

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2008-09**

**Outcome/Agency        8**

**DEEWR Question No. EW1046\_09**

Senator Fierravanti-Wells provided in writing.

**Question**

*Pacific Guest Worker Scheme*

What costs does the labour hire company incur?

**Answer**

The labour hire company must pay for:

- the full costs of the workers' return international airfare (half this cost may be recouped from the worker);
- internal transfers costs from port of arrival and departure to the region in which the workers will be employed; and
- any money owed to the Commonwealth which may be accrued by Pacific seasonal workers as a result of non-compliance with visa conditions to a maximum of \$10 000.

In addition, the Labour Hire company must:

- assist Pacific seasonal workers with initial living expenses on their arrival and may recoup such funds by agreement with the worker over the period of employment by instalments;
- ensure that workers have private health insurance; and
- ensure workers have access to transport to and from work at reasonable cost.