

**OFFICIAL**

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**Supplementary Budget Estimates 2025-2026**

**Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts**

**Committee Question Number: 61**

**Departmental Question Number: SQ25-002068**

**Division/Agency Name:** DIV - International Aviation Technology and Services

**Hansard Reference:** Spoken, Page No. 123 (07 October 2025)

**Topic:** Correspondence from Mr Barker to Minister C King

**Senator Susan McDonald asked:**

Senator McDONALD: [...] Minister, you're not going to be able to answer these, so you could take these on notice. A Mr Barker has been having issues that you would be well aware of, Ms Spence. He has written to the chair of this committee Senator Sterle—who's not here—on 30 June and has not yet had a response. I'll turn to the RRAT committee to ask questions about that, not in this meeting but later. Minister, I understand that Mr Barker wrote to Minister King on 27 June 2025. I don't believe he has received a response, so I want to escalate this through you.

Senator McCarthy: I can take that on notice.

Senator McDONALD: Thank you. The issue is mainly that Mr Barker feels that the process he's gone through of the Fair Work Commission, the commission of—I've forgotten exactly what it's called but it's the internal one.

Ms Spence: The Industry Complaints Commissioner.

Senator McDONALD: Minister, the Industry Complaints Commissioner sits within CASA, and there is a level of distrust that it is not independent and that it is too influenced by its location and its conversations, so I think it is only reasonable that the minister take a look at this herself, please.

Senator McCarthy: Sure.

**Answer:**

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communication, Sport and the Arts responded to Mr Barker on behalf of the Hon Catherine King, Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government on 14 October 2025.