

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018

Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ17-004143

Senator Paterson asked on 30 May 2017 on proof Hansard page 47

Question

FWO - Transport Workers Union app - correspondence between the Fair Work Ombudsman and the Minister's Office

Senator PATERSON: Is that standard practice—to pay in full before even a progress report has been received?

Ms James: It is not a standard practice that we adopt now in the Fair Work Ombudsman. It is what these contracts, both with RTO and with the Transport Workers Union, provided for.

Senator PATERSON: Were there any directions or communications of any kind, from either the minister or his office, that stipulated or suggested that the contract should be paid in full, up-front?

Ms James: You are talking well before my time. My answer to that question is: not to my knowledge.

Senator PATERSON: Perhaps you could take that on notice and check any records that you have of communications between the FWO and the minister's office.

Ms James: We certainly can.

Senator PATERSON: Thank you.

Answer

No.