so please provide details? (g) What were the outcomes of Ms Johns' work, and was a written report provided to the Department and/or Minister (or if the consultancy is still ongoing, will a report be provided)? (h) Will the Minister provide the Committee with a copy of Ms Johns' report? "	Written
EW0596_12	Mason, Brett	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	University compacts	Can the Department provide a picture of how the interaction between DIISR and DEEWR works in relation to their respective compacts with universities? What level of cooperation, negotiation and coordination is there between the two Departments and what scope is there to further improve that interaction?	Written
EW0597_12	Mason, Brett	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	University compacts	"I understand that there is a formal process whereby the Department seeks feedback from universities about the compact implementation process that is underway? What feedback has the Department received from universities (formal and informal)? What has changed as a direct result of that feedback? "	Written
EW0598_12	Mason, Brett	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	University compacts	"Other than the signing of a compact being a requirement in order for a university to receive CGS funding in the future, what other performance funding is specifically going to be contingent on achievement of agree targets contained in compacts? a. Will any infrastructure funding under the EIF be tied to compacts, and if so, how is it proposed that that will work? "	Written
EW0599_12	Mason, Brett	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	University compacts	From a governance perspective, how do compacts fit in with the university's own strategic plan? What should prevail in the case of any inconsistency?	Written
EW0600_12	Mason, Brett	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	University compacts	Has any university yet formally agreed on a final compact with the federal government (or its agencies)?	Written
EW0601_12	Mason, Brett	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	University compacts	How are the different circumstances of dual-sector universities being reflected in their compacts? Is there a distinctive pattern emerging?	Written
EW0602_12	McKenzie, Bridget	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	NAPLAN On Line	"What is the cost benefit to put NAPLAN online? What role did the AEU reaction to NAPLAN have on the decision to put the test online? Are there any issues specific to regional schools in going to online NAPLAN? What are they? What steps are the developers of the program taking to either a) Assess the implications for rural state schools; or b) Address the issues that have arisen from consultations already occurring"	Written
EW0603_12	McKenzie, Bridget	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Online Diagnostics Tools Program	"1. Outline the methodology for funding the Online Diagnostics Tools Program 2. How will the funding be distributed? Will it be per capita, by student, by state, by school, etc or by any other model? 3. Specifically, is there additional weighting/criteria in funding formulae for regional schools, those teaching in regional classrooms or those students who reside in regional areas? "	Written
EW0604_12	McKenzie, Bridget	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Empowering Local Schools	"How will funding be distributed for Empowering Local Schools? Will it be by per capita, by student, by state, by school, etc or by any other model? Specifically, given that Victoria already has localised control of how its schools are run, what compensation measures will be given to Victoria? "	Written
EW0605_12	McKenzie, Bridget	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Helping with Children Autism Package	"How will funding be distributed for the Helping with Children Autism Package? Will it be by per capita, by student, by state, by school, etc or by any other model? Will there be additional weighting/criteria in funding formulae for autistic students living in the regions? If so, please outline what sort of measures or weighting they might be. "	Written
EW0606_12	McKenzie, Bridget	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Development of Australian Baccalaureate (AB)	"In relation to the Development of Australian Baccalaureate (AB), who will be developing/administering the program? In relation to the Development of Australian Baccalaureate (AB), who will be providing the choice to states if the states want to implement this programme? "	Written

EW0607_12	McKenzie, Bridget	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	National Asian Languages and Studies in Schools Program	"How will funding be distributed for the National Asian Languages and Studies in Schools Program? Will it be by per capita, by student, by state, by school, etc or by any other model? Will there be additional weighting/criteria in funding formulae for regional schools, those teaching in regional classrooms or those students who reside in regional areas? "	Written
EW0608_12	McKenzie, Bridget	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Working on Country program	"How will funding be distributed for the Working on Country program? Will it be by per capita, by student, by state, by school, etc or by any other model? Will there be additional weighting/criteria in funding formulae for regional schools, those teaching in regional classrooms or those students who reside in regional areas? "	Written
EW0609_12	McKenzie, Bridget	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Reward Payments for Great Teachers programme	"How will funding be distributed for the Reward Payments for Great Teachers programme? Will it be by per capita, by student, by state, by school, etc or by any other model? Will there be additional weighting/criteria in funding formulae those teaching in regional classrooms? If so, please outline what sort of measures or weighting they might be "	Written
EW0610_12	McKenzie, Bridget	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	National Trade Cadetship	"How will funding be distributed for the National Trade Cadetship? Will it be by per capita, by student, by state, by school, etc or by any other model? Will there be additional weighting/criteria in funding formulae for regional schools, those teaching in regional classrooms or those students who reside in regional areas? "	Written
EW0611_12	McKenzie, Bridget	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Quality Outcomes project	In relation to the Quality Outcomes project, could you explain how the project will achieve the outcomes of the Bradley Review?	Written
EW0612_12	McKenzie, Bridget	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Teach Next	In relation to the Teach Next project, how will the 450 highly skilled professionals with specialist qualifications be chosen? What sort of criteria will be utilised in handpicking these professionals and to ensure that a non-biased approach is undertaken?	Written
EW0613_12	McKenzie, Bridget	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Grants and Awards programme	"How will funding be distributed for the Grants and Awards programme? Will it be by per capita, by student, by state, by school, etc or by any other model? Will there be additional weighting/criteria in funding formulae for regional schools, those teaching in regional classrooms or those students who reside in regional areas? "	Written
EW0614_12	McKenzie, Bridget	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Regional Victoria Students	"Background: In 2010, the Year 10 - 12 apparent retention rates of full-time equivalent students in the Loddon Mallee region was 77.6 per cent. This was lower than the apparent retention rate across Victoria (82.4 per cent). In 2009, 68.5 per cent of young people aged 19 years in Greater Bendigo had attained Year 12 or its equivalent. This was lower than the proportion across Victoria (79.8 per cent). Questions: 1. Regional Victoria has a much high school student higher attrition rate than Melbourne. Can you tell me about how the department is working to address this? 2. And what performance measures do you use? Do you have any evidence that these programs are working? 3. how does the high attrition rate feed into the low participation rate in higher education by regional students? "	Written
EW0615_12	McKenzie, Bridget	Outcome 4 - Employment	Tenders for Local Employment Coordinators	"Background: Following the Australian Government's recent Budget announcement, the Priority Employment Area initiative has been extended until 30 June 2013. Local Employment Coordinators are now engaged in priority employment areas around Australia and are working to drive local responses to local labour market issues. The tenders for Local Employment Coordinators were advertised recently. Questions: 1. How many applicants were there for the regional Victorian roles? 2. On what basis were the tenders assessed and awarded? 3. What performance measures are there for Local Employment Coordinators? 4. How does the department ensure that Local Employment Coordinators work effectively throughout the entire region they are supposed to service? "	Written
EW0616_12	McKenzie, Bridget	Cross Portfolio	Regional Jobs Plan for Loddon Mallee	Can Skills Australia outline the work completed to date on the Regional Jobs Plan for Loddon Mallee?	Written
EW0617_12	McKenzie, Bridget	Cross Portfolio	Regional Jobs Plan for Gippsland	Could Skills Australia outline what work has been done to date on the Regional Jobs Plan for Gippsland?	Written
EW0618_12	McKenzie, Bridget	Cross Portfolio	Regional Jobs Plan Barwon	Could Skills Australia outline what work has been done to date on the Regional Jobs Plan Barwon?	Written
EW0619_12	McKenzie, Bridget	Cross Portfolio	Regional Jobs Plan for South-West Gippsland	Could Skills Australia outline what work has been done to date on the Regional Jobs Plan for South-West Gippsland?	Written
EW0620_12	McKenzie, Bridget	Cross Portfolio	Regional Jobs Plan for Grampians	Could Skills Australia outline what work has been done to date on the Regional Jobs Plan for Grampians?	Written
EW0621_12	McKenzie, Bridget	Cross Portfolio	Regional Jobs Plan for the Hume	Could Skills Australia outline what work has been done to date on the Regional Jobs Plan for the Hume?	Written
EW0622_12	Nash, Fiona	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Office of Youth Staff	How many staff are employed within the Office for Youth, in terms of headcount, and full time equivalent positions?	Written
EW0623_12	Nash, Fiona	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Australian Youth Forum - Travel	"How much was spent on travel for all activities associated with the Australian Youth Forum in 2010-11? How much was spent on: a) International economy class airfares? b) International business class airfares? c) International first class airfares? d) Domestic business class airfares? e) Domestic economy class airfares? f) Taxi fares? g) Public transport fares? "	Written
EW0624_12	Nash, Fiona	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Office for Youth Advertising	How much was spent by the Office for Youth on advertising in 2010-11, including any advertising related to National Youth Week, the Australian Youth Forum, Australian Clearinghouse for Youth Studies, the Australian Youth Affairs Coalition, and the National Youth Affairs Research Scheme?	Written

EW0625_12	Nash, Fiona	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	National Youth Week 2011	"Who paid for the Apple I pads given away as prizes during National Youth Week 2011? How many entries to the "Win Free Stuff" competition were received in total? "	Written
EW0626_12	Nash, Fiona	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Australian Youth Forum website	What is the total cost to maintain the Australian Youth Forum website annually?	Written
EW0627_12	Nash, Fiona	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Commonwealth Youth Forum	What is the total budget to host the Commonwealth Youth Forum?	Written
EW0628_12	Nash, Fiona	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Rural and Regional	"Following up on Question on Notice reply from budget estimates regarding Year 12 completion rates – http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/eet_ctte/estimates/bud_1112/answers/EW0195_12.pdf DEEWR responded that the COAG target was 90 per cent by 2015 and that the most recent data shows 85.6pc had completed year 12 or equivalent. It was unable to say what per cent came from rural and regional areas due to the way the survey is sampled. In the dept's response to Senator Back's questioning during the recent supplementary budget estimates (20 Oct 2011), the dept stated the Australian Bureau of Statistics is looking at techniques, particularly in terms of combining survey samples, to see if they can get a little more sensitivity out of the data for rural and regional areas. • Can the dept give a timeline for how long this is expected to take? • Will it then make the appropriate changes so that rural and regional student data is included given many disadvantaged students live in rural and regional Australia? "	Written
EW0629_12	Nash, Fiona	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Support for Students with Disability	"Following up on Question on Notice reply from budget estimates regarding More Support for Students with Disabilities initiative - http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/eet_ctte/estimates/bud_1112/answers/EW0196_12.pdf There is \$200 million over three years in the budget to help teachers and schools support students with a disability and improve their learning outcome. Senator Nash asked how much of this funding will go to help students with disabilities in rural, remote and regional schools. DEEWR responded it was not possible to identify funding for rural, remote and regional schools until the National Partnership is finalised and implementation plans have been agreed on. • What is the timeline for it to be finalised? • DEEWR failed to answer if all of the funding under the initiative will go direct to schools to help these students and how it would ensure it's not consumed by bureaucracy – can DEEWR please provide a response. "	Written
EW0630_12	Nash, Fiona	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	National Action Plan on Literacy and Numeracy	"Following up on Question on Notice reply from budget estimates regarding the Smarter School National Partnership for Literacy and Numeracy – http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/eet_ctte/estimates/bud_1112/answers/EW0208_12.pdf http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/eet_ctte/estimates/bud_1112/answers/EW0209_12.pdf It will provide \$540 million over four years (2009–2012) to 'facilitate and reward states and territories for implementing literacy and numeracy models or approaches that clearly demonstrate evidence for accelerating improvement in student results'. The website says up to 1022 schools around the country will receive assistance, with a focus on disadvantaged students. Many of the schools selected by states and territories to participate in this National Partnership are in rural and remote areas. Senator Nash asked DEEWR to be more specific on the number of schools that will be assist (the website states up to 1022 schools), and what per cent of the total number of schools come from rural and remote areas. DEEWR replied schools from areas classified as Outer Regional, Remote and Very Remote using the Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia represented 24.4 percent of Literacy and Numeracy National Partnership schools. •	Written
EW0631_12	Nash, Fiona	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Australian Youth Climate Coalition	"Following up on from Question on Notice from budget estimates regarding Australian Youth Forum Funding – http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/eet_ctte/estimates/bud_1112/answers/EW0484_12.pdf DEEWR provided a list of funding recipients at Senator Nash's request. Listed in 2010-11 is the Australian Youth Climate Coalition (AYCC) which received Youth Development and Support Program funding. • Can the dept please detail how much the AYCC received. "	Written
EW0632_12	Nash, Fiona	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Australian Youth Climate Coalition	"The AYCC 2010 annual report details its activities which include: 1. 'Switch On' school programs to educate and get students active on climate change; 2. youth climate summits that 'were held in politically strategic areas on the three weekends leading up to the Federal Election'; 3. a campaign during the federal election that 'focused on three Senate races – Victoria, South Australia and the ACT – and five marginal lower-house seats, but also ex-tended to other electorates. The multi-faceted campaign made use of a variety of tactics tailored to our different audi-ences, including Digital Doorknocking, banner drops, face-to-face voter engagement, and media and online campaigning'; 4. doorknocking and presence at polling booths on election day across Australia; and 5. attendance at Labor's election campaign launch • Can the dept explain how the AYCC spent the govt money it received from the Youth Development and Support program. Has there been any auditing of how the funds are spent? If so, what are the findings? • Can the dept/govt guarantee the federal funding was not spent by AYCC in assisting the Labor govt's election campaign noting its doorknocking and polling booth activities, attending Labor's campaign launch. • Can the dept/govt guarantee no Labor party, or	Written
EW0633_12	Nash, Fiona	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Australian Youth Climate Coalition	"The AYCC annual report lists its partners. They include the Australian Student En-vironment Network, Australian Youth Affairs Coalition (AYAC), The Oak Tree Foundation, and The United Nations Youth Association of Australia (UNYA). These groups have also received funding from Australian Youth Forum. • Can the dept detail the exact amount of money was paid to these groups. • Can the dept explain how these organisations spent the funding and if it went towards the AYCC's activities/campaigns. "	Written

EW0634_12	Nash, Fiona	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Youth Affairs Network of Queensland	"The Youth Affairs Network of Queensland received funding from the Australian Youth Forum too. The Network partnered with the Say Yes Australia Workplace Morning Tea Day focused on climate change and supports a price on carbon. Their website states 'Say Yes Australia is a broad civil society coalition, including the Australian Youth Climate Coalition'. Other Say Yes Australia partners include the Australian Conservation Foundation; Get Up; ACTU; AYCC; Climate Action Network Australia; Greenpeace and World Wildlife Fund. • Can the dept detail the exact amount of money paid to the Youth Affairs Network of Qld. • Can the dept explain how this organisation spent the funding and if and how much went towards promoting the Say Yes Australia campaign. "	Written
EW0635_12	Nash, Fiona	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	National Workforce and Productivity Agency	"Following up Question on Notice from budget estimates on the National Workforce and Productivity Agency – http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/eet_ctte/estimates/bud_1112/answers/EW0185_12.pdf The dept responded the government has identified that the priority sectors to be targeted in 2011-12 will be construction and aged care in addition to the sectors currently targeted under the Critical Skills Investment Fund (resources, construction, infrastructure and renewable energy industry sectors). There will also be funding available to support occupations in critical shortage as advised by Industry Skills Councils in sectors not covered by the Critical Skills Investment Fund or in the construction and aged care sectors. • Can the dept explain why agriculture is not included given the concerning shortage of labour and graduates within the agriculture sector. "	Written
EW0636_12	Nash, Fiona	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Agricultural enrolments in universities	"Following up on Question on Notice reply from budget estimates on agricultural enrolments in universities - http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/eet_ctte/estimates/bud_1112/answers/EW0193_12.pdf The dept refers to an Issues Paper to inform development of the Government's proposed National Food Plan that was released on 23 June 2011. It considers the shortfall in agricultural graduates and is seeking feedback on ways to grow student interest in agriculture through student's interest in environmental sciences. DEEWR contributed to the development of the Issues Paper. • What is the timeline for the completion and roll out of the National Food Plan? (NOTE: this was not specifically answered in questioning by Senator Back during supplementary budget estimates on 20 Oct, 2011) Refer to Question C – The dept states the Government is aware that student demand for undergraduate places in the broad field of agriculture, environmental and related studies declined during the period from 2001 to 2006. It says the Government's introduced a range of measures to support agriculture and encourage students to study agricultural science and related disciplines. Through the former Diversity and Structural Adjustment Fund, the Government has provided funding	Written
EW0637_12	Nash, Fiona	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Critical Skills Investment Fund	"On September 19, the government announced \$28m for new training programs under the \$200m Critical Skills Investment Fund, aimed at reducing critical skills shortages. The Minister, Chris Evans, says more than 7500 workers will benefit from the \$28 million program which will be distributed to 40 businesses to train new workers and up-skill existing workers to meet demand. • What does the training involve, when does it start, how is it delivered and how long go for? • What is the extent of the shortage in each of these chosen sectors - resources, construction, infrastructure and renewable energy? (NOTE: may also be QoN from Senator Back from questioning during SBE on 20 Oct 2011) • What about the critical shortage of labour/skills in the agriculture sector? NOTE: these questions were not specifically asked or answered during Senator Back's questioning during SBE hearing on 20 Oct 2011 "	Written
EW0638_12	Nash, Fiona	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Skills shortage research program	"Following on from Question on Notice reply from budget estimates regarding the National Skills Needs List (NSNL) – http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/eet_ctte/estimates/bud_1112/answers/EW0408_12.pdf DEEWR states it researches approximately 150 skilled occupations on an ongoing basis, using a sample Survey of Employers who have Recently Advertised vacancies (SERA) to determine their success recruiting the skilled workers they need. The research focuses on skilled occupations, that is, those which generally require at least three years of post-school education or training and includes trades, professions, associate professions and some management occupations. The NSNL is derived from this research. DEEWR details the criteria in which an occupation is included on the NSNL: 1. the occupation must be classified under ANZSCO as belonging in skill level 3* 'Technicians and Trades Workers' (all occupations that fall within this group are assessed); 2. at least 1500 people are employed in the occupation, based on 2006 Census data; and 3. the occupation is assessed as being in shortage for three of the past five years including one of last two years, as determined by the Department's skills shortage research program. An analysis of Census 2006	Written
EW0639_12	Nash, Fiona	Outcome 4 - Employment	Priority Employment Area Initiatives	"Following on from Question on Notice reply from budget estimates regarding Priority Employment Area Initiatives – http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/eet_ctte/estimates/bud_1112/answers/EW0219_12.pdf The budget No 2 paper, details \$45.2 million over two years to extend the current Priority Area Employment initiatives that include Jobs and Skills expos and Local Employment Coordinators in priority regional areas. DEEWR states the priority regional areas are located across Australia with six in NSW, six in Qld, four in Victoria, two in SA, and one each in WA and Tassie. • Whereabouts in these states are the priority regional areas? "	Written
EW0640_12	Nash, Fiona	Outcome 4 - Employment	Priority Employment Area Initiatives	"DEEWR stated as part of the initiative, Keep Australia Working Jobs and Skills Expos were held in priority employment areas from October 2009 to December 2010. A total of 40 Expos were held with over 154,000 people attending and more than 15,500 (about 10pc) people connected with employment opportunities. • Can the dept to elaborate what it means exactly by 'connected with employment opportunities' (does this mean they actually secured employment?). • Also how much these expos cost, and if it considers the outcome in terms to be value for taxpayer money? "	Written

