

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2010-2011**

Agency - Comcare

DEEWR Question No.EW0723_11

Senator Abetz provided in writing.

Question

**CONSULTANT RECOMMENDATION VARYING FROM SRCC'S EXPRESS
STATEMENT**

Was Comcare concerned that the consultant's recommendation completely did away with the SRCC's express statement in the [then] current guidelines that there was neither set length nor training method? What consideration did Comcare give to this matter?

Answer

Comcare has provided the following response

No.

In reviewing the HSR training program, the SRCC sought advice on the capacity of the current accreditation model to deliver best practice for Health and Safety Representatives education and training to the jurisdiction and was open to its findings.

As part of the review, HSRs were asked which format they would prefer (and were able to choose more than one option). Over half (62%) nominated that training should be provided in a 5-day block. Some of the same respondents also chose two short blocks (e.g. two and three day blocks).

The majority clearly supported five days face to face. There were additional comments which indicated that many HSRs supported a mix of approaches to their training:

At Recommendation #10, the review findings recommended that; HSR training be predominately face to face; five days in length delivered as one block or two short blocks 35 hours face to face

Comcare considered the matter and supported the recommendation.