

Question on notice no. 5

Portfolio question number: SQ24-001773

2024-25 Supplementary budget estimates

Education and Employment Committee, Employment and Workplace Relations Portfolio

Senator Fatima Payman: asked the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations on 6 November 2024—

Senator PAYMAN:.....Minister, are you aware of the circumstances around the removal of the deputy administrator in Victoria, Grahame McCulloch, three weeks after commencing in his role?

Senator Watt: I am aware that he was removed or resigned; I can't remember which it was.

Senator PAYMAN: I've got a copy of an article from the Australian of 13 September. It was reported that there were allegations of staff complaints surrounding the deputy administrator's removal. Are you aware of this, in particular?

Senator Watt: I'm aware of that report, yes.

Senator PAYMAN: Are there any ongoing investigations regarding any complaints made about the deputy administrator's conduct?

Senator Watt: I'd have to take that on notice

Answer —

Please see PDF attachment.

Standing Committees on Education and Employment

QUESTION ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2024-2025

Outcome: Workplace Relations

Department of Employment and Workplace Relations Question No. SQ24-001773

Senator Fatima Payman on 06 November 2024, Proof Hansard page 28

Former Deputy Administrator Conduct

Question

Senator PAYMAN:.....Minister, are you aware of the circumstances around the removal of the deputy administrator in Victoria, Grahame McCulloch, three weeks after commencing in his role?

Senator Watt: I am aware that he was removed or resigned; I can't remember which it was.

Senator PAYMAN: I've got a copy of an article from the Australian of 13 September. It was reported that there were allegations of staff complaints surrounding the deputy administrator's removal. Are you aware of this, in particular?

Senator Watt: I'm aware of that report, yes.

Senator PAYMAN: Are there any ongoing investigations regarding any complaints made about the deputy administrator's conduct?

Senator Watt: I'd have to take that on notice

Answer

While the department is aware of media reporting about Mr McCulloch's departure from the administration of the Construction and General Division (the Division) of the Construction, Forestry and Maritime Employees Union (CFMEU), the department does not have knowledge of investigations the administrator of the Division, or any regulator, may be undertaking in relation to Mr McCulloch.