

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

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

Agency - Fair Work Australia

DEEWR Question No. EW0162_13

Senator Abetz asked on 28 May 2012 , Hansard page 30

Question

FWA - Release of advice

Senator ABETZ: You were willing to release the advice of 22 March 2012, a close examination of which suggests that Stuart Wood SC was in fact correct. For the time being, are you prepared to release the original advice that you claim said did not allow Mr Lee to cooperate with the police? Ms O'Neill: I will take it on notice, but my recollection is that that advice largely involved the drafting of the correspondence and advice in conference. Senator ABETZ: Which dealt with the issue of whether or not Fair Work Australia could cooperate with police. Ms O'Neill: Yes, but I am not sure that there is a written advice in the same way as that of 22 March. CHAIR: But you have taken it on notice? Ms O'Neill: I have taken it on notice.

Answer

Fair Work Australia has provided the following response:

As provided in response to question EW1071_12, Mr Lee's letter to Acting Commander Watson dated 26 August 2011 was drafted by Corrs Chambers Westgarth Lawyers in consultation with the Australian Government Solicitor.

No separate written advice was provided.