

Question on notice no. 55

Portfolio question number: SQ24-001188

2024-25 Supplementary budget estimates

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee, Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts Portfolio**

Senator Dave Sharma: asked the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts on 4 November 2024—

Senator SHARMA: Has there been contact with the various tenderers since the application process closed? Is that a normal part of the tender process?

Ms Sachse: We'll have to take that on notice. None of us is on the assessment panel.

Senator SHARMA: So you can't tell me if there has been any contact with, for instance, the existing slot manager, Airport Coordination Australia, since the application window ended with regard to this process, not in regard to business as usual?

Ms Purvis-Smith: We'll take that on notice, Senator.

Senator SHARMA: Has there been any communication with either Qantas or Virgin regarding the new slot manager?

Ms Purvis-Smith: We'll have to take that on notice, Senator.

Answer —

Please find answer attached

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: 55

Departmental Question Number: SQ24-001188

Division/Agency Name: DIV - Domestic Aviation and Reform

Hansard Reference: Spoken, Page No. 63 (04 November 2024)

Topic: Contact with tenderers regarding the Sydney Airport slot manager

Senator Dave Sharma asked:

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Ms Sachse: We'll have to take that on notice. None of us is on the assessment panel.

Senator SHARMA: So you can't tell me if there has been any contact with, for instance, the existing slot manager, Airport Coordination Australia, since the application window ended with regard to this process, not in regard to business as usual?

Ms Purvis-Smith: We'll take that on notice, Senator.

Senator SHARMA: Has there been any communication with either Qantas or Virgin regarding the new slot manager?

Ms Purvis-Smith: We'll have to take that on notice, Senator.

Answer:

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts contacted respondents to the Request for Proposal by email to update them on the evaluation process, and subsequently advised them of the outcome of the assessment of their proposal. In line with the Commonwealth Procurement Rules, the department did not contact other stakeholders about the Slot Manager Request for Proposal process while it was being undertaken.