

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10**

Outcome/Agency 5

DEEWR Question No. EW0303_10

Senator Xenophon asked on 2 June 2009, EEWWR Hansard page 108.

Provision of information and advice specific to small or medium enterprises on the Fair Work Infoline

Question

So there may be a dedicated line for small businesses?

Answer

As announced by the Deputy Prime Minister on 20 March 2009 the Government has agreed to establish a specialist information and assistance unit for small and medium size enterprises within the Office of the Fair Work Ombudsman.

The Small Business Education Unit will employ five skilled education officers and will be operational shortly after the commencement of the Office of the Fair Work Ombudsman. This Unit will complement the services provided by Fair Work Infoline.

There will not be a dedicated information line for small business as all Fair Work Infoline staff are trained to provide quality advice and information to Australian small and medium sized employers.