

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Answers to questions on notice
Environment and Energy portfolio

Question No: 97
Hearing: Budget Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 1
Program: Environment Standards Division (ESD)
Topic: Parks Victoria - Belfast Coastal Reserves
Hansard Page: 91
Question Date: 22 May 2017
Question Type: Spoken

Senator Rice asked:

Senator RICE: I want to clarify that you have already requested Parks Victoria?

Mr Cahill: No. We have not. Not to my knowledge. But I will undertake to have an engagement with Parks Victoria to see what information is at hand and see if we can find a sensible way for us to be able to manage what that means for a species that we protect.

Senator RICE: Would you be able to give me an idea of a timeline that that engagement could occur under?

Mr Cahill: No. I will have to take that on notice. But I will give an undertaking to contact them this week.

Answer:

A meeting occurred with the Acting Chief Executive Officer for Parks Victoria, Ms Margaret Gillespie, on 6 June 2017.

At that meeting, the Department agreed to work with the Victorian government to determine whether appropriate protection for the Hooded Plovers, protected under both State and Commonwealth legislation, may be provided through the Belfast Park Plan of Management and relevant Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning licensing processes.