

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
ADDITIONAL BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES 2016

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Australian Public Service Commission

Outcome/Program: 1.1

Topic: Recent enterprise agreement ballots

Senator: McKenzie

Question reference number: 45

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 1 April 2016

Number of pages: 1

Question:

A number of Departments, including the Australian Taxation Office, the Department of Environment and the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources voted down agreements offered under the Government's updated bargaining policy, didn't they?

And is it also correct that the CPSU in all cases supported a no vote for those agreements, and for the other departments and agencies that went to vote since October last year, when the bargaining policy was updated?

Would it be correct, that had the CPSU not advocated against the offers made by these departments, that the relevant employees would have done up to four times better than the increases in the employee living cost index?

Answer:

Yes.

Yes.

Had the ballots been successful, employees would have received general wage increases in the vicinity of 2% on commencement. This is well above recent increases in the employee living cost index, which were 0.5% for the December quarter 2015 and 1.1% for the year to December 2015.