

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace  
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Additional Estimates 2011-2012**

**Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman**

**DEEWR Question No. EW1086\_12**

**Senator Abetz asked on 15 February 2012 , Hansard page 45**

**Question**

**FWO - Tabling of Annual Report**

Senator ABETZ: So the minister had a full four weeks to consider it and miraculously must have only read it on Thursday, 20 October to then have it tabled on Friday, 21 October, conveniently after Senate estimates. Parliamentary Secretary, I know that you are not personally to blame and the current minister is not personally to blame, but can we try and get a reason or a rationale as to why this document was not tabled in a timely fashion? Senator Jacinta Collins: We will take it on notice.

**Answer**

The Fair Work Ombudsman wrote to the Minister on 19 September 2011 seeking approval to print and table the annual report. The report was approved by the Minister on 23 September 2011. It was provided to the tabling office as soon as possible after printing was completed.

The Fair Work Ombudsman annual report was tabled out of sitting and published online at [www.fairwork.gov.au/annualreport](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/annualreport) on 21 October 2011.

Note: the tabling guidelines provided to departments by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, state that the deadline for tabling annual reports is 31 October.