EW0641_12	Nash, Fiona	Outcome 4 - Employment	Disability Employment Service Pilots	"Following on from Question on Notice reply from budget estimates regarding Disability Employment Services pilots – http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/eet_ctte/estimates/bud_1112/answers/EW0188_12.pdf DEEWR responded that in the budget the Government will provide \$2.7 million to support the extension of current Disability Employment Services (DES) pilots until 3 March 2013 to support young people with disability make the transition from school support to employment services and assist people with moderate intellectual disability secure sustainable employment. • How many students are involved in these pilots? • How many come from regional areas? • What is the success rate so far? DEEWR also states school leavers will benefit from the availability of wage subsidies, which are particularly effective in encouraging employers to offer employment opportunities to participants who do not have relevant employment experience. To complement the \$1500 wage subsidy currently available to DES participants, the budget provided 1000 enhanced wage subsidies per year of up to \$3000 for employment of at least six months, for DES participants who have not been employed for the previous 12 months. • What has been the take-up rate has been so far, and	Written
EW0642_12	Nash, Fiona	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Productivity Places Program	"Following up on Question on Notice response from budget estimates regarding completion rates of the Productivity Places Program – http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/eet_ctte/estimates/bud_1112/answers/EW0401_12.pdf Dept states data for withdrawal rates under the Productivity Places Program National Partnership is not available but data for job seeker training places administered by the department under the Australian Government delivery component of the program is available. As at 30 June 2011, 128,560 job seekers commenced training under the Australian Government delivery component of the Productivity Places Program, of which 40,903 job seekers (31.8 per cent) have withdrawn from training. Of these withdrawals 14,728 were due to unsatisfactory completion of a qualification and 26,175 voluntarily discontinued training. Job seeker commencements delivered by the Australian Government currently contribute about 50 per cent of the total reported job seeker commencements. • Why is the data on withdrawal rates not available? Wouldn't this be useful information to have gauged the success of a program? • 40 903 job seekers (31.8 per cent) withdrew from training, 14 728 due to unsatisfactory completion of a qualification and 26 175 voluntarily discontinued training – did the	Written
EW0643_12	Nash, Fiona	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	childcare workers – Vacancy rate	Following up on Question on Notice reply from budget estimates regarding childcare workers vacancy rates - http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/eet_ctte/estimates/bud_1112/answers/EW0445_12.pdf DEEWR states the proportion of child-care workers leaving the occupation and needing to be replaced is 15.7 per cent annually and in relation to early childhood teachers, degree qualified teachers, the vacancy rate is 8.9 per cent annually. • The dept advised Senator Back during SBE hearing questioning on 20 Oct 2011 that it hasn't examined the reasons why there is a higher vacancy rate for childcare workers – why not? • What is being done to prevent childcare workers from leaving? • Also what is being done to replace these workers.	Written
EW0644_12	Nash, Fiona	Outcome 4 - Employment	Youth Allowance	"Re. 30 hour work rule – Can the department to clarify the averaging of the 30 hour work rule for those still seeking to qualify this way for independent youth allowance and those metropolitan students who still have to. For example, an inner regional student from Armidale fell just short of the required hours for one or two of the six 13 week blocks yet exceeded his hours for the majority of the time. 1. 389.3 hours (29.95 p.w.) 2. 504 hours (38.77 p.w.) 3. 518.5 hours (39.89 p.w.) 4. 498.5 hours (38.35 p.w.) 5. 519 hours (39.92 p.w.) 6. 388.27 hours (29.87 p.w.) • Is the dept aware of this discrepancy and if so, has it reviewed the guidelines? • How is it fair that the student above for example would miss out given that he has clearly worked the hours? • Would it consider say a 5 per cent tolerance either way? "	Written
EW0645_12	Nash, Fiona	Outcome 4 - Employment	Regional students to benefit from youth allowance changes	"Re. to minister's media release 'Regional students to benefit from youth allowance changes' - http://www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/Evans/Media/Releases/Pages/Article_110914_090102.aspx • Under the 'dependent' criterion – how many of the 4317 (or 55.2pc) additional 'inner regional' students receiving dependent youth allowance are getting the full rate of payment • Under the 'independent workforce participation' criterion – how many of the 3133 (or -28.4pc) less 'inner regional' students who missed out in qualifying were living at home with their parents and how many missed out because the unreasonable 30 hour a week work rule. • Under the 'total dependent and independent' category – can the dept provide a breakdown of how many of the additional 7435 (or 25.7pc) regional students are getting independent youth allowance and how many are getting dependent youth allowance. Further, of those receiving 'dependent' youth allowance, how many are getting the full rate of payment? "	Written
EW0646_12	Nash, Fiona	Outcome 4 - Employment	Review of Student Income Support Reforms report	"Refer to Review of Student Income Support Reforms report • Will the govt be considering any of the other recommendations subject to budget constraints and priorities, and if so, which ones? On page 50 of the Review of Student Income Support Reforms report, Table 6 details a comparison of entitlements under current and proposed arrangements. Under the parental income bracket of between \$95,645 - \$110,777, it states the student is eligible for rent assistance. One of the parents in regular contact with Senator Nash's office states her family had a combined income for the relevant year of \$97,000 and were not eligible for any assistance. "We did not qualify for rent assistance as we did not qualify for \$1 of Youth Allowance. If we had qualified for rent assistance then we would have been eligible for the start up scholarship and relocation scholarship. This table on page 70 suggests that if you earn between \$95,645 and \$110,667 you would currently qualify for rent assistance. This is incorrect. We are in this bracket and do not qualify. I have just confirmed this by calling Centrelink. This is very misleading. I think the higher amount may refer to a family with another sibling living at home. This still reads wrongly and means the recommendations here are wrongly informed." • Can the dept	Written

EW0647_12	Nash, Fiona	Outcome 4 - Employment	Youth Allowance and ABSTUDY	"Refer to DEEWR website: http://www.deewr.gov.au/HigherEducation/Programs/YouthAllowance/Pages/Overview.aspx It states that "from 1 January 2012 the Government will extend to students from Inner Regional Australia the workforce participation independence arrangements for Youth Allowance and ABSTUDY that currently apply only to students from Outer Regional Australia, Remote Australia and Very Remote Australia, subject to the passage of legislation. The extended arrangements will allow higher education and VET students from Inner Regional Australia to be considered independent for Youth Allowance and ABSTUDY if: • they are a full-time student; and • they are required to live away from home to study; and • they have combined parental income of less than \$150,000; and • they have either: 1.worked part-time (at least 15 hours each week) for two years since last leaving secondary school; or 2.had cumulative earnings totalling at least 75% of the appropriate maximum National Training Wage Award rate (\$21,009 in 2011) in 18 months since last leaving secondary school • can the dept clearly explain why there is the need for the \$150k parental income test when the purpose of the criteria is for the students to prove they're independent. "	Written
EW0648_12	Payne, Marise	Outcome 4 - Employment	Indigenous Youth Career Pathways program	The department indicated at the Budget estimates hearings that the Indigenous Youth Career Pathways program would be focused on schools with the highest level of need, but that you were still developing criteria. Have these been developed? Do you have a list of schools and areas?	Written
EW0649_12	Payne, Marise	Outcome 4 - Employment	Indigenous Youth Career Pathways program - tender process	I understand the tender process for IYCP will commence transitionally for 2012 and be opened up for 2013. Will you pick schools for it to apply to, and seek tenders for programs through those schools, or will you provide a range of schools and/or areas that are eligible for the program and allow organisations to tender based on their choice of schools?	Written
EW0650_12	Payne, Marise	Outcome 4 - Employment	Indigenous Youth Career Pathways program	You indicated in Budget estimates that IYCP has been informed by the 1,900 school based traineeships that have been developed at a lower level within Indigenous employment programs. Do you have outcomes for training and employment for these previous traineeships?	Written
EW0651_12	Payne, Marise	Outcome 4 - Employment	JSA - Indigenous jobseekers	Can you please provide figures from the last financial year (and any newer figures) on the number of Indigenous jobseekers registered for Job Services Australia, and the number of 13-week and 26-week outcomes, broken down by Centrelink benefit, location and gender?	Written
EW0652_12	Payne, Marise	Outcome 4 - Employment	JSA educational outcomes Indigenous clients	Can you please provide figures for the number of JSA educational outcomes Indigenous clients have met in the last two financial years, by location and gender?	Written
EW0653_12	Payne, Marise	Outcome 4 - Employment	JSA appointments	I understand new rules came into effect this financial year with respect to clients who miss JSA appointments. Can you please provide any figures available so far in relation to breaches for indigenous clients, and the number of these clients that no longer receive income benefits as a result? Can you please also provide the number of Participation Reports that were lodged and upheld in the last financial year, broken down by Centrelink benefit, type of breach and gender?	Written
EW0654_12	Payne, Marise	Outcome 4 - Employment	Indigenous Opportunities Policy- RIS	Has a Regulatory Impact Statement been done for the Indigenous Opportunities Policy? Is it public? If not, why not?	Written
EW0655_12	Payne, Marise	Outcome 4 - Employment	Indigenous Opportunities Policy costs	Do you have an estimate of the cost to businesses of complying with the IOP?	Written
EW0656_12	Payne, Marise	Outcome 4 - Employment	Indigenous Opportunities Policy - contracts	What proportion of government procurement contracts are expected to be covered by this policy? How many contracts are expected to be covered annually, and what is the estimated total value?	Written
EW0657_12	Rhiannon, Lee	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Career pathways in Academia	Given increasing casualisation of university academic appointments, what will the Government do to help arrest the alarming decrease in young academics planning to work long term in Australian universities?	Written
EW0658_12	Rhiannon, Lee	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Career pathways in Academia	What is the Government doing to offset inevitable staff shortages which will arise as a consequence of the rapidly aging profile of established academic staff in Australian universities?	Written
EW0659_12	Rhiannon, Lee	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Career pathways in Academia	What will the Government do to help universities make an academic career more attractive to our brightest and best students?	Written
EW0660_12	Rhiannon, Lee	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Demand Driven funding	Will the Commonwealth direct any additional capital expenditure to help universities cope with the drastic expansion in student places expected under a deregulated higher education system?	Written

EW0661_12	Rhiannon, Lee	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Demand Driven funding	How will the government convince a university they must provide high cost, low student demand courses such as engineering or science, even when they are listed as National Priority courses?	Written
EW0662_12	Rhiannon, Lee	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Demand Driven funding	Will this government guarantee that set time or value limits will not be placed on student's learning entitlements?	Written
EW0663_12	Rhiannon, Lee	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Demand Driven funding	Will this government guarantee that fees will not be deregulated, creating a gap?	Written
EW0664_12	Rhiannon, Lee	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Demand Driven funding	"Have you done modelling or how else have you evaluated the potential outcomes of the introduction of demand driven funding? In particular: a. Impact on university budgets and budgeting practices? b. Impact of introducing competition for student places coupled with the drop off in international student fee income "	Written
EW0665_12	Rhiannon, Lee	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Demand Driven funding	Have you reviewed any research that shows the middle to higher end of socio-economic groups benefit most from a voucher system, rather than helping the most disadvantaged students? What is your assessment of this?	Written
EW0666_12	Rhiannon, Lee	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Demand Driven funding	Why did the government decide to bring on the Demand Driven funding legislation before the reporting date for the Base Funding Review?	Written
EW0667_12	Rhiannon, Lee	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Demand Driven funding	Have you done modelling or evaluated the impact that budget forward planning in this more volatile and unpredictable environment will have on permanent staff numbers at universities? What did it show?	Written
EW0668_12	Rhiannon, Lee	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Demand Driven funding	Do you accept an increase in the casualisation of teaching staff in higher education sector as an inevitable result of demand driven funding? If no, on what do you base this position?	Written
EW0669_12	Rhiannon, Lee	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Demand Driven funding	Do you expect the increase of casualisation will be greater in regional universities?	Written
EW0670_12	Rhiannon, Lee	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Demand Driven funding	Has the government budgeted for providing any financial assistance to mainstream or regional universities that experience budget crisis as a result of demand driven funding, if they cannot compete with elite universities that are accepting more students?	Written
EW0671_12	Rhiannon, Lee	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Making VET Fee Help more equitable	What initiatives are you currently pursuing to make VET Fee Help more equitable?What are the main complaints you have received about inequities in the VET Fee help scheme?	Written

EW0672_12	Rhiannon, Lee	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Youth Allowance – Tertiary and VET	Given the Commonwealths recent move to increase the number of student enrolments from low-SES, indigenous and regional & regional backgrounds, can you guarantee an increase in income support so as to ensure these students can meet the living expenses associated with attending university and take advantage of the expansion in CSP from next year?	Written
EW0673_12	Rhiannon, Lee	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Additional fee increases to meet Uni revenue shortfalls due to loss of International students	Given the extent to which major universities are reliant on international student enrolments to meet operational costs, how will the Commonwealth ensure that domestic students will not unfairly be forced to bear additional fee increases to meet any revenue shortfalls that may stem from declining international student enrolments?	Written
EW0674_12	Rhiannon, Lee	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	VET Tender process	Are you aware that NSW DET have waived the requirements of some VET providers to provide lists of existing teachers and facilities during the tender process, claiming that it would be 'unfair' to expect those private providers to have those resources and facilities already in place?How do you view this? Have you or will you review this matter?	Written
EW0675_12	Rhiannon, Lee	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	VET Tender process	What is 'competitive neutrality adjustment' and how is it applied in the VET tender process?	Written
EW0676_12	Rhiannon, Lee	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	VET Tender process	Can you detail why TAFE is penalised under the VET competitive tender process?	Written
EW0677_12	Rhiannon, Lee	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	VET Tender process	Are you aware that some private VET providers are sub-contracting their contracted services to other providers and back to TAFE because they cannot meet their contractual obligations? Can you provide details of where and when this has occurred? Do you plan to investigate or review this matter?	Written
EW0678_12	Rhiannon, Lee	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Reduced funding for small literacy class sizes:	Have you analysed or evaluated the impact of separating the provision of literacy and numeracy classes from vocational training, which occurred as a result of TAFE losing literacy teaching contracts?	Written
EW0679_12	Rhiannon, Lee	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Reduced funding for small literacy class sizes:	"Has there been or do you plan to evaluate or compare the level of literacy and numeracy being attained by students under the current public and private provision model, compared with when TAFE provided literacy combined with vocational training? If not, how will you ascertain that you are getting value for money out of the private provision of literacy courses?"	Written
EW0680_12	Rhiannon, Lee	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	International Education Support	Do you have any future plans to implement policy or reforms to stop the exploitation of international students in regards to housing and unemployment, to ensure that Australia remains an attractive destination for higher education on the competitive international market?	Written
EW0681_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	Rejection/acceptance of Participation Failures	Provide the number and percentage of participation failures recommended by Job Services Australia compared to those applied by Centrelink.	Written
EW0682_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	Job seeker compliance and new suspension provisions since 1 July 2011 - penalties	How many job seekers had a financial penalty imposed as a result of this measure? Provide details by jobseekers age, gender, payment type, Aboriginal/non-Aboriginal status, and vulnerability indicator	Written
EW0683_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	Job seeker compliance and new suspension provisions since 1 July 2011	In relation to the article in the Sunday Telegraph, 16 October 2011, on the suspension of payments since 1 July, please provide: 1. details of those whose payments were suspended, by age, gender, payment type, Indigenous status, 2. the number of jobseekers who had a vulnerability indicator, 3. a breakdown by type of vulnerability indicator(s), 4. how many job seekers subsequently went on to have payments suspended and type of vulnerability indicator(s).	Written

