

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

Answers to questions on notice
Environment and Energy portfolio

Question No: 10
Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 1
Program: Biodiversity Conservation Division (BCD)
Topic: Burra Charter - Traditional Owners
Hansard Page: 117
Question Date: 17 October 2016
Question Type: Spoken

Senator Rhiannon, Lee asked:

Senator RHIANNON: Okay. I will try the Indigenous one and then, obviously, move on. The grant application that was successful stated that it had the support from the relevant traditional owners. When such statements are made, what do you do to ensure that that is correct?

Senator Birmingham: I am sorry. I appreciate that the headings of the programs under the outcomes would lead you to have come here at this time. You are going to a particular level of detail about an application that, clearly, unfortunately, nobody has. I did just check with Dr de Brouwer. The portfolio budget statements do make it clear that this grant's program sits within 1.1, but nonetheless I can appreciate why on a cursory glance of headings you are here now. I am sorry about that.

Senator RHIANNON: Thank you for tolerating it while I tried.

Answer:

The Department did not require documentary evidence to support Waverley Council's declarations, noting the provision of false or misleading information is an offence under the Criminal Code Act 1995 (Cth).