

Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates – 2012-2013

Outcome 3 – Employment

DEEWR Question No.EW0654_13

Senator Xenophon asked on 17 October 2012, Hansard Page 96

Question – Criteria for advice given relating to skills shortages for flight attendants

Senator XENOPHON: Also please take on notice to give us the criteria about the advice that you give in terms of skill shortages and the demand for it. When I spoke to the flight attendants union earlier today, it was news to them. So, unless there is some understanding, it seems extraordinary. Mr Kovacic: We are more than happy to take those two questions on notice.

Answer

The Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) determined the principles and methodology for the Consolidated Sponsored Occupations List (CSOL). The Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations provided comment on these principles and methodology.

DIAC did not seek advice from DEEWR on the labour market status for flight attendants or any occupation being considered for inclusion on the CSOL. As the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship is responsible for the CSOL, any questions on the principles, methodology and stakeholder consultation which underpinned its development should be directed to DIAC.

DEEWR conducts research to identify skill shortages in the Australian labour market. The focus of this research is on skilled occupations (that is, those which generally require at least three years of post school education or training). The research covers in excess of 100 skilled occupations, mainly in the professions and trades.

The DEEWR skill shortage research is provided to the Australian Workforce and Productivity Agency (AWPA) which considers it and other data and research as part of the annual update and advice to DIAC on the Skilled Occupation List (SOL). DEEWR does not provide its skill shortage research to DIAC.