EW0684_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	Jobseeker and Compliance Data, 2010-11	"For the 2010-11 financial year provide details of the numbers of people under each of these provisions: 1. Breakdown of no show no pay penalties, indicating number of days served per event e.g. 1 day; 500 recipients; 2 days, 300 recipients, etc. 2. number of job seekers accessing of 'working off' provisions (including partial use), and numbers electing not to access them. 3. Accessing hardship provisions, including number not eligible. 4. Numbers with access to payment pending review provisions. 5. the number and percentage of participation failures recommended by Job Services Australia compared to those applied by Centrelink. 6. eight week penalties and no show no pay penalties applied to job seekers with Centrelink vulnerability indicators (by type of vulnerability), by total;* 7. eight week penalties and no show no pay penalties by state and Centrelink Area, for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal clients; 8. appeals data, by ODM, ARO, SSAT, AAT, including outcome, for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal clients. 9. number of Comprehensive Compliance Assessments for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal clients. 10. percentage of appointments attended (by each month)."	Written
EW0685_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	Relocation scheme for job seekers	"a. How many job seekers have been assessed for the relocation scheme that started on 1 January 2011? b. How many job seekers have been assessed for relocation? c. How many job seekers have been approved for relocation to date? d. To date, how much has been spent on this program? e. What is the profile of those accessing the scheme (ie. single, families)? f. What occupations will the relocated job seekers be working in? g. Where are jobseekers locating from/to?"	Written
EW0686_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	Choice and changing Job Service Providers	"In 2009-10 and 2010-11 how many and what percentage of job seekers are involved in exercising a choice in their employment service provider? What are the circumstances that allow for job seekers to change providers? Please provide a copy of the existing guidelines. In 2010-11 how many job seekers requested a change of provider due to an irreconcilable breakdown in the relationship. Of these requests, how many were granted? Describe how job seekers are informed about their right to exercise choice of provider"	Written
EW0687_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	Employment Pathway Plans	For 2010-11, provide the number and percentage of job seekers with compliance issues who seek to review or re-negotiate their Employment Pathway Plan.	Written
EW0688_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Indigenous education and the national curriculum	With regards to these three teacher training projects: \$800 000 project for the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership in partnership with the Committee of University Deans to improve pre-service training for teachers. • \$1 million project to progress in-service training. • \$8 million project being led by Professor Peter Buckskin at the University of South Australia to support more Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander educators entering the workforce (Action 33 of the plan). a. Can the department provide more detail on these three projects? b. What is the timeframe for the design and implementation for each project? c. What opportunities exist for Stolen Generations bodies to be involved and consulted on content?	Written
EW0689_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Indigenous education and the national curriculum	In regards to the Stolen Generations Working Partnership, how is the Department of Education contributing to the Stolen Generations Working Partnership and what engagement has it had with the two national Stolen Generations bodies?	Written
EW0690_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	Newstart and Youth Allowance Specific data requests	"The current number of Newstart and Youth Allowance (Other) recipients on those payments continuously for 24 months or more, and projected number in 2012-13, broken down by: • Age • Sex • Principal carer status • Partial work capacity status • Indigenous status • State/Territory and capital city/other within each State/Territory • Whether completed Year 12 education or equivalent"	Written
EW0691_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	Newstart Allowance recipients aged 21 years	The number of Newstart Allowance recipients aged 21 years, broken down by: • State/Territory and then by: • Whether they have current earnings • Whether they receive Rent Assistance"	Written
EW0692_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	Parenting Payment Single data	"The number of sole parents whose youngest child is 12 years or over on Parenting Payment Single (latest available data), broken down by: • State/Territory • Age • Number of children under 16 • Whether they receive Carer Allowance • Whether they have current earnings • Whether they receive PES"	Written
EW0693_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Vocational training reforms	How many additional training places are provided through measures announced in the Budget specifically for jobseekers in each financial year from 2011-12 (including breakdowns of the additional places for sole and teenage parents, the language and literary places, the extension of the apprenticeship access program, and other measures that specifically target jobseekers)?	Written
EW0694_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Vocational training reforms	Will a proportion of the proposed new training places in the National Partnership for VET be earmarked for jobseekers in each financial year from 2012-13, and if so please provide details of the numbers and proportion of places to be earmarked in each year. How do these numbers compare with places notionally allocated to jobseekers under Productivity Places for that year?	Written
EW0695_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Vocational training reforms	Please provide the number of 'Productivity Places' training places notionally allocated to jobseekers in 2010-11, the number of places delivered to jobseekers, and the proportions of jobseekers successfully competing such training, by State, Territory and qualification level.	Written
EW0696_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	Very long term unemployed people	Does the Government propose to introduce legislation to implement this requirement?	Written

EW0697_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	Very long term unemployed people	The projected number of individuals entering the 'Work Experience phase' of JSA in each year from 2012-13 to 2014-15, and the projected number of individuals already in that phase of assistance at 1 July 2012	Written
EW0698_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	Very long term unemployed people	"The projected numbers of individuals in the Work Experience phase expected to commence the proposed 11 months of compulsory activity, in each year from 2012-13 to 2014-15. The proportion of these individuals expected to complete the full 11 months in each of those years. The average expected unit cost of the activity, per month of completed activity"	Written
EW0699_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	Very long term unemployed people	"Do the 11 months of compulsory activity, and the \$1,000 EPF credit, apply in each year of unemployment starting with the second, or do they apply to that year only? What exemptions will apply to compulsory participation in this activity? Will the intensity of required activity vary for people with a partial work capacity and principal carers? What penalties are proposed for non-compliance with the 11 months of compulsory activity?"	Written
EW0700_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	Very long term unemployed people	"Will jobseekers receive a payment specifically designed to defray the costs of participation in this activity? Are any measures proposed to assist those with above average travel costs (especially in rural areas) to cover those costs? How much discretion will providers exercise over the nature of the activity, and what range of activities are expected to be undertaken?"	Written
EW0701_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	Unemployed 21 year olds - number affected	The number of 21 year old unemployed people affected by the Budget measure to remove their eligibility for Newstart Allowance, over the entire forward estimates period and in each of the years 2012-13 to 2014-15, broken down into: those affected/not affected by introduction of a parental income test, those with/without earnings, and those with/without Rent Assistance.	Written
EW0702_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	Unemployed 21 year olds - average reduction in income support payments	The average weekly and annual reductions in annual income support payments incurred by these young people, both overall and broken down by the above categories.	Written
EW0703_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	Unemployed 21 year olds - estimated saving	The estimated cost saving to the Budget from these eligibility changes only (not including the personal income test changes) over the entire forward estimates period and in each of the years 2012-13 to 2014-15.	Written
EW0704_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	PP reforms - average reduction in income support payments	The average weekly and annual reductions in income support payments incurred by these parents, and the average reduction incurred over the forward estimates period.	Written
EW0705_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	PP reforms - number of grandfathered sole parents affected	The number of 'grandfathered' sole parents affected by the Budget measure to reduce the age at which they lose eligibility for that payment from 16 years to 12-13 years, over the entire forward estimates period and in each of the years 2012-13 to 2014-15.	Written
EW0706_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	PP reforms - estimated saving	The estimated cost saving to the Budget from these eligibility changes only (not including the personal income test changes) over the entire forward estimates period and in each of the years 2012-13 to 2014-15.	Written
EW0707_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	Activity test requirements for affected grandfathered PPS recipients	Do the standard activity requirements for those sole parents affected by this measure change, and if so, in what way?	Written
EW0708_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	Outcome 4.4 – Working Age Payments	"Please provide breakdowns of recipients of each of NSA, YA(O), PPS, & PPP by: age (<25, 25-49, 50+), sex, duration on payment (>1yr, 1-2, 2-5, 5yrs +), youngest child under 6 yrs, 6yrs + (for PP recipients), principal carers & people with partial work capacity (for NSA and YO), and whether recipients have current earnings."	Written
EW0709_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	evaluation reports	Please list any evaluation reports completed by DEEWR or consultants contracted by the Department, dealing with employment services or income support policies since January 2011.	Written
EW0710_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	JSA evaluation	Please advise which elements of the evaluation of Job Services Australia have been completed to date, the Government's proposed publication schedule for the evaluation as a whole and each element, and copies of any related reports submitted to Ministers by the Department.	Written
EW0711_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	experience phase of Job Services Australia	Please provide data on the number, characteristics, and employment outcomes of unemployed people who participated in the Work experience phase of Job Services Australia (within each Stream and overall) over the year ending March 2011, in the same format (and with the same breakdown of characteristics and outcomes) as in Table 2.1 of the latest Labour Market Assistance Outcomes publication.	Written
EW0712_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	jobseekers in each Stream	Please provide data on the proportion of jobseekers in each Stream (and for the Work Experience phase by Stream) who attained outcomes attracting a 'Full Outcome' payment for the provider (provider brokered or provider assisted), during the year ending September 2010, by Stream (or if data for that period is not available, data covering a similar period).	Written
EW0713_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	JSA Data	Please provide average unit and total costs for each Stream of JSA assistance during 2009-10 and for the Work Experience phase, broken down into three categories: service fees, EPF credits spent, and outcome payments.	Written
EW0714_12	Thistlewaite, Matt	Agency - Fair Work Australia	FWA - right of entry permits	How many applications for right of entry permits by union officials were refused in the last year and on what grounds?	Written
EW0715_12	Thistlewaite, Matt	Agency - Fair Work Australia	FWA	How many disputes regarding right of entry have been bought before FWA in the last year? Were they take by unions or employers or others? How were they settled (conciliation, arbitration etc.)?	Written

EW0716_12	Wright, Penny	Outcome 4 - Employment	Engaging with Customers with a Mental Illness	"I refer to the recommendations of the Commonwealth Ombudsman report 'Falling Through the Cracks. Centrelink, DEEWR and FAHCSIA: Engaging with Customers with a Mental Illness in the Social Security System' and note in particular, Part 5.3 that the Ombudsman asks each agency provide a status report on the implementation of relevant recommendations six months after publication of the report. 1. Given the report was published in September 2010, please advise which recommendations have been implemented, or will be implemented and whether DEEWR have provided status reports. 2. If status reports have yet to be provided, please advise when we would likely expect these status reports."	Written
EW0717_12	Wright, Penny	Outcome 4 - Employment	More Support for Students with Disabilities initiative	"On 3 May 2011, the Prime Minister, the Hon Julia Gillard MP, announced the More Support for Students with Disabilities initiative. This initiative "forms part of the 2011-12 Federal Budget and will provide benefits to teachers and schools to better support students with disabilities. The Government is providing \$200 million to this exciting initiative designed to generate real and tangible improvements to the individual learning experiences of students with disabilities. Funding will be allocated to government and non-government education authorities for services delivered in the 2012 and 2013 school years." A sibling's schooling can also be affected by having a brother or sister with disability. Siblings can also play a significant role in supporting a brother or sister with disability. However, siblings are not considered in this initiative. 1. Does DEEWR have any plans to include the role and needs of siblings in its consideration of children with disability at school?"	Written
EW0718_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Fair Work Australia	FWA - industrial regulation	Mr Giudice: That is not what I said. I said industrial regulation is important. This is the danger of taking one sentence out of a speech. Senator ABETZ: Take on notice—because you do not have the speech in front of you—whether you made a statement that industrial regulation is important to productivity growth.	19/10/2011
EW0719_12	Singh, Lisa	Agency - Fair Work Australia	FWA - assistance with IR procedures for developing countries	Senator SINGH: Are you able to provide the committee with a list of those countries you have had some dealings with in the most recent times? Mr Giudice: I think we could probably extract that from the annual reports. We usually do have a reference to any of that sort of activity in the annual report.	19/10/2011
EW0720_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Fair Work Australia	FWA - application of modern awards	Senator ABETZ: Has Fair Work Australia received any feedback as to some confusion in the application of modern awards? For example, I refer to the Housing Industry Association media release of 18 May where we are told: Businesses in the kitchen and bathroom industry could be covered by up to four different awards ... They go through them. The Housing Industry Association then considers that administrative aids could assist and: ... a proper review by FWA to clarify the coverage of Awards themselves is the only answer. Is Fair Work Australia aware of the Housing Industry Association's view in this matter? Ms O'Neill: Senator, I may have to take that question on notice. Nothing comes to mind.	19/10/2011
EW0721_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Fair Work Australia	FWA - reviewing aspects	Senator ABETZ: Yes, not personally—and, as a result, whether Fair Work Australia is giving consideration to reviewing aspects. Also in other areas of industry, not only in housing but let us say in the baking section, where I understand there are real concerns. If you are a baker working for a retail baker, as opposed to a wholesale baker doing exactly the same sort of baking work, your award says something different in relation to hours and when penalty rates kick in. It is exactly the same work other than that you happen to be a baker for a retailer as opposed to a wholesaler and some confusions arise, especially if the baker happens to be doing both wholesale and retail work. How do you classify them? If you could take that on notice—	19/10/2011
EW0722_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Fair Work Australia	FWA - annual wage review 2011-12.	Senator ABETZ: A statement was made in relation to the annual wage review 2011-12. Paragraph 3 informs us: The process will include: ? the identification of resource materials; ? brief written submissions by interested parties; ... What is meant by the term 'interested parties', and that term is also used in paragraph 4. Are they what we might crudely describe as 'all the normal suspects' or will individuals be able to make submission as well? Is it up to anybody who is generally interested? Mr Giudice: As you know I do not normally canvass statements and decisions in this forum. Senator ABETZ: This is not a decision. This is a statement to the public saying that the process will include brief written submissions by interested parties. If I am Joe Bloggs, punter on the street, saying, 'Hey, Mr Giudice, I'm interested,' will I have the right to make a submission? That is what I am asking. What does the term 'interested parties' mean? Mr Giudice: What is the heading on that statement, Senator? Senator ABETZ: It is the Fair Work Australia Statement Annual Wage Review. It was by yourself, Senior Deputy President Watson, Senior Deputy President Harrison, Commissioner Hampton, Mr Vines, Professor Richardson and Mr Dwyer. It was dated Melbourne, 7 October 2011. I do not think it was a judicial	19/10/2011
EW0723_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Fair Work Australia	FWA - Cost of office relocation	Senator ABETZ: Where was Mr Lee's office? Ms O'Neill: Mr Lee's office was on level 8. Senator ABETZ: What was wrong with it? Ms O'Neill: As I understand it, it was always intended to be a temporary arrangement and it was always intended, when building works were to be undertaken, for the general manager's office to be relocated. As I have indicated, that part of the process— Senator ABETZ: What is the cost of that to the Australian taxpayer? Ms O'Neill: I will take the detail of that on notice, if I may. Senator ABETZ: Alright. It has been suggested to me that it might be \$50,000, but you can take that on notice.	19/10/2011

