Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Industry, Innovation and Science Portfolio 2015-16 Additional Budget Estimates 11 February 2016

DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND SCIENCE

TOPIC: Building Ministers' Forum

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Carr

QUESTION No.:AI-134

Response to question on notice SI-96 states that the Australian Building Codes Board will deliver its report to the Building Ministers' Forum in early 2016 on options for a possible mandatory scheme for high risk building products. Has this report been delivered? If so, what were the findings of the report and will the report be tabled and/or released? In terms of identification of non compliant cladding on high rise buildings, will the Federal Government act on this issue if it is not committed to by the states?

ANSWER

The Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB) report on Fire Safety in High Rise Buildings was considered by the Building Ministers' Forum (BMF) on 19 February 2016. At that meeting, the BMF agreed that the ABCB would undertake further work in relation to fire safety in high rise buildings and the wider issue of building product non-compliance.

BMF papers are not released publicly. A summary of the ABCB's follow-up work is available at: http://www.abcb.gov.au/News/2016/02/24/Actions-to-be-taken-on-Fire-Safety-in-High-Rise-Buildings.

The Government will continue to work collaboratively with the states and territories to address issues relating to fire safety in high rise buildings and building product compliance, including cladding.