

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Budget Estimates 2015-16, 1 - 2 June 2015**

**Ref No:** SQ15-000554

**OUTCOME:** 10 – Sport and Recreation

**Topic:** Halal Meat in the AIS Dining Hall

**Type of Question:** Written Question on Notice

**Senator:** Bernardi, Cory

**Question:**

According to the AIS’s information manual, “all meats used within the AIS Dining Hall are halal approved/certified.” (page 33, AIS Guest Information Manual)

- a) Is that still the case, that all meats within the AIS dining hall are halal approved/certified?
- b) For how long has this arrangement been in place?
- c) Why was the decision made to ensure that all meat – and not just some meat - was halal certified or approved?
- d) Who made this decision?
- e) How many athletes at the AIS have requested halal food from the Dining Hall before and after the decision was made that all Dining Hall meat was to be halal approved/certified?
- f) Did the AIS or ASC ever consider having some halal options for Muslim athletes, and allowing the rest of the meat to be non-halal?
- g) What companies are the sources of the halal meat provided to the AIS dining hall?
- h) Which halal certifiers do these companies deal with and pay fees to, regarding the meat provided to the AIS dining hall?
- i) Does the AIS or ASC incur any additional costs in sourcing all its meat in this manner?

**Answer:**

- a) No. The Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) Guest Information Manual has since been amended to indicate this.
- b) Not applicable.
- c) The meat procured for the AIS Dining Hall is not Halal certified. The AIS can cater for Halal requirements by ordering product from a certified supplier on an as needs basis.
- d) The Director Site Commercial.

- e) It is understood that no athletes have indicated a special diet requirement for Halal certified food since commencement of the current catering services contract on 1 May 2013.
- f) The meat procured for the AIS Dining Hall is not Halal certified. The AIS can cater for Halal requirements by ordering product from a certified supplier on an as needs basis.
- g) The current supplier of meat for the AIS Dining Hall is Top Cut Foods.
- h) Top Cut Foods is certified by the Queensland Halal Certification Service.
- i) The AIS/Australian Sports Commission would incur a small additional cost when procuring Halal certified meat on an as needs basis.