EW0724_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Fair Work Australia	FWA - Tweet possibly regarding FWA	Senator ABETZ: Alright. It has been suggested to me that it might be \$50,000, but you can take that on notice. They tell me Fair Work Australia is into twittering. Is that correct? Ms O'Neill: No. CHAIR: What about tweeting? Senator ABETZ: Is it different? Ms O'Neill: No bird noises of any variety. Senator ABETZ: No bird noises of any variety. The Australian Financial Review reported on 2 September: All a-twitter Here's a tweet from Fair Work Australia sent last Friday, after a hectic week of news coverage of the Craig Thomson affair: 'We are currently expecting higher than average call volumes and you may have to wait to speak to a Fair Work adviser: Call centre: 5 minutes, Live Chat: 35 minutes, Email: 10 business days,' it said. Since then, it can only have become harder for FWA, which has remained in the news. So nobody knows anything about this? Ms O'Neill: I will take it on notice, but I suspect that it is a reference to the Fair Work Ombudsman rather than Fair Work Australia.	19/10/2011
EW0725_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Fair Work Australia	FWA - updated figures in relation to unfair dismissals	Senator ABETZ: Mr Lee then said, 'That would be very helpful.' Please provide me on notice with updated figures in relation to unfair dismissals and that we do not collect data for adverse actions, to make it clear. If we can glean it for unfair dismissals, why can't we do so for adverse actions? Ms O'Neill : The answer really is the information in respect of unfair dismissals is in place because, as we interpret it, the general manager is required to report on matters including the amount of compensation as part of the three-year report on the operation of the unfair dismissal system, so as a direct consequence of those reporting arrangements. In relation to adverse actions, it would be quite onerous to adopt the same approach. It would involve reconfiguring the case management system, training all of the staff and the ongoing administrative work of entering the data.	19/10/2011
EW0726_12	Ronaldson, Michael	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	FWA - appointment process	Senator Chris Evans: Senator, just to be clear, this is not run by the minister's office. It is run by the department. We are happy to answer questions about it. The sign-off on the appointment—the formal approval—comes to me as minister, but, as I say, Ms O'Neill can answer questions in her capacity for Fair Work Australia but the appointments processes are run by the department. We are going to have questions about that, which is perfectly appropriate, but we have to deal with it when the department are at the table. Senator RONALDSON: Were you provided with a shortlist, Minister? Senator Chris Evans: My recollection is that I was presented with a recommendation, but I will check that.	19/10/2011
EW0727_12	Ronaldson, Michael	Agency - Fair Work Australia	FWA - investigative staff involved in inquiry	Senator RONALDSON: Can you either give me the details or take on notice how many staff have been involved in the inquiry, the names of the staff members who worked on the inquiry and the dates on which each staff member worked on the inquiry? If you have not got the information now, can you take the question on notice? Can you advise me whether anyone from the Prime Minister's office or from any minister's offices have contacted Fair Work Australia inquiring into the investigation of Mr Thomson and the HSU? In the Prime Minister's case, since she became Prime Minister, has there been any contact? Ms O'Neill: I will take the first question you asked about the resources on notice. CHAIR: I am sure Senator Ronaldson is not seeking the names of clerical staff that have been involved. He is looking primarily for investigative staff. Senator RONALDSON: Investigative staff, yes.	19/10/2011
EW0728_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Fair Work Australia	FWA - memorandum for Fair Work Australia	Senator RONALDSON: I gather that Mr Williams prepared a memorandum for Fair Work Australia on the progress that had been made in relation to the investigation into Mr Thomson and the HSU. If so, what was the date of that memorandum? Ms O'Neill: Senator, I will take that on notice if I can. Senator RONALDSON: Will you provide the committee with a copy of that memorandum, please? Ms O'Neill: Again, I will take that aspect of the question on notice. Senator RONALDSON: Are you saying that you will or you will not? Ms O'Neill: I am saying that I will take it on notice. As you are aware both investigations are ongoing. No conclusions have been reached at this stage and advice has been obtained that there is a very real risk of prejudice to the investigation or of possible civil or criminal proceedings that may ensue, because the risk of prejudice is high, I am being particularly cautious and taking questions on notice so that they can be carefully considered and legal advice obtained so that no inadvertent disclosures are made.	19/10/2011
EW0729_12	Ronaldson, Michael	Agency - Fair Work Australia	FWA - Allegations about HSU inquiry	Senator RONALDSON: I think anyone looking at this will know that this is just wafer-thin excuses to protect a wafer-thin majority. Can I ask Mr Nassios: were you aware of these allegations, which came out on 22 August, in relation to this campaign and other expenditure, before those matters were reported in the newspaper? Ms O'Neill: Again, Senator, we will have to take that question on notice.	19/10/2011
EW0730_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Fair Work Australia	FWA - The investigation into the national office	Senator ABETZ: I have two quick questions arising from this. How long has the investigation been going on; when did it start? When was the legal advice to which you refer obtained—before or after the last estimates? Ms O'Neill: The investigation into the national office commenced on 6 April, 2009. Senator ABETZ: I was wrong, it is more than two years—it is more like 2½ years. Senator RONALDSON: At least, because this matter was being investigating before 30 June, 2009, and he provided a report. CHAIR: Senator Abetz was actually asking the officers, not you, Senator Ronaldson. Ms O'Neill: I will take the detail on notice, but it was prior to the May estimates hearing.	19/10/2011
EW0731_12	Ronaldson, Michael	Agency - Fair Work Australia	FWA - Information received regarding HSU inquiry	Senator RONALDSON: And what was the nature of the matters referred to you which triggered the investigation? Ms O'Neill: I will take that on notice.	19/10/2011
EW0732_12	Bilyk, Catryna	Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman	FWO - Taste of Tasmania campaign	Senator BILYK: Is the Taste of Tasmania campaign continuing? Are you able to tell me that? Mr Ronson: I have no reason to believe it will not occur again. Senator BILYK: And compliance rates have improved, I understand, since that began a few years back? Mr Ronson: I do not have the— Senator BILYK: Maybe you could take that on notice— Mr Ronson: We will. Senator BILYK: and just let me know. I am fairly interested in that.	19/10/2011

EW0733_12	Bilyk, Catryna	Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman	FWO - compliance and non compliance rates for audit program	Senator BILYK: Do you have any information—you might not have this yet, if you are not sure if it has been completed—on the compliance or non-compliance rates? Mr Ronson: I do not have that information. Senator BILYK: Could you take that on notice and, if the audit has been completed, let me have the information. Mr Ronson: Sure. Mr Wilson: Senator,	19/10/2011
EW0734_12	Thistlewaite, Matt	Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman	FWO - investigations into outworkers	Senator THISTLETHWAITE: Have there ever been any investigations since the Fair Work Ombudsman has been in existence in this area? Mr Wilson: I would have to take that on notice. I could not definitively say that there have not been. If there have, there would only be a handful of them but we will check our records.	19/10/2011
EW0735_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman	FWO - updating of website following wage review decision	Mr Wilson: I am pretty sure that we did meet the expectation. My hesitation is to say 'all' but we certainly gave it a stab and I will take that on notice as to about the— Senator ABETZ: Yes, if you could and if any of those then were subsequently changed or amended because of information received. Mr Wilson: Sure.	19/10/2011
EW0736_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman	FWO - Call centre volume on 26 August	Senator ABETZ: Was there any particular reason why on the Friday before 2 September—sorry, I do not have a calendar with me—you would have had a higher than average call volume? Mr O'Shea: I do not have that information. Senator ABETZ: Take that on notice. If you can tell us what necessitated the tweet, that would be helpful. Mr O'Shea: I could add that that period of time following the wage decision obviously involves more callers calling our info line. Senator ABETZ: When was the wage decision? Mr O'Shea: I do not have that in front of me. Mr Wilson: It was from 1 July. Senator ABETZ: Yes, from 1 July, so one would anticipate that by the end of August most of those calls would have died down. That would be two months. Mr Wilson: Yes, indeed. We will give you a proper answer on the subject, but the volume of calls varies on a daily basis. Senator ABETZ: Of course.	19/10/2011
EW0737_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman	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.	19/10/2011
EW0738_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman	FWO - PayCheck Plus	Senator ABETZ: Thank you, Chair, and welcome back to the officials. Can I have confirmed to me if PayCheck Plus—I think that is a program or a service you have—in relation to the building industry was compiled in liaison with the ABCC, or did you do it all of your own volition and the ABCC then simply advertised it as a service for people in their sector to utilise? Mr Wilson: Unfortunately I would need to take that on notice; I do not know the answer.	19/10/2011
EW0739_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman	FWO - Uncertainty by employees regarding different awards	Senator ABETZ: I am referring to a media release of 18 May, 2011, by the Housing Industry Association. Sorry, it is a member alert, not a media release—so if you are unable to access it let me know and I can provide a copy—in which the HIA makes certain observations about businesses in the kitchen and bathroom industry that could be covered by up to four different awards and then they list those four awards. They talk about the confusion and then they say, and this is the direct quote: For some time now HIA has been pressing the government for a resolution. In response, the Fair Work Ombudsman is now undertaking a research project to gain a better understanding of industry practices with a particular focus on the manufacture and installation of inbuilt furniture and roof truss manufacture. The Fair Work Ombudsman has indicated that it intends to develop a simple checklist to provide greater certainty when considering award coverage. This rings no bells? Mr Wilson: It rings a faint bell. My recollection of the matter is that there have been some approaches. I was not sure that it was from the HIA, but certainly in respect of some aspects of the furniture industry I recall that there were dialogues. Unfortunately, I cannot recollect the detail of that. I would need to take that on notice. Senator	19/10/2011
EW0740_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman	FWO - Concerns that Fair Work discriminates against certain employees	Senator ABETZ: Has the proposition been put to you that the provisions of the Fair Work Act also tend to discriminate against certain employees? The example that was given to me was that if a cleaner has a contract to clean a certain premise which might take one hour, then in those circumstances you can employ somebody for a minimum of one hour under the award. But if you were to have another such premise, let us say half an hour away, that needs to be cleaned and you were to use the same employee, you would have to pay them for the travel time to the next job. What happens is that individual companies find it very difficult in certain circumstances to provide a full day's work for people when they have a whole lot of scattered contracts around the place because there will somebody else that can underbid them on the basis of, 'I've got a local employee who only wants to work for one hour and therefore we will engage that person for the one hour to clean that premise.' Another company that might want to bid for that job clearly cannot because their wage structure, which is a huge component of cleaning, would—in rough terms—be 50 per cent higher than the competitor. Have those sorts of concerns been brought to the Ombudsman's attention with a request for advice as to how	19/10/2011
EW0741_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman	FWO - Grace Payments	Senator ABETZ: In relation to advice that was proffered? Mr Wilson: I will take that aspect on notice. Senator ABETZ: Clearly agencies will do that, but I am wanting to find out specifically in relation to advice proffered. Mr Wilson: We will take that on notice. Senator ABETZ: So you will take on notice whether any such payments have been made and also whether, in principle, in relation to advice you would be minded to support such a request. Feel free to take that on notice as well. It might potentially set a precedent not only for the Fair Work Ombudsman but for other departments. Senator Chris Evans: I do not think I would encourage Mr Wilson to flash outside the off stump, even in taking it on notice, in the sense that there are, in my experience, very strict guidelines regarding act of grace payments. I am sure he will be requested and guided by Finance and others to apply those guidelines. We will take it on notice.	19/10/2011

EW0742_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman	FWO - conflicting advice	Senator ABETZ: Are you able now to provide to us a numerical record as to how many complaints you have received about conflicting advice? Mr Wilson: I do not know whether we can and I will take that aspect on notice.	19/10/2011
EW0743_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman	FWO - CoS investigation	Mr Wilson: I think we took the view that there were quite a number of findings which would be contested by any number of people, including the church and the complainants who had approached us. It is possibly not dissimilar to other complex and large investigations where we have done the same sort of thing as well. Senator ABETZ: You have? Mr Wilson: I believe we have. Senator ABETZ: Can you take on notice how often you have done this? That would be helpful.	19/10/2011
EW0744_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman	FWO - Ballina Case	Senator ABETZ: But wait a minute; you are a model litigant. Why would you be asking for a higher penalty than the one that you honestly anticipated? These are some of the things that add to the perception of the Fair Work Ombudsman's office by the small business community and the small business sector, and that is why I, with respect, Mr Wilson, pursue some of these matters with a degree of vigour, because I get to hear these concerns expressed on a fairly regular basis. Can you explain how asking for a higher penalty than you honestly believe would be provided is in harmony with the requirement of the Fair Work Ombudsman being a model litigant?..... Ms Webster: As to whether or not a higher amount was put, we would have to take that on notice.	19/10/2011
EW0745_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman	FWO - Ballina case	Senator ABETZ: ...Going back to the Ballina case, could you take on notice the amount of costs that were charged by the Australian Government Solicitor in pursuing this \$500 penalty. Mr Wilson: Certainly.	19/10/2011
EW0746_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman	FWO Brochure	Senator ABETZ: The Fair Work Ombudsman has produced a brochure Fair Work Ombudsman: Fair Work in the Contact Centre Industry. Is that a document that anybody at the table is aware of? Can you take on notice how many of those were produced and at what cost, what motivated this document and the date it was decided to produce this document. Mr Wilson: We will do that.	19/10/2011
EW0747_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman	FWO Brochure details	Senator ABETZ: On one of the inside pages it says: ... if an employer dismisses or threatens to dismiss an employee to re-engage them as an independent contractor to do substantially the same work, the Fair Work Inspector can apply to the courts to ... and then it talks about protecting the employee, which is all good. Have you produced a similar document for small business employers as to what sham contracting may or may not involve and what rights they might have to contract people and what benefits there may be for them, for their business, in engaging contractors rather than employees? Mr Wilson: We will take that on notice as well.	19/10/2011
EW0748_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	ABCC - State Government Submissions	Senator ABETZ: Did any state governments participate or provide a submission? Mr Johns: There was a submission from the New South Wales state government. Senator ABETZ: When was that? Mr Johns: I would have to take that on notice.	19/10/2011
EW0749_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	ABCC - Measure of industrial action	Senator ABETZ: Are you aware that an important ABS measure of industrial action has climbed to 44 days lost per 1,000 workers for the June quarter 2011? Mr Johns: I am. Senator ABETZ: Is it correct that this is the highest number since the ABCC was established? Mr Johns: I would have to go look back over all of the records. I am happy to take it on notice. It is certainly high.	19/10/2011
EW0750_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	ABCC - Distribution of staff	Mr Johns: There are currently 145 staff, Senator. Senator ABETZ: How does that compare to the last annual report, do we know? Mr Johns: It is static. Senator ABETZ: Roughly the same, thank you. Can you take on notice the distribution by office, state and territory, and their functions? How many have left in the past year? Mr Johns: I would have to take that on notice.	19/10/2011
EW0751_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	ABCC - Staffing and their roles	Senator ABETZ: Inspectors, all right. How many more staff in total have been recruited in the last 12 months? What roles have they taken on, and could you tell me if any of those recruitments are in fact new roles, as opposed to replacing those that have left? Mr Johns: I am happy to take that on notice.	19/10/2011
EW0752_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	ABCC - Letter from the Ombudsman	Mr Johns: The basis upon which I invited the Commonwealth Ombudsman to undertake the post-examination review was always intended to be—and was clearly communicated to his office—on a fee-for-service basis. Notwithstanding that it was going to be on that basis, on 12 October I was advised that, due to a limited number of staff with the skills required, and staff being committed elsewhere, the funding from the ABCC would not assist them at this time. Senator ABETZ: Take it on notice if need be, but do you feel at liberty to be able to provide to the committee the letter from the Ombudsman? Mr Johns: I might take on notice whether that is appropriate.	19/10/2011

EW0753_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	ABCC - Contractors	Senator ABETZ: It has been suggested—and this may assist you in identifying the case—that there was a letter dated 27 May from the ABCC, and it provided advice of the outcome of its investigation. The letter states that the ABCC's opinion was that the contractors are in fact employees, and I am advised that there are limited reasons and no evidence is provided to support that finding except for a table of boxes that includes generalised statements such as, 'Labourers require supervision and contractors are engaged to provide direct labour or supervision, so it is not likely the worker would subcontract his own work.' There was no individual reference to each employee. The HIA member, I am told, pays the super guarantee levy, superannuation contributions, long-service leave contributions and worker's compensation. I have been advised that in this case these payments have been taken into account by the ABCC as indicia of employment statutory obligations. But I am advised that they are equally applicable to contractors, and long-service leave has been paid only after CFMEU pressure to do so. Mr Campbell: I will struggle to traverse the nature of that investigation given that it is possibly ongoing. CHAIR: And, if it is ongoing, it is a bit problematic for us. Mr Campbell: So perhaps I	19/10/2011
EW0754_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	ABCC - Bogus contracting	Senator ABETZ: I asked if you could take on notice for me, if you are able to, in what submissions to your inquiry the term 'bogus contracting' was used. Mr Johns: I think I said I referred to the submissions and I also referred to academic material. Senator ABETZ: Yes. I am not going to give you the task of traversing all the academic material that might refer to it but just the submissions that have come to your organisation. Mr Johns: We will take that on notice.	19/10/2011
EW0755_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	ABCC - Gold coast University Hospital project	Senator ABETZ: It was 24 August 2011. It was entitled 'ABCC assessor subcontractor losses on Brisbane projects affected by industrial action'. I welcome this initiative, because often in these disputes subcontractors, small contractors, pay a very, very heavy price as well. It is in relation to the Gold Coast University Hospital project. It says: If your company has been adversely impacted or suffered a loss ... contact the ABCC. Without mentioning names, have any contacted you as yet? Mr Johns: I would have to take that on notice. Senator ABETZ: Did you also issue this by way of a media release? Mr Johns: I will take that on notice.	19/10/2011
EW0756_12	Cameron, Doug	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	ABCC - Budget	Mr Johns: I can certainly give you the budgetary breakdown between the work that we do on investigations, the work that we do on legal and the work that we do on education and building the capacity of the industry, yes. Senator CAMERON: Okay.	19/10/2011
EW0757_12	Cameron, Doug	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	ABCC - Education	Senator CAMERON: Can you provide me with details of the educational qualifications of people who you rely on to provide you with advice on the education process within the industry? Mr Ronson: Yes. It is a new function and there is currently some recruitment ongoing. But I will provide that information to you.	19/10/2011
EW0758_12	Cameron, Doug	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	ABCC - Costs of education	Senator CAMERON: Can you give me a breakdown on how much was spent on education, what the education processes were, what was done in terms of education and also, other than this Econtech nonsense that was carried out, whether there was any other analysis done on productivity. Mr Johns: We will take those on notice.	19/10/2011
EW0759_12	Cameron, Doug	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	ABCC - engagement with Ken Phillips	Senator CAMERON: I will ask you to take that on notice, and ask your staff whether they have had any engagement with Ken Phillips that you may not be aware of. Mr Johns: I will take that on notice.	19/10/2011
EW0760_12	Cameron, Doug	Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission	ABCC - Meeting attendance	Mr Johns: Yes. There was one meeting that occurred on 7 October between officers of the Department of Treasury and Finance in Victoria and the ABCC in relation to our operation of the national code. The guidelines from Victoria had not even been released then, so it was not— Senator CAMERON: You have not had any on the state government guidelines? Mr Johns: No. Senator CAMERON: Can you provide details of the state government officers who attended that meeting? Mr Johns: I will take that on notice.	19/10/2011
EW0761_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Comcare	Comcare - Amendment to letter	Senator ABETZ: .. I am asking you to dig into your memory and ascertain whether or not there was any request by the minister's office to change the correspondence. Mr Kibble: I am happy to take it on notice but, as I said, that is my recollection of what occurred.	19/10/2011
EW0762_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Comcare	Comcare - Discussions with the minister's office	Senator ABETZ: Did anybody else in the Comcare office have discussions with the minister's office about the draft letter? Mr Kibble: I am not aware of any other discussions, no. Senator ABETZ: Take it on notice,	19/10/2011

