

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018

Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ17-004158

Senator Cameron asked on 30 May 2017 on proof Hansard page 56

Question

FWO - Apprentices and trainees - complaints after resignation

Senator CAMERON: Do you have any records about how many apprentices and trainees who come to you for assistance have already left their employer?

Ms McAlary-Smith: I will have to take that on notice.

Senator CAMERON: Do you have that recorded?

Ms McAlary-Smith: It may be possible to dial into our systems to get that. A number of people may approach us after they have left their employer.

Senator CAMERON: Have there been any apprentices and trainees who have left their employer and then brought complaints to you?

Ms McAlary-Smith: Experience would suggest yes, but I will need to take that on notice

Answer

In the nine months to 31 March 2017, the Fair Work Ombudsman received 392 requests for assistance from apprentices and trainees. Of these, 80 per cent indicated that their employment had ended.

Over the same period, 78 per cent of all workers requesting our assistance indicated that their employment had ended.