

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017

Outcome 2 - Workplace Relations and Economic Strategy

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ16-000850

Senator Di Natale provided in writing.

Question

Migrant Workers - funding increase for the Fair Work Ombudsman

With reference to some of the other actions announced by the government in relation to migrant workers:

Delivering a \$20 million funding increase for the capabilities and workforce of the Fair Work Ombudsman.

- What is the status of this funding?
- Is it across the forward estimates?
- Is it earmarked for migrant workers or is it just a general boost to the Fair Work Ombudsman budget?

Answer

- The funding will be considered through the Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook (MYEFO) process.
- The funding is across the forward estimates, commencing from 1 January 2017.
- The funding is to increase the capabilities and workforce of the Fair Work Ombudsman.
- The Fair Work Ombudsman will use the additional funds to enhance compliance, engagement and education programs that target conduct that results in exploitative practices with respect to migrant and other vulnerable workers, and to increase awareness and understanding of workplace obligations and entitlements in migrant communities.