EW0763_12	Xenophon, Nick	Agency - Comcare	Comcare - CCDA Scheme	Senator XENOPHON: Further to that, has any special group been formed to deal with this issue? If it has, how many times have they met? Has a timeline being created for the creation and implementation of such a scheme? If so, when does it propose that the scheme be in place? Mr O'Connor: It is probably best that I take that on notice and give you the answer as to the membership of that. We do have a working group tasked with that with clear responsibility in terms of Comcare officials who are supporting the work of the two policy departments that are progressing that. The timetable in terms of any suggested possible legislative amendment obviously would be subject to what the government's view is in progressing that and any other suggested changes that had been tabled in this House and in the other place. Senator XENOPHON: Further that to that, if I can put on notice for a copy to be tabled of the timeline of the scheduling for the work done on this in getting a bill? And will a consultative draft of the scheme be released? And if so, what is an approximate time line for that? Mr O'Connor: I will take that on notice.	19/10/2011
EW0764_12	Xenophon, Nick	Agency - Comcare	Comcare - Ombudsman's report	Senator XENOPHON: My final question is has Comcare fully implemented the second recommendation in the Ombudsman's report, namely that Comcare should develop a procedure to assist any person to make a written request for reconsideration? If they make a request that is not in writing or indicate a wish to courier a payment; in other words, to help facilitate that? Mr O'Connor: Correct, that has been undertaken. We have revised our procedures to be able to make sure we do not take such a black-and-white view as that and to have a broad interpretation, as is intended under our legislation. But any offer to facilitate a remedy for the equivalent of defective or deficient administration is still subject to the legislative constraints that we have talked about at this committee before. Senator XENOPHON: If it were possible perhaps to table the new procedures, on notice, I would be very grateful.	19/10/2011
EW0765_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Comcare	COMCARE - OHS Act & transitional arrangements	Mr O'Connor: I believe it is in the current legislation. In the current legislation, the Occupational Health and Safety Act 1991, that the accreditation by the Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation commission— Senator ABETZ: No, the bill that is currently before the parliament does not have a provision for transitional arrangements for trainers that we are talking about, does it? Mr Kibble: We will take that on notice, just have to make sure.	19/10/2011
EW0766_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Comcare	Comcare - 2007 guidelines	Senator ABETZ: ..We were told by you that the reviewers were given the 2007 guidelines and that they are referred to on page 12 of the review. Can you just take on notice whereabouts on page 12 of the review you get that answer from? Mr Kibble: Yes, Senator.	19/10/2011
EW0767_12	Abetz, Eric	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	COAG requirements	Mr Hoy: No, it has not been published on our website. That is in accordance with COAG requirements in that it will not be published until the ministerial council makes the final decision on the regulations and codes of practice to which the regulation impact statement refers. Senator ABETZ: Do you have anything up on your website, Minister, relating to this? Senator Chris Evans: It is a very good question, Senator. I will have to take that on notice. I remember I issued a press release welcoming the regulatory impact statement. That would be on my site in terms of the media releases. I do not know, Mr Hoy, whether you have any understanding or whether there is other material. Do you mean generally, Senator Abetz, or relating to the RIS or— Senator ABETZ: No, the decision RIS. Senator Chris Evans: No,	19/10/2011
EW0768_12	Abetz, Eric	Agency - Safe Work Australia	Targets of reducing the incidence of work related deaths	Senator ABETZ: The national strategy sets the targets of reducing the incidence of work related deaths by at least 20 per cent and reducing the incidence of workplace injury by at least 40 per cent. How are we tracking on that?... Senator ABETZ: Are you able to tell us how close we are to it? If we were to draw the line now, would we be able to say we had reduced our workplace related deaths by 20 per cent? Mr Hoy: Amanda Grey, my colleague, who knows all about this, will answer your questions. Ms Grey: Sorry, I do not have it, but I am more than happy to take it on notice because we have fact sheets that can provide that information.	19/10/2011
EW0769_12	Bernardi, Cory	Outcome 4 - Employment	Job Services Australia and the tender process	Senator BERNARDI: What proportion of existing providers have been offered an invitation to roll over their services? Ms Parker: Ninety-six per cent is the answer. Senator BERNARDI: Okay. Do you have an actual figure? I do not have them in front of me. Ms Parker: Of providers? I will check. We might come back on that. Senator BERNARDI: Perhaps you can take it on notice. It is not terribly important. Ms Parker: That is fine. Thank you.	19/10/2011
EW0770_12	Bernardi, Cory	Outcome 4 - Employment	DEEWR job vacancy report	Senator BERNARDI: All right. Does the monthly DEEWR job vacancy report then rely on any of the data that is on the Australian JobSearch network? Ms Paul: I am not sure. Ms Parker: We will take that on notice. We do not have the people here who run this. Senator BERNARDI: I am sorry; I did not catch that. Ms Parker: We do not have the people here who run the AJS, so we will take it on notice if that is all right. Senator BERNARDI: Yes. If it does in any way then clearly the data would be unreliable if people could not close down available jobs. Ms Parker: We would need to check for those errors, yes. Ms Paul: We will check it out. Senator BERNARDI: If you could provide that information. But I do not want there to be misapprehension about what I am after. I wonder whether the data that is on the Australian JobSearch site is incorporated into the DEEWR vacancy report,	19/10/2011
EW0771_12	Bernardi, Cory	Outcome 4 - Employment	JSA	Senator SIEWERT: Do you have a breakdown of the ages of the people in stream 1, for example what percentage of them are young? Ms Parker: We will take that on notice. Senator BERNARDI: I think it would be interesting to get an age breakdown across all the streams and the lengths of time. Senator SIEWERT: One of the issues that I want to go to is how many of those people are older workers. Ms Parker: Yes. Senator BERNARDI: Please take that on notice. Are you clear about what we want? It is an age breakdown of the streams for two years plus, the streams for 12 months plus and the numbers overall.	19/10/2011

EW0772_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 4 - Employment	Employment Pathway Fund figures	Senator BACK: Please also give us some breakdown of the employment pathway funding allocated to stream 1 job seekers over the last 24 months. Ms Paul: Would you like that now? Senator BACK: If you have it available, that would be fantastic; otherwise please take that on notice. Ms Parker: We will take it on notice as we have a lot of data here.	19/10/2011
EW0773_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	various income support categories	Ms Parker: It could be overlapping. If they are on DSP and in JSA, Job Services Australia, that would overlap. Senator SIEWERT: So it does not necessarily mean that these are all people on Newstart? We need to be clear. Ms Parker: No, some of them would be on youth allowance and some would be on parenting payment. Senator SIEWERT: I will not go through breaking those down to the various income support categories. Could you take that on notice? Ms McKinnon: We can probably do that though.	19/10/2011
EW0774_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	JSA stream 4	Senator SIEWERT: Against the criteria for stream 4; do you do an analysis of those that are on there and if the 20 per cent of their significant disadvantage is homelessness? Do you know what I mean? You could look at what the characteristics are of that cohort of people. Ms Parker: Yes. The difficulty we have again is the multiple stuff. We would be able to tell you that there are this many job seekers with 17 disadvantages and some with eight, and how many with four. Senator SIEWERT: But do we know what they are? Is there a common thread across that? If mental health turns up in— Ms Parker: In how many categories? Senator SIEWERT: Yes. Ms Parker: Can we take that on notice and we will have a look? Senator SIEWERT: Yes.	19/10/2011
EW0775_12	Bernardi, Cory	Outcome 4 - Employment	Employment Pathways Program funding	Senator BERNARDI: How much of the Employment Pathways Program funding is allocated as stream 1 job seekers of the 7,776 who are unemployed for 24 months? Ms McKinnon: I do not have it by the length of unemployment and stream. Ms Paul: We will take it on notice. Ms McKinnon: I have it by stream but not further broken down by length of unemployment, so I will take that on notice. Senator BERNARDI: If you could take that on notice, that would be great	19/10/2011
EW0776_12	Bernardi, Cory	Outcome 4 - Employment	JOB relocation pilot - maximum spend	Senator BERNARDI: I asked a question before about the average cost per job seeker of this relocation pilot. You said it was \$1,929. What was the maximum spend? Ms McKinnon: \$9,000, and that is the maximum allowed under the program. Senator BERNARDI: How many people accessed that maximum? Ms McKinnon: I am not sure. I will take that on notice.	19/10/2011
EW0777_12	Bernardi, Cory	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Family Centred Employment Project	Senator BERNARDI: It is not just about doubling up. How many family members have gained employment? How many people have actually gained work, not so much the training and other stuff? I am interested in actual work. Are you able to tell me the average cost per family thus far? Dr Morehead: I will have to take that on notice.	19/10/2011
EW0778_12	Bernardi, Cory	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Family Centred Employment Project (FCEP) - Average cost per family excluding start-up cost	Senator BERNARDI: So there is a considerable start-up cost. My question then is, if you remove that, what is the average cost per family to facilitate them into this? You might not be able to provide me with that now. Ms Paul: We will probably have to take that on notice Dr Morehead: We will take that on notice. ... Senator BERNARDI: I am trying to exclude the hefty upfront cost of getting office space and staff and things of that nature. I just want to know what it costs to service a family in this program. Ms Paul: We will take that on notice. We will have to separate it. Senator BERNARDI: If you do not mind, that would be good. Ms Paul: Of course, these are absolutely the most disadvantaged families; so, compared with the cost of income support for, say, five years prior to one of them actually cracking a job under this scheme, I am told it is quite a cause for celebration. Senator BERNARDI: Ms Paul, I am just interested in the number.	19/10/2011
EW0779_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	Post Programming Monitoring Results for Job Services Australia	Ms McKinnon: I can tell you the post-programming monitoring. I can also give you by stream—which is a different thing—how many stream 1s have a job placement, a 13-week outcome and a 26-week outcome. The post-program monitoring program, with the scope of job seekers, is ask the job seeker three months after that, 'Are you currently in employment? Are you currently in educational training?' Senator SIEWERT: For each steam? Ms McKinnon: For each stream. Senator SIEWERT: So there are two possible outcomes. Ms McKinnon: Yes, and one is collected, simplistically, via payments to providers. That is how we know we have a job placement, a 13-week outcome and a 26-week outcome. The other is from the post-program monitoring where we contact job seekers and ask them. Senator SIEWERT: In that case, I think it is better if you take it on notice. Can I have both of those things that we have just talked about, against each of the streams? Ms McKinnon: Yes. Senator SIEWERT: How many of those who have gained employment or have got an outcome may have then cycled back in less than the 12 months—in other words, people that have come out of employment and gone back into the program? Ms McKinnon: We would have to take that on notice. The last data we	19/10/2011
EW0780_12	Bernardi, Cory	Outcome 4 - Employment	Work for the Dole	Senator BERNARDI: You cannot tell me how many people? Ms McKinnon: We will take it on notice, obviously	19/10/2011
EW0781_12	Fifield, Mitch	Outcome 4 - Employment	ESS Tender	Senator FIFIELD: How many DEEWR staff will be dedicated to undertaking the tender? Ms Parker: We will take that on notice. We have done some calculations on that, but we do not have it with us.	19/10/2011
EW0782_12	Fifield, Mitch	Outcome 4 - Employment	Providers of disability employment services at the Remote Participation and Employment Services Review community consultation forums	Ms Kidd: There were 42 consultation forums held in that period across I think five states. They were open consultations. A lot of providers in the local areas would have been invited. We do not have information on how many disability employment services providers actually attended. Senator FIFIELD: It is not something you can take on notice? It is just something you would not have a record of? Ms Kidd: I could check to see if there are attendance records, but I think it would be unlikely there would be that level of detail. Senator FIFIELD: Could you provide it if you have it, thank you? I	19/10/2011

EW0783_12	Fifield, Mitch	Outcome 4 - Employment	National Disability Recruitment Co-ordinator	Senator FIFIELD: How many people have been placed as a result of the program overall? Ms Buffinton: There has been two separate contracts. There was a national disability recruitment coordinator that existed before 1 March 2010 under a previous contract. The contract was relet and a new provider came in. I would have to take on notice the breakdown for 2009-10 because the figures would go up to 28 February. I have a figure for the whole year of 430 but there would be a split. So I would need to take that on notice.	19/10/2011
EW0784_12	Abetz, Eric	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	FWA Appointments	Mr Kovacic: None whatsoever. Senator ABETZ: For this round of appointments—and there were three of them, as I understand it—how many were on the short list that was submitted to the minister's office? Mr Kovacic: From memory, there were 10. Senator ABETZ: Can I have a breakdown of those 10? Mr Kovacic: I do not have those details with me, but I am happy to take that on notice.	19/10/2011
EW0785_12	Thistlewaite, Matt	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Domestic Violence Clearinghouse Project	Senator THISTLETHWAITE: And can you tell us how many employers have participated in the project? Ms Devereux: I do not think I have that level of detail here. We essentially funded an organisation to deliver the project for us rather than doing it ourselves. Mr Kovacic: We might take that on notice	19/10/2011
EW0786_12	Thistlewaite, Matt	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Domestic Violence Clearinghouse Project	Senator THISTLETHWAITE: Those organisations that you mentioned earlier appear to all be in New South Wales. Is that the case? Are there other organisations in other states? Ms Devereux: I do not have that information here, so— Senator THISTLETHWAITE: Perhaps you can take that on notice to see if it is wider than New South Wales. That is all I have about that	19/10/2011
EW0787_12	Thistlewaite, Matt	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Outworkers	national law? Mr Kovacic: I would have to take the precise level of inconsistency on notice. I think it would be fair to say that there is a degree of commonality. Some of the areas of difference in some of the state legislation enable state governments to issue codes. My understanding is that those codes have been issued in New South Wales, possibly South Australia and Queensland, but I would need to double-check on that. We can come back with an answer on notice about any differences between federal and state legislation.	19/10/2011
EW0788_12	Abetz, Eric	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	Annual Report productivity figures	Mr Kovacic: I am looking at the footnotes, and they do not really help me, so would you mind if I take that on notice? Senator ABETZ: Yes. These are thick documents—voluminous, I should say, not thick. Mr Kovacic: Perhaps this might assist. If you go to page 125, under the heading 'Productivity', the second line says: ... productivity growth ... decreased by 1.0 per cent (trend terms) over the year to the June quarter 2011, down from an increase of 1.4 per cent over the year to the June quarter 2010— which does not necessarily align with the figures in the table. Senator ABETZ: No. If you can take that on notice and provide, possibly, a footnote for me, that would be good	19/10/2011
EW0789_12	Abetz, Eric	Outcome 4 - Employment	Underemployment	Senator Chris Evans: Whereas America is at 9.something and the eurozone is around the 10 per cent mark. But it has been softer in the last few months than was originally predicted. Senator ABETZ: What figures do we have in relation to underemployment? Mr Kovacic: I will have to take that on notice. Ms Paul: We do have some figures on that, but we do not have them here.	19/10/2011
EW0790_12	Abetz, Eric	Outcome 4 - Employment	Underemployment - Roy Morgan Group survey	Senator ABETZ: The Roy Morgan group also has a survey of underemployment that comes out on a regular basis. Without taking up too much time, is the department of the view that that is generally a robust, reliable measure? Ms Paul: I am happy to take that on notice.	19/10/2011
EW0791_12	Abetz, Eric	Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy	FWA Appointments	Senator ABETZ: Do we have an indication as to how many vacancies we might be expecting this year? Mr Kovacic: To be precise I would prefer to take it on notice, but the minister has alluded to a couple, probably one at the deputy president level and one at the commissioner level.	19/10/2011
EW0792_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	Repeat Offenders in SEAM	Senator SIEWERT: Thank you. How many of those that have both the enrolment side of things and also the attendance of those 96 are cycling on and off? In other words, they have had their child at school, the child has been in attendance for a while and then they have dropped off again. Mr Kovacic: We will take on notice the extent to which there are repeat offenders.	20/10/2011
EW0793_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	SEAM - Schools in SEAM locations	Dr Morehead: There are 14 locations in SEAM. In terms of the actual school numbers I think there are around 43. Mr Kovacic: There are 14 schools in the Northern Territory and 30 in Queensland since October 2009. Senator SIEWERT: Can you give me a list of those groups? Dr Morehead: Yes, we can.	20/10/2011
EW0794_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	SEAM monitoring data	Dr Morehead: The monitoring data is not publicly available. Senator SIEWERT: It is not publicly available. What does it measure? Dr Morehead: A few things. We measure what people think about SEAM. We have done qualitative research on what people—for example, parents and teachers—think about it now. Senator SIEWERT: Why isn't that publicly available? Dr Morehead: We probably could make that publicly available. Senator SIEWERT: If you could, that would be good.	20/10/2011
EW0795_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	SEAM - Suspensions for failure of parents to respond	Senator SIEWERT: Regarding the issue around whether the parent responds, has anybody been suspended because they have failed to respond? Could you take that on notice? Dr Morehead: We will take that on notice, yes.	20/10/2011

