

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2008-09**

Outcome 1

DEEWR Question No. EW1119_09

Senator **Humphries** asked on **25 February 2009**, EEWHR Hansard page **46**

Question

Child Care Industry Taskforce Questions on ABC Learning

Senator HUMPHRIES—I want to go back to ABC Learning for a minute and ask about what meetings took place in the period between ABC Learning's share price taking a plunge at the beginning of last year and its going into receivership or administration towards the end of the year. I understand that the Deputy Prime Minister made it clear that she did not believe any meetings between representatives of ABC and ministers were appropriate. Was that and is it still the government's position? Let me put it another way. Have there been any meetings between representatives of ABC Learning and ministers of the government?

Ms Paul—We have answered that before, I believe.

Mr Manthorpe—I think not in the period between, say, February last year and when the receivership commenced.

Senator HUMPHRIES—Okay.

Mr Manthorpe—I think not. But if I am incorrect, I will obviously correct that later.

Answer

The share price of ABC Learning dropped on 25 February 2008. There were no meetings between ABC Learning and Ministers between then and the present time.