

## Senate Economics References Committee

Parliamentary inquiry – Future of Australia's Naval Shipbuilding Industry  
7 June 2018

### ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Defence

**Topic:** SERC - Future of Australia's naval shipbuilding industry - 7 June 2018 - Q7 - Partnering agreement with Naval Group - Patrick

**Question reference number:** Q7

**Senator:** Rex Patrick

**Type of question:** Spoken, Hansard page 73

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 15 June 2018

#### **Question:**

**Senator PATRICK:** No, I'm asking very specifically: once the strategic partnering agreement has been signed, does that create a legal point where not doing the build with Naval Group breaches a legal commitment?

**Mr Gillis:** The appropriate officer to answer these questions is Admiral Sammut. Admiral Sammut is in negotiations with the Naval Group. I will take on notice any specific question you have, because he is the person who has the detailed information in regard to this.

#### **Answer:**

The Strategic Partnering Agreement is currently under negotiation, and due to the risk of compromising the negotiations, the Government is not in a position to discuss the details of the agreement at this time.