EW0796_12	Abetz, Eric	Cross Portfolio	DEEWR Staff cuts	Senator ABETZ: What number of those is via natural attrition? Ms Paul: We are hoping to achieve all of it by natural attrition if we can, and that is the course we have taken so far. We did use voluntary redundancy in the last financial year, when the number was higher and the requirement to reduce was greater. This year we are hoping not to have to do that. Senator ABETZ: You tell us you are at 35 per cent of 200. Does that mean about 70 positions? Ms Paul: Yes. Senator ABETZ: If it is not too much work, are you able to tell us what level of staff and in what areas? Ms Paul: I think that might be a bit hard to know, given that it is natural attrition. I could certainly have done that if it was by way of voluntary redundancy, where we process every one. But I will give it a go on notice, if I may. Ms Paul: Sure. Just to clarify your question, I think what you probably want is how many voluntary redundancies by state. Is that what you want? Senator ABETZ: And not replacements. Ms Paul: They would not have been replaced.	20/10/2011
EW0797_12	Abetz, Eric	Cross Portfolio	funding for the ACTU	Senator ABETZ: No, but through natural attrition. So voluntary redundancies and natural attrition—that is, if there used to be 20 in a state office and there are now only 18—and what positions. Turning quickly to EW0115_12, I could not help but notice that we continue to fund from all sorts of areas the government's carbon tax cheer squad, but the real question I want to ask is about the funding for the ACTU of around \$3.8 million. We were given 'The nature of the payments is as follows:'. Thank you for that detail. Could I be given a split up of that on notice please. Ms Paul: Sure. A split up of activity? Senator ABETZ: I was told that the \$3,794,565.86 was 'attendance of ACTU staff at various committees, forums and International Labour Organisation meetings'. If you could just categorise it and say how much for 'meeting obligations for Safe Work Australia and the provision of services to advance the National Occupational Health and Safety Strategy' Ms Paul: All right. We will take that on notice	20/10/2011
EW0798_12	Mason, Brett	Cross Portfolio	Fraud probe	Senator MASON: Thank you. I now move to cross-portfolio issues. I do not always read the Sydney Morning Herald but on 19 September there was an article 'Fraud probe snares top bureaucrats'. It does not relate to DEEWR; it relates to the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry. Have any DEEWR departmental officials been investigated internally for fraud in the past two financial years? Ms Paul: We can give you the statistics on that. Senator MASON: And can you provide the levels of seniority of those departmental employees? Ms Paul: Yes.	20/10/2011
EW0799_12	Mason, Brett	Cross Portfolio	DEEWR Staff	Senator MASON: Is it also possible to know whether any DEEWR employees have been disciplined, demoted or terminated in the past two financial years as a result of fraud investigation? Ms Paul: Yes, we can give you that.	20/10/2011
EW0800_12	Mason, Brett	Cross Portfolio	overpaying salaries	Senator MASON: Are there any issues with DEEWR overpaying salaries in the last two financial years? Mr Storen: Undoubtedly, with over 6,000 employees, there would be instances of that occurring, and there are processes in place for recovery. We can collect that information for you.	20/10/2011
EW0801_12	Mason, Brett	Cross Portfolio	corporate credit cards	Senator MASON: Have there been any cases in DEEWR let us say during the last two financial years of corporate credit cards being misused by officers of the department? Mr Storen: Yes, there have been a very small number of instances of that occurring. We have quite robust acquittal processes where they are picked up quite quickly, and then we have different processes for any that require what we would call a code of conduct discussion with a staff member or a referral to a full fraud investigation. Senator MASON: I know we have to be careful with names here, but is it possible to let the committee know the levels of seniority of the employees and what the nature of the misuse was, what reimbursement was sought and so forth? Mr Storen: Yes. Mr Kriz: Only subject to this proviso—in relation to current investigations, or if in answering something we would reveal some sort of operational details which might prejudice the investigation, that would be of concern to us. CHAIR: I think the information should only encompass concluded investigations. You might also advise us how many investigations are on foot in that instance, but no details about them until they are concluded. Senator MASON: You might also outline the monitoring processes that DEEWR undertake. Are there any instances of	20/10/2011
EW0802_12	Mason, Brett	Cross Portfolio	Contracts - CN410106 and CN410106-A1	Senator MASON: Yes, of which there is quite a bit now. The contract was amended on 13 October 2011. Is that again related to the change of the company? Mr Storen: I do not have that precise timing. Senator MASON: Could you check that? Mr Storen: Yes.	20/10/2011
EW0803_12	Mason, Brett	Cross Portfolio	car parking spaces	Senator MASON: Is it possible to provide, in table form, a list of the car parking spaces owned, leased or rented by the department in Queensland? Is that possible? Mr Manthorpe: I would think so. Senator MASON: How much do they cost to purchase or rent and who are they allocated to? Is that possible? Mr Storen: We could provide the information by town or city, how many car parks and what we are paying for them. Ms Paul: Do you want it for everywhere or just in Brisbane? Senator MASON: In particular, Brisbane.	20/10/2011
EW0804_12	Mason, Brett	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Consultant Ms Alison Johns	Ms Paul: Yes, I believe so. I think we have got her work in. We can go into more detail this afternoon if you like with the higher education people, but basically that is right. She came here, went out and about and consulted broadly, and I think we have now got the results of her work. Senator MASON: She was a consultant, and I think her fee had yet to	20/10/2011

EW0805_12	Mason, Brett	Agency - Australian Curriculum, Assessment & Reporting Authority	ACARA - BC and AD terms	Senator MASON:.. They all use BC and AD. Niall Ferguson is probably the most pre-eminent historian in the world at the moment and he does not use those terms. In fact, I find them confusing. When I see BCE, I thought it was before the Christian era or something. I find those terms confusing. Does anyone know any popular historian who uses the terms BCE and CE? I do not know any. Mr Randall: We could provide more detail about that. cont pg 24 Mr Randall: That we will add the example of BC and AD as ongoing historical terms and concepts that we continue to want young people to learn in school. Senator MASON: So what is going to happen to BCE and CE? Mr Randall: They would be there, because they continue to be terms that are used. On your point about references, I would be happy to provide to you a follow-up about the sources that will support the use of those terms.	20/10/2011
EW0806_12	Mason, Brett	Agency - Australian Curriculum, Assessment & Reporting Authority	ACARA - NAPLAN results	Senator MASON: These questions may need to be taken on notice. I am not a statistician, you might recall, Dr Hill, but we will see how we go. In the last NAPLAN results what percentage of students in year 9 fell within the bottom quarter of achievement on the year 7 scale? Dr Hill: I would have to take that on notice. Senator MASON: Can I read these out—and I suspect you may have to take the lot on notice. Now that there is a common scale, I am starting to understand how NAPLAN works. I think the committee will find this very interesting information. In the last NAPLAN, what percentage of year 9 students fell within the bottom quarter of achievement on the year 5 scale? In the last NAPLAN results what percentage of year 9 students fell within the bottom quarter of achievement on the year 3 scale? With respect to year 7 students, in the last NAPLAN results what percentage of year 7 students fell within the bottom quarter of achievement on the year 5 scale? And in the last NAPLAN results what percentage of year 7 students fell within the bottom quarter of achievement on the year 3 scale? In the last NAPLAN results what percentage of year 5 students fell within the bottom quarter of achievement on the year 3 scale? Do you see what I am doing? Dr Hill: Yes, looking at the overlap. Senator	20/10/2011
EW0807_12	Mason, Brett	Agency - Australian Curriculum, Assessment & Reporting Authority	ACARA NAPLAN Results 3	Senator MASON: In the last NAPLAN results what percentage of year 9 students are falling below the national minimum standards for year 5? And in the last NAPLAN results what percentage of year 9 students are falling below the national minimum standards for year 7? In the last NAPLAN results what percentage of year 7 students are falling below the national minimum standards for year 3? In the last NAPLAN results what percentage of year 7 students are falling below the national minimum standards for year 5? And finally, in the last NAPLAN results what percentage of year 5 students are falling below the national minimum standards for year 3?	20/10/2011
EW0808_12	Back, Chris	Agency - Australian Curriculum, Assessment & Reporting Authority	ACARA - last round of NAPLAN scores	Senator BACK: I wonder if it is possible to take on notice for us a number of things for the last round of NAPLAN scores, if in fact your data sets allow you to do this: firstly, the performance of students who are homeschooled vis-a-vis the entire population with regard to NAPLAN; secondly, School of the Air students; thirdly, if it is possible, an understanding of the difference in the performance of students in cities and major regional towns as opposed to smaller rural schools, schools in rural communities; finally—I refer to Steiner schools, but what term do you use for boutique or exotic schools? Senator Chris Evans: Be careful there, Senator. You are digging a very big hole. Senator BACK: I know. I have been at the AD and BC stuff. I just want to know: is there a term that is actually used for schools that are not in the mainstream? Dr Hill: Some of them fall under systems, and where they fall under systems they are fairly readily identified. Senator BACK: But the students must complete the NAPLAN test, mustn't they? Everybody must do that. Dr Hill: Yes, if they are in a registered school—and of course the home students are not. Senator BACK: They do not sit the NAPLAN test? Dr Hill: If they are not in a registered school we do not have their data. Senator BACK: But do they sit the NAPLAN test? Dr Hill:	20/10/2011
EW0809_12	Thistlewaite, Matt	Agency - Australian Curriculum, Assessment & Reporting Authority	ACARA - alternative schools	Senator THISTLETHWAITE: Would that also include an international school that might be only offering the International Baccalaureate? Dr Hill: It would be hard for us to identify such schools unless they had it in the title. If a school happens to be running the International Baccalaureate program, we do not have in our database that indicator or who is doing it. Senator THISTLETHWAITE: But if they are not offering domestic courses as such, if they are only offering those courses, they would not be subject to NAPLAN? Dr Hill: Yes, if they were a registered school they would still do NAPLAN. Senator BACK: So it would be interesting if we can as a group receive data on those as well. Dr Hill: We will take it on notice and we will see what we can do in terms of breakdown.	20/10/2011
EW0810_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	AITSL- three projects	Senator SIEWERT: Yes, I know about the three projects. There is the one for the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership, in partnership with the committee of university deans, to improve preservice training. There is another project, I understand, on in-service training and there is another one which is to support more Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander educators. So I know about the projects; what I am after is some detail around the three projects. You might want to take that on notice, but also what is the timetable for each project and what involvement has there been or will there be with consulting the stolen generation bodies that are obviously very interested in these issues? Ms Davy: They are contracts which we have provided to the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership, as you indicated, so it would be appropriate for them to respond to those questions so we would need to take that on notice and ask for those details from AITSL.	20/10/2011
EW0811_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	AITSL 3 projects	Senator SIEWERT: ... Have you provided any guidance to them about some of the key things that you want to ensure are key parts of those projects? Ms Davy: There will be in our funding agreements and scope of services some specifics about that. I have not got those details with me but I am happy to take it on notice.	20/10/2011
EW0812_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Focus schools under National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Plan	National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Plan Senator SIEWERT: Is it possible to get a breakdown state-by-state? I know my own state but I do not always know the regions in the state. Can we also break that down into regions? Mr Goodwin: Certainly. The state-by-state breakdown is actually up on the MCEECDYA website but we can break it down into regions for you as well. Senator SIEWERT: I would appreciate that. What is the total school population of those 887 schools?	20/10/2011

EW0813_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	focus schools - completed program	Senator SIEWERT: Can you tell me how many of the focus schools have completed their school and community partnership action plans? Mr Goodwin: Not at this stage but I can certainly take that on notice for you.	20/10/2011
EW0814_12	Marshall, Gavin	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Age of Chaplains	CHAIR: I have a couple of questions. Is there a minimum age of a chaplain? How old does a chaplain have to be? Mr Sheedy: There is no minimum. Ms Paul: But of course the changes require certain qualifications and, therefore— CHAIR: They are the changes. But what about now? How many chaplains do we have who are under 18? Ms Paul: Under 18 years old, I do not know. Mr Sheedy: I do not know. I would assume none or a very small number. CHAIR: How many are under 16? Mr Sheedy: I do not know. CHAIR: Can we find out? Mr Sheedy: Yes, we can.	20/10/2011
EW0815_12	Marshall, Gavin	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Age Chaplaincy	CHAIR: Will you be able to find out if there are age categories? Could you find out how many chaplains are under 21 and then of those how old they are? Mr Sheedy: Yes.	20/10/2011
EW0816_12	Marshall, Gavin	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	chaplains	CHAIR: Could the chaplain be a student at the school that they are a chaplain for? ... Ms Paul: It is extremely unlikely. We will take on notice whether we know of any instances.	20/10/2011
EW0817_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	In-Home Care Places	Senator BACK: The same witness spoke about the remote in-home care which some families can access under the childcare benefit. My understanding is, if a family finds its own carer, it helps pay their wages. The main restriction is that the places are very limited and there is a long waiting list. First of all, is the department aware of this concern? Second, is there anything in train to try to address it? Mr Baker: I am not aware of anything. Mr Davies: I cannot recall anything being specifically raised with us on that one. Senator BACK: I understood it had been raised in that correspondence. Mr Davies: We will need to check	20/10/2011
EW0818_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	parental capability building workshops	Mr Baker: I have not actually got the number of parent workshops that were run in the same location, Senator. So I would be careful to draw that assumption. Mr Davies: We could take that on notice, Senator. I just cannot recall whether they do parallel or whether there is a slightly different pattern.	20/10/2011
EW0819_12	Back, Chris	Agency - Safe Work Australia	WISE program, the Volunteers for Isolated Students' Education	Senator BACK: Right. I only draw it to your attention. It is an organisation which has been going for about 20 years, by which, as the name suggests, retired teachers volunteer their time in remote station, et cetera. The reason I draw it to your attention is that—and it possibly may not come under your area of influence—legislation seems to be changing to the effect that, although they earn no funds and are paid nothing, they are to be considered as employees and not volunteers. This is going to change substantially the whole relationship in terms of insurance, especially for occupational health and safety. But it would appear not to be something under your control. Ms Wall: No, but certainly we are happy to— CHAIR: I think that was discussed with the workplace ombudsman yesterday. Ms Wall: Yes. We can follow that up with our colleagues. I know that I have met with them in the past on a different issue. They were concerned about different teacher registration issues in every state, because it stopped a New South Wales trained teacher from going to the Northern Territory without going through a separate registration. Our current which was announced last week and ministers agreeing to a national approach to registration is going to help that problem, but we can have a look at it. Senator BACK: If	20/10/2011
EW0820_12	Mason, Brett	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	UNESCO-sanctioned International Olympiad in Informatics	Ms Davy: I am not aware of any approaches to DEEWR around support for that. I am sorry, I cannot answer that question. I am happy to take it on notice and find out whether there have been any such approaches. Senator MASON: Can you do that? See if there has been any sort of forward planning for it. I understand it is about computers and those sorts of things. It is not quite my strength or my issue. I am sure it is very important for many students. Ms Davy: Yes. Senator MASON: If you could just take that on notice and let the committee know, we would be very grateful.	20/10/2011
EW0821_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Schools per trade training centre	Senator BACK: I guess one answers the other, does it? There are about three schools per trade training centre? Ms Smith: It very much varies. A number of stand-alone schools are stand-alone trade training centres. Senator BACK: Perhaps you could just take that on notice and give me a breakdown. Ms Smith: Yes. Senator BACK: How many of these are in non-government schools? Ms Smith: We are just looking to see whether we have a sectoral split; otherwise, we may need to take that on notice.	20/10/2011
EW0822_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	number of students who are currently training in a trade at a trade training centre	Senator BACK: I wonder if you could tell me the number of students who are currently training in a trade at a trade training centre? Ms Smith: We do not have that available. Senator BACK: Please take it on notice. Can you also take on notice the number of hours on average that each centre is being utilised during the teaching weeks. Ms Smith: We will take that on notice.	20/10/2011
EW0823_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Trade training centres in Western Sydney	Senator BACK: Good. Can you either tell me or take on notice to provide a list of the trade training centres that are currently up and running in that jurisdiction of Western Sydney and what courses they are running? Mr Edwards: We may be able to get that for you now, Senator. Otherwise, we will take that on notice. Ms Smith: We will need to take it on notice, I believe.	20/10/2011

