

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
RURAL AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS AND TRANSPORT
Inquiry into the Performance of Australian Maritime Safety Authority**

Answers to questions taken on notice at the Committee hearing on 25 September 2019

Question (1 of 9):

Senator Brockman:

When did that happen [when was AMSA was asked to appoint Western Australian officers as delegates under the National Law]?

Answer:

As part of the transitional arrangements undertaken in the lead up to 1 July 2018, AMSA notified its delegates in the states and Northern Territory that the delegate structure in place under the Inter-governmental Agreement was going to cease to have effect and AMSA would assume full responsibility for the delivery of national law services.

AMSA approached WA DoT to ascertain their interest in entering in a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with AMSA to establish future arrangements for compliance and enforcement activities, and how our respective agencies would interact moving forward.

WA DoT were early adoptees and supporters of the proposal. A MOU was signed and came into effect on 9 April 2018. Section 7 of the MOU states that as the National Regulator's delegation to Western Australia would be revoked on 1 July 2018, AMSA would appoint marine safety inspectors at WA DoT with their agreement. (AMSA is unable to appoint an officer or employee of an agency of a state or territory without agreement from that state/territory.)

On 18 June 2018 an officer from the Western Australian Department of Transport (WA DoT) signed a letter of agreement giving approval for AMSA to appoint four staff from WA DoT as Marine Safety Inspectors.

AMSA appointed three of the staff from WA DoT with effect from 1 July 2018 and another on 27 August 2018.