

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport

QUESTION ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2024 - 2025

Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts

Committee Question Number: 148

Departmental Question Number: SQ24-001347

Division/Agency Name: DIV - Domestic Aviation and Reform

Hansard Reference: Written (14 November 2024)

Topic: Airport Leasing Company (ALC) and the Airport Building Controller (ABC)

Senator Bridget McKenzie asked:

1. What is the process within the Department to assess a Major Development Plan MDP?
2. What Departmental oversight occurs on the processes or outcomes between the Airport Leasing Company (ALC) and the Airport Building Controller ABC?
3. Does the Department audit the applications between any of the ALC and their respective ABC to ensure that compliance is maintained?
4. How would the Minister of the day have any oversight on the processes or outcomes between the ALC and the ABC if the Department does not have any oversight?
5. Are these costs ever audited?
6. What is to stop the ALC and ABC from colluding to negate the need for a MDP?
7. Are the ALC's allowed to develop the land at the airport?

Answers:

1. The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts assesses a draft MDP against requirements outlined in the *Airports Act 1996* and provides advice to support the minister in making a decision.
2. The department administers an Airport Building Control Online (ABCO) system.
3. Yes.
4. The department has oversight through quarterly reporting by the ABCs and the ABCO system.
5. Yes.
6. All construction and building works must be notified to the Airport Building Controllers and details of all building and works such as applications including any cost assurance data is provided on the ABCO. Works must also be consistent with the Airport Master Plan.
7. Airport Lessee Companies are able to develop the airport site under the Airport Head Leases consistent with Airport Master Plans.