EW0824_12	McKenzie, Bridget	Agency - Australian Curriculum, Assessment & Reporting Authority	ACARA - online version of NAPLAN	Senator MCKENZIE: Is it a more efficient use of resources in schools on the ground to go to an online version of NAPLAN rather than the bits of paper and the kids at the desk? Dr Arthur: I think we will need to explore that. I think the assumption we will probably have is 'yes', but we will need to do this carefully and, indeed, find some of those things out. Senator MCKENZIE: Has a cost-benefit analysis been done? Ms Paul: ACARA administers the National Assessment Program, and they are starting to look at that. I do not think they have finished looking at that. Probably what I would suggest is that, because they will have done more work by the next estimates, either we can take that on notice now and ask them now—but there will be more— Senator MCKENZIE: Are they still here? Ms Paul: No, they have been and gone. We can certainly take it on notice, or there will be more to say in February anyway, at which point you might want to ask ACARA directly.	20/10/2011
EW0825_12	Mason, Brett	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	National Broadband Network	The department took that question on notice. Unless I am mistaken, it does not seem to have been answered—I cannot find it—so have any of the four secondary schools in the five first-release sites been connected to the NBN? Dr Arthur: We can certainly help you. The question has been answered, as is our understanding— Senator MASON: How come I cannot find it? I am usually quite good at these things. Dr Arthur: We can probably read out the answer. I have one answer which is EW-861 and 651. My colleague has referred it to me. The number is 476 of 12. Senator MASON: If it has been answered that is fine. Have any of the four secondary schools in the first five release sites been connected? Ms Bloor: Four schools have been connected on mainland to the NBN and six in Tasmania. Senator MASON: And those four secondary schools are in the first five first-release sites? Ms Bloor: Yes, they are. Senator MASON: Ms Bloor, when were they connected? Ms Bloor: Those figures are as at 17 October. Those schools are connected but I cannot at this point answer when they were connected but I could take that on notice.	20/10/2011
EW0826_12	Mason, Brett	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	NBN Locations	Ms Paul: Yes and the day before yesterday, Ms Bloor said, in addition to that 19, there is an additional 28. Senator MASON: Is that 28 sites? Ms Bloor: New locations. Ms Paul: New locations.Senator MASON: What does that different terminology mean? Ms Bloor: To be precise I would prefer to take it on notice, Senator. It could simply be that there are additional towns being added to what are more general geographic areas.	20/10/2011
EW0827_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Youth support and the Australian Youth Forum	Senator BACK: I refer to youth support and the Australian Youth Forum receiving funding or support. In response to question EW0484 at a previous estimates, evidence was given that the Australian Youth Climate Coalition received financial support under the Australian Youth Forum program. First of all, is that correct? Can you confirm the amount of funds that the AYCC received as part of this funding? Mr Fernando: I can confirm that we did not actually say the Australian Youth Climate Coalition received any funds, and they did not through the Australian Youth Forum. Senator BACK: Did they receive any departmental funding at all? Mr Fernando: I cannot speak for the department but I can certainly speak for this particular program. They have not received any funding through this program. Senator BACK: So the information that my colleague Senator Birmingham had, that they received \$271,000, is, to your knowledge, not correct? Mr Fernando: That is right. Ms Paul: At least from this program unless it comes from somewhere else. Clearly, he thought it must have been from this program. Senator BACK: Yes. It certainly is raised in the youth support element. So you are now aware of it under this program, but can you take on notice whether there are other programs under which it may have	20/10/2011
EW0828_12	Mason, Brett	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	NBN Sites	Ms Bloor: What we have is a time line that the NBN has announced for connecting those sites, not the schools within them, and they vary up to August 2012.Senator MASON: Can you provide the committee with the connection timetable for those sites and, I should say, additional locations? Ms Bloor: That was released by the NBN the day before yesterday but we can certainly provide it. Senator MASON: You can pass that on to the committee. In your evidence 16 schools were connected in Tasmania. Is that correct? Ms Bloor: No. There are seven schools in the first communities in Tasmania. Six of those have been connected to the NBN. Senator MASON: Are they all secondary schools? Ms Bloor: No, they are not. One of them at least was a primary school. I do have the breakdown of all of the 115 schools in Tasmania by education level but not of those six. Dr Arthur: We can take that on notice.	20/10/2011
EW0829_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	AIC Scheme	Senator BACK: For a typical family, what does that \$2,061 represent as a percentage loss to what they would be enjoying currently? If you cannot tell me that now, can you take it on notice for families with one, two and three dependent children. Mr Baker: I will take it on notice, but it would probably depend on the mix of allowances that the individuals receive.	20/10/2011
EW0830_12	Mason, Brett	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Math & science Olympiad	Senator MASON: Can I just ask that you take this on notice: has consideration been given to funding that? Ms Paul: We will take it on notice. I do not know. Senator MASON: Also, is that particular report publicly available? I have not seen it. Ms Paul: I will find out. I do not know the answer to that. Senator MASON: If it is, could it be made available. If not, then clearly it cannot. Ms Paul: Yes.	20/10/2011
EW0831_12	Mason, Brett	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	BER variations	Mr Thomas: There have been variations within the science and language centre element since the last estimates. Senator MASON: How many have been given variations with respect to time? Mr Thomas: I would have to take that on notice. Senator MASON: But the one with the longest extension is 31 March 2012? Mr Thomas: That is correct. Senator MASON: You do not know how many have been given that time extension? Mr Thomas: We will take that on notice.	20/10/2011
EW0832_12	Mason, Brett	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	schools closures after the BER project	Senator MASON: How many schools have closed after the BER project finished? Mr Thomas: We would have to take that on notice. Senator MASON: I would be interested. Mr Thomas: Sure. Senator MASON: Can you take that not just for round 1 but for the entire BER. Mr Kovacic: Certainly. Senator MASON: How many have closed after completion? Mr Thomas: Yes—schools that have had BER projects, which have closed	20/10/2011

EW0833_12	Mason, Brett	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Victorian schools have lost playgrounds and basketball courts as a result of the BER.	Senator MASON: Can I ask a question that relates to an article in the Sunday Age—and I rarely read the Sunday Age, Ms Paul. I tend to read the Weekend Australian, although I occasionally read the Age when it attracts me. There was an article on 18 September which reported that dozens of Victorian schools have lost playgrounds and basketball courts as a result of the BER. It is alleged that these schools allowed their playground and basketball courts to be used to construct the new buildings under the BER with an understanding that the old buildings that were being replaced would be torn down, and playgrounds and basketball courts built in their place. These schools have been told that there is no money left in the BER program for demolition. Senator Chris Evans: This is a good reason for not reading the Age, Senator. We need an explanation. Senator MASON: I usually do not. Much as I know it is a very sophisticated paper, it is far too sophisticated for us Queenslanders. Are you aware of that issue, gentlemen? Mr Kovacic: Yes, we are aware of the issue. Senator MASON: Have you received any direct representations regarding the problems? Mr Kovacic: We are not aware of any representations having been received. Senator MASON: Do you have any idea how many schools are affected? Mr	20/10/2011
EW0834_12	Scullion, Nigel	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Indigenous Support Program	Senator SCULLION: Ms Paul, I would like to ask a couple of questions on the Indigenous Support Program. Could I have the current budget for the ISP? Ms Schofield: I am just having a look for that for you now, Senator. For 2011-12 the current budget for the Indigenous Support Program is \$36.757 million. Senator SCULLION: Can you give me an idea of the current expenditure of that? Ms Schofield: I will double-check that. Senator SCULLION: You do not have to provide it immediately if you have some challenges in terms of its accuracy. You can take it on notice. Mr Griew: Do you mean the spend at this point in this financial year or at the end of the last financial year? Senator SCULLION: The spend in the context of the answer to the previous question, which is the current budget. Ms Schofield: We will have to take that on notice.	20/10/2011
EW0835_12	Scullion, Nigel	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Indigenous Support Program student numbers	Ms Schofield: ... But I will go back and talk about numbers for a second and then come to that question. On the numbers side, I would say that the funding that is distributed to institutions from the Indigenous Support Program is based on the student numbers that are in each institution, and those numbers are derived from the data that institutions provide to the department twice a year. Those data collections are validated and verified by the institutions themselves. So there is a bit of cross-checking there that takes place. Senator SCULLION: If, for example, it is twice year, then would the institution get a benefit every six months even if some people dropped away? It is easier to say, 'If they're there for that six-month block you get paid, and if they are not you shouldn't be.' Is that pretty much it, or a part of it? Ms Schofield: Yes, I think so; but I will take it on notice and confirm that for you.	20/10/2011
EW0836_12	Mason, Brett	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	how many higher education providers are operating effectively on three semesters	Senator MASON: Has it had any effect on the data you collect or anything like that? Senator Chris Evans: We will take it on notice and see what we find. I would be interested myself. Senator MASON: Could you also take on notice how many universities operate, in effect, a trimester system? I will have to leave it with you precisely what that means because it is, I concede, is a grey area. Senator Chris Evans: I know it is more common now, like distance learning and all those other aspects Ms Paul: In a technical sense, the main impact it potentially has on measurement is how we measure a full-time student. What we like to call the EFTSL, the equivalent full-time student load, is effected continuously and that is what Mr Warburton was referring to and how we count. Otherwise I would not have thought the impact would be too great. Mr Griew: We will try and find out how many higher education providers are operating effectively on three semesters and how many students are involved, and if there is anything that particularly marks those providers out in our data.	20/10/2011
EW0837_12	Rhiannon, Lee	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Funding Agreements	Senator RHIANNON: Can you give us a list of where approval has to be sought? Mr Warburton: I could give you copies of the condition in the funding agreement. Senator RHIANNON: Thank you	20/10/2011
EW0838_12	Rhiannon, Lee	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Report - crisis about young academics	Senator RHIANNON: I just want to move on to the issue of university academic appointments. There is increasing casualisation in this area. Could you tell the committee what the government is doing to arrest the alarming decrease in young academics planning to work long term in Australian universities? Senator Chris Evans: In a study the other day, that was wrong. Ms Paul: We monitor the staffing arrangements in universities, but we do not control them. We do not seek to constrain universities' decisions about their staffing complement and so on. Senator Chris Evans: I am sure there was a recent report. It was reported in the paper in a totally misleading way that there was a crisis about young academics. I actually looked at the report and you would draw a different conclusion from that. Do we have a copy of that reference to the report?...cont on page 84 Mr Griew: We will take notice to find the report that the minister has referred to—	20/10/2011

EW0839_12	Mason, Brett	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	published attrition rates by demographic characteristic	Mr Aungles: For the 2010 data which we have recently released we have attrition rates for the sector as a whole and by institution. Currently we do not have published attrition rates by demographic characteristic but we could produce those if required. So those low SES attrition rates and retention rates are not in the published data. Senator MASON: Why is it that they are not in the published data? Mr Aungles: It is about the volume of information. We publish attrition rates at a fairly aggregate level. Ms Paul: We can probably take it on notice. Mr Aungles: We will take it on notice, Senator. Senator MASON: I am with the minister on this. It is a signal priority of the government to increase low SES students and Professor Bradley said that in her review, and that is a good thing—and I think, Mr Hazlehurst and Ms Paul, you and I had a discussion about this last time. It is a good thing to increase participation. But, as the minister said before—and it is true—in the end it is all actually about completion. So perhaps it would be a good idea, if it were possible, to have this. Clearly, participation has been marked so therefore completion should be able to be marked in terms of the statistics available. Ms Paul: We will take on notice the question and also the consideration of publication.	20/10/2011
EW0840_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Science and Engineering Challenge	Senator BACK: Ms Paul, we have received correspondence to the effect that funding for the Science and Engineering Challenge has been severely cut. Are you familiar with that, or is one of your officers familiar with the Science and Engineering Challenge? Ms Paul: Is it for schoolchildren or university students? Senator BACK: University. The University of Newcastle organise it, I understand. Ms Paul: Just looking around the room, I think we probably need to take it on notice.	20/10/2011
EW0841_12	Scullion, Nigel	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	ABSTUDY secondary budget	Senator SCULLION: So, in terms of secondary school student assistance, what was the total ABSTUDY secondary budget? Ms Milliken: The budget for ABSTUDY for 2011-12 is \$204.8 million. I do not have it broken down into secondary and tertiary. Ms Paul: We will have to take that on notice. Senator SCULLION: Okay. I assume you are not going to have a breakdown of the payments by student age and location? I understand you will not have that now, if you do not have the previous one. Ms Milliken: No, I do not have the information. Senator SCULLION: I wonder if you would be able to take on notice for me. Ms Milliken: Absolutely.	20/10/2011
EW0842_12	Scullion, Nigel	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Abstudy secondary - means test	Senator SCULLION: That is the secondary Abstudy element. I am just asking these questions because that was the way it was broken down. This question specifically relates to Abstudy secondary? Ms Milliken: The same rules apply to Abstudy, whether it is secondary or tertiary, in terms of dependant students. There are some circumstances where parental income and assets tests do not apply. We could probably take that on notice and give you a more full answer. Senator SCULLION: If you just give me an indication of where to find it, I would be happy with that.	20/10/2011
EW0843_12	Scullion, Nigel	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Abstudy - breakdown - at and away from home	Senator SCULLION: I wonder if you could just take the at home and away from home elements on notice. Ms Milliken: Your earlier questions specifically about secondary students, so are you interested in whether the secondary are not in relation to this question or is it just generally in respect of Abstudy? Senator SCULLION: I am. My questions relate broadly to secondary school and to tertiary. Ms Paul: We should be able to break it down like that. Senator SCULLION: If you could break them into both of those, that would be very useful.	20/10/2011
EW0844_12	Scullion, Nigel	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	ABSTUDY - non-attendance	Senator SCULLION: I can understand that. Let's say, we get into day 10 and five of those days have not been attended already. Is this only amortised or rationalised at the end of every term or is there another trigger earlier to say: 'Look, they're just not turning up. They turned up for one day and we haven't seen them since'? Is there a trigger process before the end of the term? For example, they might attend for one day and think, 'School's for the crows; I'm just not coming back,' so they get a full term of payment and it is never ever able to be amortised. Is there an interim trigger, I suppose, if the five days are exceeded? Mr Pattie: We would have to check the practical application from Centrelink's point of view. But, essentially, the school could contact Centrelink at any stage if that child was not at school and that would then trigger that situation. Senator SCULLION: It is quite a complex area. I understand. You might not have the completeness of it. On notice, could you provide me with a brief and a flow system of what happens?	20/10/2011
EW0845_12	Scullion, Nigel	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Abstudy tertiary area	Senator SCULLION: That would cover that. I will just move now to the Abstudy tertiary area, and I think we may have covered some of the questions. Are we able to get a breakdown of Abstudy payments by student number and course description, for example, the VET number of a course descriptor, perhaps undergraduate, postgraduate or PhD? Can you tell me the actual number of payments in each of the areas of VET, undergraduate, postgraduate and PhD? Is that possible to collate? Ms Milliken: I have information on recipients of Abstudy living allowance by VET and higher education. I do not have higher education broken down into those other categories. If I can take that on notice we will be able to look into that for you. Senator SCULLION: Excellent.	20/10/2011

EW0846_12	Scullion, Nigel	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Enrolments at Universities	Senator SCULLION: I asked about the attendance regarding secondary, but what reporting audit mechanisms are in place to determine whether an Abstudy recipient in the tertiary area is, in fact, attending a specified course? How do you deal with that? Mr Pattie: With the universities there is an IT system that is linked with Centrelink and this reports the enrolments at the university directly. That directly then affects the students' payments.Senator SCULLION: Would that attendance be based on attending lectures and would there be a rollcall of some form for each lecture? I understand the secondary environment; I understood very clearly how that would all work. But in a tertiary environment, particularly in areas of VET, I am not sure how it would necessarily work. The problem is that in tertiary we have everything from a VET course at the rural college in Katherine through to a PhD in Melbourne. It may be necessary to help me by breaking that down on notice. Mr Pattie: In the university sector it is the enrolment in the course. In the VET sector it is a little bit more difficult in the sense that the linkage is not automatic with Centrelink. It is a little bit tricky. Senator SCULLION: So I have enrolled and attended day 1. Again, this is for the crows; I am not sure if I am going to continue to attend, but	20/10/2011
EW0847_12	Mason, Brett	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Universities - carbon tax	Senator MASON: This will sound like an unusual question but we are in unusual times, Ms Paul. Are any universities among the biggest 500 polluters and therefore subject directly to the carbon tax? Senator Chris Evans: I think you asked me that question in the parliament. Senator MASON: Yes, but you did not answer it. Senator Chris Evans: I think I told you all I knew, which I think you and I both found pretty unsatisfactory. Maybe the officers have a better answer than I gave in the parliament. Senator MASON: Ms Paul always knows the answers to these questions. Ms Paul: I am not aware of the university being in that 500. Certainly the ones of that 500 that I have seen are big— Senator BACK: You are ahead of us, Ms Paul, if you have seen the list. Ms Paul: Only the reports of what the list might be. Senator MASON: The reports of the list. Ms Paul: The same as all of us. Senator Chris Evans: We will take that on notice. I do not think so but it is best we take that on notice.	20/10/2011
EW0848_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	2010 enrolment data	Mr Griew: In 2010, 3,773 students completed courses in agriculture, environmental and related studies. That is a 10 per cent increase from 3,427 graduates in 2007. Senator BACK: These would be graduates in agriculture, horticulture and environmental science? Mr Griew: Yes, that is right. Senator BACK: Would you be able to give us, on notice, that list from which you drew those figures? I would be most appreciative.	20/10/2011
EW0849_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	National Food Plan draft	Senator BACK: Minister, I wonder if you have had any communication with Minister Ludwig on the national food plan draft document? Senator Chris Evans: We have had a chat about it privately but I want to take the discussion papers on notice because there have been some cabinet discussions on it. I have certainly had a chat to Senator Ludwig about those issues and issues you raised about agribusiness. In fact that was the cause of the conversation I had with him—about the shortage of people training for agribusiness and the job opportunities that might be available. I would have to take on notice formally where the paper is at, I am afraid.	20/10/2011
EW0850_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	breakdown by apprenticeship type	Senator BACK: Should I be taking note of this, Minister, or will I pick it up in Hansard? Can you provide us with advice, perhaps on notice, of the breakdown by apprenticeship type for the flow of these incentives? Ms Paul: For the qualification? Senator BACK: Yes. Ms Paul: Yes we can.	20/10/2011
EW0851_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	progress of the National Partnership Agreement	Senator BACK: At the same time, would you provide me with an update on the progress of the National Partnership Agreement for Skills. Where are we with that? Mr Griew: The national agreement which covers the administration of the SPP funding skills which we have with the state governments? Senator BACK: Yes.	20/10/2011
EW0852_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	training initiatives for mature age workers	Senator BACK: Yes, that is the feedback I have had. Can you tell us how many mature age workers have taken up the training initiatives in this last period of time? This is the 'Experience Plus' training program. Would you like to take that on notice? Mr Griew: We will take that on notice because we administer that in cooperation with our colleagues in the employment area and we might want to consult with them to get you that information. Ms Paul: We will get you the whole picture. Senator BACK: As part of that, I would be very keen to find out what figure was budgeted and what has actually been the total cost of the program. What mechanisms, processes or avenues did you use to advertise that program? Mr Griew: We will take that on notice in the same spirit, just to get you the complete answer.	20/10/2011
EW0853_12	Rhiannon, Lee	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	private VET providers	Senator RHIANNON: Is it correct that in some states such as New South Wales private VET providers now subcontract work back to TAFE and to each other? Mr Griew: There might be some of that arrangement—it is not something that I am personally aware of. We will take that on notice.	20/10/2011

