Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications Legislation Committee

Answers to questions on notice **Environment and Energy portfolio**

Question No: 42

Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates

Outcome: Outcome 1

Program: Biodiversity Conservation Division (BCD)

Topic: Protecting National Historic Sites program - Bondi Pavilion

Hansard Page: n/a

Question Date: 31 October 2016

Question Type: Written

Senator Rhiannon, Lee asked:

With regard to the \$1m grant Waverley Council received under the Department of the Environment's Protecting National Historic Sites program for the design phase of the Bondi Pavilion upgrade. Has the Department investigated if Waverley council has managed the grant as is required for such a large monetary amount? Has the Department investigated if it was deposited into general revenue or was it handled as required under the Crown Lands Act?

Answer:

The Department undertakes ongoing monitoring of all projects funded through the 2014-15 Protecting National Historic Sites program. During the life of a funded project, all Recipients are obliged to submit for assessment and approval by the Department various documentation including a Project Plan, progress reports, financial reports, and a final report.

All Recipients of funding through the 2014-15 Protecting National Historic Sites program have to ensure that the grant Funds are held in an account in the Recipient's name and which the Recipient solely controls, with a deposit-taking institution authorised under the *Banking Act* 1959 (Cth) to carry on banking business in Australia.

The Department has not investigated whether the grant funds have been deposited into general revenue or handled as required under the *Crowns Land Act 1989*, legislation that is managed by the NSW Government.