

EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS

**SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
2007-08 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING**

Outcome 9

DEEWR Question No. EW19_08

Senator Stott Despoja provided in writing.

Question

Productivity Commission Inquiry into Paid Maternity Leave

Will the Government commit to the immediate implementation of the Productivity Commission's recommendations, including in relation to the establishment of paid maternity or paternity leave schemes?

Answer

The Australian Government has requested the Productivity Commission investigate ways of providing improved support to parents with newborn children. The Terms of Reference for the inquiry were released on 17 February 2008 and the Productivity Commission is due to report to the Australian Government by February 2009. The Australian Government will consider the recommendations made by the Productivity Commission.