

## 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. EMSQ16-000862

Senator Kakoschke-Moore provided in writing.

#### Question

##### Review of the WGEA Act

Has the Act been reviewed to determine whether it is achieving its purpose, and if not when is that review scheduled for?

#### Answer

To ensure the *Workplace Gender Equality Act 2012* is achieving its purpose, the Workplace Gender Equality Agency (the Agency) must, as soon as practicable after the end of the two year period ending 31 May 2016, and each subsequent two year period, submit a report to the Minister on the progress achieved in relation to the gender equality indicators in that period.

The Minister is required to provide each House of the Parliament a copy of the report within 15 sitting days of that House after the day on which the Minister receives the report.

In March 2016 the Agency wrote to Minister Cash seeking an extension to the end of February 2017 for the 2016-17 biennial report. The extension was sought to allow the Agency to include data from the 2015-16 reporting period which would result in a more meaningful analysis of the progress achieved against the gender equality indicators. The request by the Agency was agreed by the Minister.