

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2012-2013**

Outcome 4 – Workplace Relations and Economic Strategy

DEEWR Question No. EW0679_13

Senator Abetz asked on 17 October 2012 , Hansard page 118

Question

Advice regarding FWBC's coercive powers

Senator ABETZ: ...I understand the department may have received some advice from FWBC in relation to their coercive powers. Mr Kovacic: I am aware of that. Senator ABETZ: Are you able to tell us when you received that? Ms Emery: I just need to find my brief. Senator ABETZ: While you are looking for that, can you indicate to us whether or not you provided advice to government as to whether any amendments were necessary? Mr Kovacic: I will take the specific question as to whether we provided advice to government on notice. I would just note the evidence that Mr Campbell provided earlier today to the committee where he said, in general terms, that the issue had not caused any problems from a compliance perspective for Fair Work Building and Construction. Senator ABETZ: That is interesting. I am just asking whether or not you did—the answer would be yes or no. Mr Kovacic: I will take it on notice. Senator ABETZ: Let us know whether you did or did not. That was all that was asked. Ms Emery: The first draft of the advice from Fair Work Building and Construction was received at the end of June by the department.

Answer

The Department did provide an information brief on the matter.