

Senate Economic References Committee

Future of Australia's naval shipbuilding industry – 20 June 2017

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Defence

Topic: Preparation of Naval Shipbuilding Plan

Question reference number: 13

Senator: Carr

Type of question: asked on Tuesday, 20 June 2017, Hansard page 21

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 14 July 2017

Question:

Senator KIM CARR: I want to turn to some other areas because we only have limited time today. Was the industry department involved in the preparation of the Naval Shipbuilding Plan announced on 16 May?

Mr Ablong: The Department of Industry was a participant in the development process, yes.

Senator KIM CARR: I presume they were co-opted to the National Security Committee on that matter?

Mr Ablong: I would have to take on notice exactly who the co-optees were for the decision set, but officials from the department were certainly involved in discussions at a departmental level.

Answer:

It is a longstanding practice not to disclose information about the operation and business of the Cabinet, as to do so could potentially reveal the deliberations of the Cabinet, which are confidential.