

Senate Inquiry Access to APH by Lobbyists Inquiry

Question on Notice no. 02 – 08 April 2024

Senator David Pocock asked the Department of Parliamentary Services on 08 April 2024:

Senator DAVID POCOCK: So these are not just contractors who are coming in to do works; these are potentially people who don't meet the definition of lobbying but could be in here to work in advocacy and, we had a witness here earlier say, 'educating members of parliament'.

Mr Stefanic: I guess that is—I'm thinking about one of the passholders that I sponsor who is involved in civics education locally. Could that person be involved in advocacy work? They could. They could get involved in advocacy, but it's not their principal purpose. Their principal purpose is administering a function that they currently have.

Senator DAVID POCOCK: That's why they access Parliament House?

Mr Stefanic: Yes.

Senator DAVID POCOCK: And there's no other pass that they could be on?

Mr Stefanic: No, because it wouldn't fall into the other categories. The person is not a contractor and they're not a staff member. They're not a Commonwealth employee, so they're excluded from the other categories of passes

Senator DAVID POCOCK: Could you take on notice how many passes you, and maybe all the other departmental heads, have sponsored.

Mr Stefanic: Yes, I can take that on notice.

Answer

There are 7 active orange sponsored passes that are sponsored by the Secretary of the Department of Parliamentary Services.

There are no other passes in this category sponsored by other parliamentary departmental heads.