

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016

Cross Portfolio

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ16-000042

Senator Cameron asked on 11 February 2016 on proof Hansard page 13

Question

Loss of income

Senator CAMERON: Has anyone in the department done the broad estimate of—

Ms Leon: No, Senator.

Senator CAMERON: the loss of salary because of the wage freeze?

Ms Leon: No, Senator.

Senator CAMERON: Can someone do that figure and advise us on—

Ms Leon: I will take it on notice.

Senator CAMERON: not on a detailed individual—I am just trying to clarify. I know you are going to take it on notice. You have said it twice now. I want to indicate that I do not want it on every individual employee. I want a broad estimate—I think that will be easily achievable—of the loss of income to your employees because of this crazy bargaining policy that this government has implemented

Answer

Such an estimate would depend on a range of variables that have changed over time, or are hypothetical, and therefore cannot readily be calculated. Variables include number and levels of staff, amount and timing of salary increases and any proposed offsetting savings.