

Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

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

Agency - Comcare

DEEWR Question No.EW0100_12

Senator Abetz provided in writing.

Question

A Survey To Supplement The Gaps In The Comcare Survey

Document to be tabled: Survey from October 2009 (doc 505) 1.Please look at the HSR survey from October 2009. It asks a fuller range of questions about HSR training format thus overcoming the removal of these questions from the online survey conducted by the review. The results support the initiative of the SRCC in December 2005 reflected in the 2007 guidelines that the delivery methods should be opened to new ideas. They do not support the current decision. Does the survey reveal the following about delivery methods? 39% said that a face to face course in a training room lasting 4-5 days would be effective; 80% said that a mix of 2 days face to face in a training room combined with 2-3 days allowed at work to do practical projects would be effective; and 15% said that an allowance of 4-5 days at work to do an online course including practical projects would be effective 2.When asked to nominate a preference from the three options, do the results show the following: 78% prefer the mix of face to face training practical projects at work; 20% prefer an entire classroom experience; and 1% preferred an online course (note rounding accounts for sub-100% total). 3.Do the responses indicate that technology like online activities, discussions, videos, quizzes, interactive games, etc will be part of the future of health and safety representative training (90% agree)? 4.Of those who remain involved in occupational health and safety after training (85%), do 89% say that they have used the knowledge and skills gained in training to improve occupational health and safety? 5.About the duration of training, do a few people think the training should be shorter (4%), a few think it should be longer (9%) but the dominant view (86%) was that the training length was about right. If these respondents had taken part in a mixed style training of about four days commitment being 2 days face to face and about two days of self-paced activity in the workplace on knowledge exploration and skill development, does this indicate that they were happy with this duration?

Answer

Comcare has provided the following response.

The survey was not provided with the Question on Notice. Comcare rejects the suggestion that HSRs did not have the opportunity to express support for a variety of delivery methods in the online survey.