

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

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

Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations

DEEWR Question No.EW0218_11

Senator Abetz asked on 31/05/2010, Hansard page 127.

Question

WHERE CORRESPONDENCE OF 12 MAY FROM DPM WAS DRAFTED

Senator ABETZ—.....in saying that the normal course of events would be that a letter from the Deputy Prime Minister would somewhere along the way find its way through your department, but not necessarily all letters go that way. Therefore, we want to know whether that letter did take the normal course of events or did not. Ms Paul—I am happy to take that on notice. I imagine it did. It is a piece of ministerial correspondence, so you would have to guess that we had some responsibility for drafting the first draft response. I am happy to take it on the notice.

Answer

Officials from the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations prepared the original draft of the letters in response to the students, Mr Spencer and Ms Harrison, at the request of the office of the former Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations' office. The letter was then provided to the Minister's Office for the Minister's consideration and signature.