

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES – 26 FEBRUARY 2015 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Human Services

Topic: Consultation with the Department of Industry

Question reference number: HS 52

Senator: Cameron

Type of question: Hansard page 34

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Question:

Senator CAMERON: That is good. That is helpful. You did indicate to me, in October, that you would be raising the issue of local content with the department of industry. What discussions have taken place on that?

Mr Shepherd: Can I just clarify your question? Was that in relation to the question you asked about consultation with the department of industry?

Senator CAMERON: Yes.

Mr Shepherd: There has been consultation with the department of industry. We have met with them twice.

Senator CAMERON: So you have met them twice.

Mr Shepherd: Yes.

Senator CAMERON: Was this after I raised it in the Senate estimates?

Mr Shepherd: They actually participated in a workshop too about the design of the business case and we have had subsequently two additional meetings with them.

Senator CAMERON: When was this participation?

Mr Shepherd: I can get this on notice to you, but the initial discussions with that department in its portfolio were almost two years ago when the business case started. They participated in a cross-agency workshop in December and there have been two officer-to-officer specific discussions with the department of industry.

Answer:

The Department of Industry and Science was involved in agency consultation as part of the development of the business case over the course of the two year project.

The department initially met with representatives of all departments, including the former Department of Industry, Innovation, Climate Change, Science, Research and Tertiary Education, in August 2013 to provide a high level outline of the business case project.

The Department of Industry and Science provided feedback on the business case as part of the development process on 13 and 19 November 2014 and 2 and 11 February 2015.

In addition, representatives from the Department of Industry and Science also attended a multi-agency co-design session held on 16 December 2014. The department has met on four subsequent occasions with officers of the Department of Industry and Science – on 9 February, 16 February, 26 March and 8 April 2015.