

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport

QUESTION ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2023 - 2024

Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts

Committee Question Number: 79

Departmental Question Number: SQ23-004861

Division/Agency Name: Agency - Civil Aviation Safety Authority

Hansard Reference: Written (31 October 2023)

Topic: CASA - Incorrect information on CASA Website

Senator David Fawcett asked:

1. Mr Marcelja indicated that the information on the CASA website did not reflect the intended policy.
 - a. Who has a role in authorising changes to the CASA website?
 - b. Does CASA have a policy or approved process for ensuring due diligence is applied to check for alignment with approved policy before changes are made?
 - c. If the answer to b. is YES, why wasn't this process followed?
2. Ms Spence also indicated that the information was inaccurate.
 - a. Who drafted the information which was published on the website?
 - b. What steps have been / will be taken to ensure that individual employees are aware of their responsibility to curtail their personal views and support the agreed corporate policy position?

Answer:

Mr Marcelja and Ms Spence indicated that if information on the CASA website suggested that somebody who had passed the operational test would have a 'co-pilot' restriction applied, that this was not consistent with CASA policy.

A review of the website identified the Designated Aviation Medical Examiner handbook was published with some information about colour vision tests. The handbook was intended to give advance notice of impending changes. As the final policy is not yet settled, it has been removed and stronger processes have been implemented to ensure updates to the handbook are appropriately reviewed and approved.