Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2013-2014

Agency - Fair Work Building & Construction

Department of Employment Question No. EM0027_14

Senator Cameron provided in writing.

Question

FWBC - Rate of Investigations

Can you confirm that Fair Work Building and Construction (FWBC) is now undertaking more investigations, concluding more investigations, getting matters to court faster and recovering more money for workers in the industry than the former ABCC prior to 2012?

Answer

The 2011-12 Annual Report for the ABCC shows 474 investigations were undertaken with 389 concluded. The 2012-13 Annual Report for FWBC shows 461 investigations were undertaken with 380 concluded.

Due to the less complex nature of wages and entitlements matters, it is quicker to complete these matters than the more complex matters that the ABCC took on, including: freedom of association, right of entry, coercion and industrial action.