

## Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

### QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2011-2012

#### Agency - Comcare

DEEWR Question No. EW0286\_12

Senator Abetz asked on 30/05/2011, Hansard page 86.

#### Question

##### Survey for SRCC Members

Mr Kibble: The survey was provided to a range of health and safety representatives. It was put on the internet and also sent to employers in the Commonwealth jurisdiction and the survey was responded to primarily by health and safety representatives. Senator ABETZ: Can you take on notice as well who else received it? Mr Kibble: In total? Senator ABETZ: Yes, so we get a detailed list and then who responded to the survey because I understand, for example, that 30 per cent, if my memory serves me correctly, came from the Australian Taxation Office. ... But anyway, if you can tell us on notice who responded to the survey. The options that were made available to people included, as I understand it, 'Do you agree the training could be delivered flexibly, example, any of the below,' and then there were a number as a block, two short blocks, including face-to-face/workplace based. How many people in the survey agreed that it could be delivered flexibly with any of the arrangements suggested in the question? Mr Kibble: I have to take that detail on notice. .. Senator ABETZ: If you could, because as I understand it there was a survey for SRCC members, there was also a question for others, but then in another one of the surveys, and take this on notice, can you confirm for us whether the option of face-to-face/workplace based fell off the list of options available. Mr Kibble: I will confirm that for you, Senator.

#### Answer

*Comcare has provided the following response.*

The HSR survey was posted online on 30 June 2009 to be completed by 30 July 2009. An 'e-blast' was also sent to 107 HSRs advising them of the survey.

A survey was also sent to members of the Safety Rehabilitation and Compensation on 5 June 2009.

Several employer organisations were interviewed face-to-face by the consultants engaged to conduct a review of HSR training course accreditation. They were:

- Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
- Australia Post
- Australian Taxation Office
- Medicare

Several representatives of HSR training providers were interviewed face-to-face. They were:

- John Culvenor, New Workplace Learning
- David McIvor, Occupational Safety & Health Associates
- Don Lee & Roanne Allan, Recovre
- Sue Powell, Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU)
- Michael Barbour, Peter Frede & Sema Khatri, Australia Post

- Kathy Butcher, Kim Sattler & Chris Hughes, ACTU, Trades and Labour Council
- Trevor LeBreton & Lisa DeMarco, National Safety Council of Australia
- Sandra Fisher & Louise Hughes, SRC Solutions
- Greg Seberry & Mick Peterson, Greg Seberry & Associates

Several other individuals, including some HSRs, union representatives, OHS Panel members and Comcare staff were also interviewed.

Therefore, approximately 140 people received the survey directly.

There were 629 responses to the survey. Of these, 194 were from HSRs in the ATO. This represents just over 30 per cent of the total number of respondents.

Comcare does not have details of the individuals who responded.

There was only one response from members of the Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission (Commissioner Baxter).

The HSR survey question on training delivery was phrased:

'Training can be delivered in different formats. Which of the following would you choose?'

The responses were as follows:

<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
5 day block	62%	349
2 short blocks (e.g. 2 days and 3 days)	48%	273
Online	10%	59
Partially online	20%	114
Self directed learning	9%	52
Other (please specify)		80
<b><i>answered question</i></b>		<b>567</b>

NOTE: The percentages indicated exceed 100 per cent because respondents were able to choose more than one option.

The survey question sent to Commissioner members about training delivery was phrased as follows:

Do you agree that training for HSRs could be delivered flexibly e.g. any of the below:

- as a block
- 2 short blocks,
- One day per week
- In the workplace
- Face to face/ workplace based
- Recognising existing knowledge & skills