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## **Minister for Seniors and Ageing; Volunteering; Sport and Recreation**

Our ref: 68-01806

STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS - References Committee  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

### **Inquiry into the future of Rugby Union in Australia – Questions on Notice by the Minister for Sport and Recreation**

Further to the Public Hearing on Wednesday 11 October 2017, detailed below are responses to Questions on Notice.

#### **Question 14**

**Hansard page reference: p. 3.**

A meeting was requested by the ARU, through Tourism WA to meet with the Minister for Tourism to discuss the ARU's desire to explore the opportunity to bring forward funds from the Bledisloe Cup Event in 2019. The meeting was scheduled and held on Tuesday, 6 June 2017 and attended by Mr Bill Pulver, representing the ARU.

The Minister for Tourism was clear during the discussion, that any potential rescheduling of Bledisloe Cup funding, would be contingent on the Western Force remaining in the Super Rugby competition.

From the meeting, the ARU would negotiate with Tourism WA on the terms (of rescheduling funding, in consultation with State Solicitors). If an agreement was reached and the Western Force remained in Super Rugby, the WA Government would also have the first option on potential (Rugby) content leading to 2024.

By the 25 July 2017, the ARU was informed that forward payments were available subject to confirmation that the Western Force will remain in the Super Rugby Competition. The ARU confirmed receipt of the offer and advised that it would be taken into consideration as part of their modelling.

#### **Question 15**

**Hansard page reference: pp. 3–4.**

The Minister for Tourism made the offer to Bill Pulver, CEO ARU on behalf of the WA State Government at the meeting on 6 June 2017.

**Question 16**

**Hansard page reference: p. 4.**

Communication before and after the meeting on 6 June 2017 was through an ARU Officer, Head of Professional Rugby and A/Executive Director at Tourism WA.

**Question 17**

**Hansard page reference: p. 6.**

Minister Murray referred to an event on 10 April 2017 when ARU chief operating officers Rob Clarke and Todd Day met with RugbyWA in what was understood to be when a decision would be handed down by the ARU.

**Hon Mick Murray, MLA**  
**MINISTER FOR SPORT AND RECREATION**