Senate Community Affairs Committee ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

2012-13 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 3 Question No: 136

Topic: Problem Gambling

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Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

Was there written communications between the Department and the Minister's Office in relation to seeking advice on the potential for conflict of interest that led to the Oakton advice being sought?

Answer:

There are no written communications between the Department and the Minister's Office in relation to the advice sought from Oakton Consulting ('Oakton').

The Minister's media release of 22 January 2012 included an offer to Clubs ACT ('the Offer') with the condition that all venues would need to enter into an agreement requiring that no Commonwealth funding would be used to support political donations.

Following the announcement, the Department contacted Oakton on 27 January 2012 seeking specific advice on how best to give effect to the condition in the Offer when entering into agreements with clubs.