EW0854_12	McKenzie, Bridget	Cross Portfolio	The Regional Education Skills and Jobs Plans initiative	Mr Manthorpe: The regions in Victoria are Barwon, South-West Gippsland, Grampians, Hume and Loddon Mallee. Senator McKENZIE: You can take this on notice. I am wondering if you have you taken into account, particularly with Loddon Mallee, what the implications for the Regional Education Skills and Jobs Plans would be under a revised Murray-Darling Basin Authority plan for Loddon Mallee? I would also like to know on notice the implications for the Latrobe Valley, which would be under central Gippsland, of the passing of the carbon tax and how that may change the work that has already been done on those regional jobs plans. Mr Manthorpe: We will take those on notice. Senator McKENZIE: Thank you very much.	20/10/2011
EW0855_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Withdrawal rates from PPP Courses	Senator BACK: I refer to withdrawal rates from Productivity Places Program courses. The question on notice on this from my colleague Senator Nash was EW0401_12. At that time the response was that: Data for withdrawal rates under the Productivity Places Program National Partnership is not available. Are the rates available now or are they simply not being collated? Ms White: Withdrawal rates are not reported to us under the Productivity Places Program by the states and territories. We did have that data for the Commonwealth part of the program which we responded to in that question on notice. Senator BACK: That is right. The figures as at 30 June for the Australian government component were 128,560 commenced, 40,900 withdrew and of them 14,000 were due to unsatisfactory completion and 26,000 voluntarily discontinued. So that was at the end of June. Would you have an update for us for the next quarter to the end of September, for example? Ms White: I don't believe I do have that figure with me but we can certainly get the figures for the Australian government component for you. Senator BACK: Thank you very much.	20/10/2011
EW0856_12	Back, Chris	Cross Portfolio	Breakdown of Regions	Senator BACK: Ms Paul, while Mr Manthorpe is still listening: is it possible for the breakdown of the regions that you mentioned earlier to be presented on notice, please? Ms Paul: Yes. Senator BACK: Thank you. Ms Paul: I am sorry; is that for the plans? Senator BACK: That is correct, yes. The discussions that took place— Ms Paul: Yes, check; no problem.	20/10/2011
EW0857_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Two Week Reporting Requirement	Senator BACK: On 1.1, the Child Care Management System: what proportion of approved childcare providers are currently not meeting the two-week reporting requirement through CCMS? Ms Taylor: We can get that figure for you, so we will take that on notice.	20/10/2011
EW0858_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Current Vacancy Rate	Senator Back: As part of that, would you also provide the information to us on the current vacancy rate based on that data, please? Ms Taylor: Certainly. Genral, across all care types? Senator Back: Thank you.	20/10/2011
EW0859_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Average Size of the 332 Approved Family Day Care Centres	Senator BACK: They were saying 7,100 family day care vacancies every day across 332 approved facilities. It would be interesting to know what the average size of those family day care centres is. Mr Kimber: I would have to take that on notice. Senator BACK: Thank you.	20/10/2011
EW0860_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Inclusion Support Subsidy	Senator BACK: Do know how many children are currently paid for under the inclusion support subsidy? Mr De Silva: In terms of inclusion support agencies, in July to December 2010 there was a total of 47,130 children who were supported under the program. Senator BACK: And the amount of money paid either in that half year or in the full financial year 2010-11? Mr De Silva: I can tell you the total amount of funding that was available but I will need to double-check or take on notice the total amount that was actually paid. The total funding available was \$27.994 million and there was flexible support funding of \$4.287 million for 2011-12. But the actual amount of money paid for July to December 2010 I will have to take on notice. Senator BACK: Thank you very much.	20/10/2011
EW0861_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Special Childcare Benefit Scheme	Senator BACK: Can you tell us how many families were deemed eligible over the last 12-month period under the special childcare benefit scheme? Again, if you cannot tell me now, please take it on notice. Ms Taylor: We might take that on notice. Senator BACK: I would also like a breakdown of the reasons for determining eligibility, the range of reasons that they fall under, and the percentage of families that receive more than one allocation—that is, more than a 13-week period. Could you tell us that? Ms Taylor: Yes, we will be able to tell you that.	20/10/2011
EW0862_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Regional Assistance Travel Grant Scheme	Senator BACK: I go to family day care services under the regional assistance travel grant in rural areas. Can you tell me how eligibility is determined under that assistance travel grant scheme? Ms Paul: We will take that on notice. Senator BACK: There appears, from the information in front of me, to be a figure of 50 per cent—where a provider has 50 per cent of carers in an outer regional area that seems to determine the basis of payments. Is that correct? Can you help me with my understanding of this? Ms Hosking: We do not have those details here so we will take that on notice. Senator BACK: In general terms, though, is there a figure of 50 per cent which determines a rate at which payments are made? The reason for my question is this. The case has been presented to us of a provider who believed that in excess of 51 per cent of their family day carers were located in an outer regional area as classified by the Accessibility/Remoteness Index, yet they are being paid at an inner regional rate of \$23—obviously a lower figure. Ms Hosking: I am advised that in general it is the case that if more than 50 per cent of the carers in the scheme are in a regional area they do quality. In terms of the specific case you mention, we would need to have a look at the details to understand	20/10/2011

EW0863_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	CCMS Help Desk	Senator BACK: Going to the CCMS help desk, in response to a question earlier in the year you told us there were an average of 475 calls a day. Is that number remaining constant? Ms Taylor: On average we are now receiving 395 calls per day for the year ending 31 August 2011. Senator BACK: What are the main issues at stake when people call, and what percentage would be attributed to the national quality framework and the new national quality standard for early childhood education? Is that a significant proportion? Do you have that information available to you? Ms Caldwell: We would need to take on notice the precise detail, but they are not amongst our most frequent types of queries.	20/10/2011
EW0864_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Maximum Childcare Rebate	Senator BACK: I want to go to the childcare rebate. How many families currently receive the maximum childcare rebate, and what is the average rebate paid to a family? Ms Taylor: The average rebate paid to a family is around \$2,100. Ms Caldwell: The number of families who were receiving CCR in 2010-11 was 745,000. Again, that will vary over the year, but that is the annual figure. I am sure we will be able to give you a split between maximum rate and less than maximum rate.	20/10/2011
EW0865_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Child Care Rebate	Senator BACK: Do you have any indicator at all of how many families you believe are eligible to claim but have not done so? How would you arrive at that sort of conclusion? Ms Taylor: Exactly. Ms Paul: How would you know? Senator BACK: I suppose you would have some understanding of the number of families with children of an eligible age. Ms Taylor: We do, and that was the reason for part of the childcare campaign that took place earlier in several stages. One was to make sure that people were aware of their entitlement. The second part of that campaign of course was around the fortnightly payments and making sure people were aware of the option of moving to fortnightly payments. The earlier part of the campaign was to make sure that people were aware. It was a fairly comprehensive campaign. It is a bit early to say whether that has produced the rise that we would expect. I recall that around that time it was thought that up to 100,000 families may not be claiming, but I will have to take on notice as to what that is based on.	20/10/2011
EW0866_12	Back, Chris	Cross Portfolio	Childcare Advertising Campaign	Senator BACK: Speaking of the campaign, could you take on notice what the cost of the advertising campaign has been to date and what measures you have in place to indicate whether there has been an increase in the numbers applying as a result of the advertising campaign? Ms Taylor: I am happy to take that on notice.	20/10/2011
EW0867_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Childcare Benefit Average Amount	Senator BACK: That was the rebate. Going to the childcare benefit, what was the number of families and what was the average amount received? The 2010-11 figures would be fine. Ms Caldwell: I can give you the number of families. I will have to check whether we have the average in the room with us tonight. The number for 2010-11 was 841,000 families benefiting from the childcare rebate. Senator BACK: And you can take the other figure for us on notice.	20/10/2011
EW0868_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Immunisation Exemption in order to receive CCB	Senator BACK: That is correct. That was the question I asked you. I am interested to know—a bit of a carrot or a stick—what grounds a family would have to receive an exemption from having their child immunised in order to receive the benefit. Ms Taylor: We will get the exact detail, but I understand there are medical grounds. Senator BACK: So it would be a doctor's certificate? Ms Taylor: Yes, so I understand. But I will check that. Ms Caldwell: I am just checking that for us. The immunisation requirements are a longstanding arrangement. Senator BACK: Of course. Ms Caldwell: We will see if we can give you the exact list of exemptions now. Ms Taylor: We will come back to that.	20/10/2011
EW0869_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Universal Access	Senator BACK: I want to ask a question on universal access, the intention of then Prime Minister Rudd, I think, for every four-year-old to have access to 15 hours a week of preschool by 2013. Can you tell us whether you have current figures for the average hours of preschool for four-year-olds? If you cannot give that to us now on notice, could you do it by state and territory, please? Ms Taylor: Yes, I can do that. At the moment in the 2010 reported performance Victoria has 12.8 hours, 16.1 if you include long day care; Queensland— Ms Hosking: Fifty-five per cent of children who are in preschool are receiving the 15 hours per week, which was the target. Senator BACK: Fifty-five per cent are? Ms Hosking: That is right, and 17 hours is the average. Senator BACK: Therefore, to meet the 2013 objective the question then becomes: how many additional preschool places will be needed? Again, if you would, provide that to us on notice broken down by state and territory as to where the additional challenge lies, please. Can you do that notice? Ms Taylor: We can do that on notice.	20/10/2011
EW0870_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Occasional Care Funding	Senator BACK: On occasional care funding, could you provide for us a breakdown of the federal funding to each of the states and territories for the provision of occasional care during 2010-11? Perhaps taking that on notice would be good. Ms Taylor: Yes, certainly. Senator BACK: And what proportion of the program was made up from federal funding? Is that a set figure? Ms Taylor: I will give that to you on notice, Senator. That is for general occasional care? Senator BACK: Yes. At the same time, could you advise us of the number of centres funded in each state and the number of children, if that is possible.	20/10/2011
EW0871_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Long day Care	Senator BACK: Would you have the break-up of children under the age of two years and under the age of six months, or is that something you would have to provide to us on notice? Ms Taylor: I will take that on notice. Senator BACK: And would you be able to tell us the average number of hours that a child spends in long day care? If you are able to do it based on those two age groups—under the age of two and under the age of six months—in a typical week, that would be good. Ms Taylor: Certainly.	20/10/2011
EW0872_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Ownership of Long Day Care Centres	Senator BACK: Is there a high incidence of change in ownership of long day care centres, or is it stable? Ms Caldwell: It is largely stable. There are always some changes in the market. Senator BACK: They would have to report those to you, wouldn't they? Ms Caldwell: That is correct. Senator BACK: So it would be good to know that figure for the last financial year, if you could provide it.	20/10/2011

EW0873_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Departmental Staff Working on Finalising the Regulations	Senator BACK: How many people in the department are or have been working on finalising the regulations? Ms Taylor: It is under a national partnership with the states and territories as well, so there have been people within our department working on it but there have also been people in every state and territory jurisdiction working on developing the national regulations. Victoria has had the lead on drafting the legislation and the regulations, so there is quite a considerable effort going in there. There have been various working groups of the Early Childhood Development Working Group, which represents all states and territories in the Commonwealth, working on it too. If you want the numbers of staff within the department, I can get that for you. Senator BACK: Based on that, it would be a guesstimate. Ms Taylor: Yes. I will take that question on notice.	20/10/2011
EW0874_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Implementing the NQF	Senator BACK: In terms of implementation, I think that Minister Ellis recently made the statement that there would be time to implement the changes required under the framework. What is that time frame? Ms Taylor: Senator, the regulations come into force on 1 January. However what comes in at that time is only the first part. There is a staggered period of time for things like ratios—child to teacher, or child to worker. I can take that on notice and go through it for the years between now and 2016 and 2020. Bf you want a snapshot we can do that, otherwise I am happy to take notice.	20/10/2011
EW0875_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Reports about the industry being in turmoil with 15,000 leaving the profession each year	Ms Taylor: I am aware of the report that came out of the Lismore summit, but does not match with the data we have from the survey of the numbers who are leaving the sector so I would not agree that there are large numbers leaving the sector. In relation to a workforce strategy— Senator BACK: Before you go on, is the survey publicly available, or can it be made available to the committee? Ms Taylor: Yes, Senator.	20/10/2011
EW0876_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Childcare Educators in Indigenous Communities	Senator BACK: So as close as that. I wonder if you could also tell us—if not now then on notice—the number of childcare educators in Indigenous communities who have got either certificate III or degree qualifications in early childhood. Is that information that we could get? Ms Taylor: I can take it on notice but I am not sure that we would have that information.	20/10/2011
EW0877_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care	Wadeye Outside School Hours Care Project	Senator BACK: Also, do you have the number of children currently attending the Wadeye outside school hours care project, which is funded by the federal government? Ms Hosking: We do not have it for the outside school hours care project. We do have it in relation to the integrated centre there. Senator BACK: Is it that you do not have it and someone else does? Ms Hosking: We do have it and we can provide it on notice. Senator BACK: Good, and at the same time if you would provide us with the number of staff in and the number of enrolments currently for Indigenous childcare centres.	20/10/2011
EW0878_12	Back, Chris	Outcome 4 - Employment	Employment Services Area	Senator BACK: Going back to the employment service areas, could you provide us with a list of which employment service areas are affected by the business reallocation? Ms Parker: We cannot actually name the providers at this stage. We are doing that in November. Senator BACK: It is the employment service areas that are affected, not the actual businesses themselves. Senator Chris Evans: Ninety-six per cent are getting renewed. Ms Paul: That is right. I do not have it with me, though. Senator Chris Evans: By areas, do you mean geographical areas? Ms Paul: There are 118 employment service areas. We will take it on notice.	19/10/2011
EW0879_12	Siewert, Rachel	Outcome 4 - Employment	the Employment Pathway Fund evaluation	Senator SIEWERT: Okay. So the Employment Pathway Fund evaluation is part of that; is that correct? Ms Parker: That is right, and the GFC—there are whole range of components within that particular one. Senator SIEWERT: Okay. If there are a whole range of components for that, can you take on notice to tell us what those components are, and the reporting dates. Ms Parker: Sure.	19/10/2011
EW0880_12	Rhiannon, Lee	Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy	Student accommodation	Senator RHIANNON: Do you say that confidently? I come from Sydney, and the overcrowding and housing issues are just so extreme. I would not have thought you would have used that word. Senator Chris Evans: That is right, but, as you know, housing issues are a problem across the community at the moment in the cities and in some of regional areas. Students are facing difficulties with affordable housing because we have affordable housing issues which impact on them as they do on others. But if you are asking about the rate of youth allowance and the uptake of youth allowance, the changes this government made have seen greatly increased uptake and higher payments to students. I am happy to set all that out for you. It is probably on my website, but we will get you all the figures. Senator RHIANNON: That is why I was just questioning the word success. It would seem that there are still real challenges and difficulties out there. Ms Paul: It is absolutely clear from the statistics that more low socio-economic students are accessing financial support than ever before because of the changes to youth allowance. There are more students, there is more money, and the scholarships for low SES which go with the youth allowance are also clearly benefiting more students. There are many, many	19/10/2011
EW0881_12	Mason, Brett	Agency - Australia Institute for Teaching & School Leadership	Certification of Highly Accomplished and Lead Teachers	Senator MASON: Highly accomplished and lead teachers—what are the criteria there? Ms Evans: Again, there is a consultation process involved. What we presented to the ministerial council last Friday was that there would be a range of elements involved in a process for identifying highly accomplished and lead teachers and those elements are—let me just refer to the paper— Senator MASON: Is that a publicly available document? Ms Evans: It most certainly is. We can make it available to you.	20/10/2011