

Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2010-2011**

Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations

DEEWR Question No.EW0018_11

Senator Abetz provided in writing.

Question

PROTECTED ACTION BALLOT SCHEME- COSTS

What is the average cost per ballot? What factors determine the cost of the ballot?

Answer

The Australian Electoral Commission has advised the Department that the average cost per ballot in 2009-10 (to 31 May 2010) was \$1,835. Factors determining the cost of a ballot include:

- The location of the ballot;
- Whether the ballot is conducted as attendance or postal;
- Number of Australian Electoral Commission staff required;
- Whether the printing and distribution of ballot material is undertaken internally or through an external company;
- Hours of voting and whether multiple days or periods are required.