

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016

Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ15-000161

Senator Cameron asked on 02 June 2015 on proof Hansard page 8

Question

FWO - Remote locality assistance

Senator CAMERON: Does the remote locality assistance only apply in Darwin?

Ms James: Based on our current office footprint, that is the case.

Senator CAMERON: How many people get it?

Mr Campbell: There are three people in our Darwin office.

Senator CAMERON: What is the saving by removing the remote locality assistance to three people?

Mr Campbell: We are not removing it. We are just not going to offer it to new employees. It is being grandfathered.

Senator CAMERON: What is the saving?

Mr Campbell: I would have to take that on notice because it would need to be modelled out to forward years.

Senator CAMERON: You need a model for three people?

Mr Campbell: No, perhaps I was not clear. It is being grandfathered. So they are going to continue to enjoy the benefits. You are asking me to model savings around employees that we do not have at the moment.

Answer

The removal of the Remote Localities Allowance will apply to future staff if and when they are employed in the Darwin office. The anticipated savings of the proposal over a 10 year period would be \$304,000.