

## EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

### SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2005-2006 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

**Outcome:** 2

**Output Group:** 2.4 – Funding for Higher Education

#### **DEST Question No. E401\_06**

Senator Nettle provided in writing.

#### **Question:**

- a) How many staff work in the DEST Workplace Productivity Unit?
- b) What are their qualifications in the field of higher education?
- c) What are their performance objectives?
- d) What are the accountability mechanisms for their decisions?
- e) What appeal or review processes are in place relating to their decisions?

#### **Answer:**

*Workplace Productivity Unit, Department of Education, Science and Training*

- a) Three people work in the Workplace Productivity Unit, which is a sub-unit of the Collaboration and Workplace Productivity Unit, Department of Education, Science and Training.
- b) All have higher education qualifications at degree level.
- c) The performance objectives of the unit are to develop policy, administer programmes and to advise the Minister for Education, Science and Training on workplace relations matters in higher education.
- d) & e) The Minister for Education, Science and Training will make decisions relating to whether universities meet the Higher Education Workplace Relations Requirements under s. 33-15 of the *Higher Education Support Act 2003*. The Minister's decisions may be challenged under the *Administrative Decisions (Judicial Review) Act 1997*.