

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Innovation and Science Portfolio
2015-16 Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing
22 October 2015

DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND SCIENCE

TOPIC: Date of notification of meeting at University of Western University

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 22 October 2015, page 71)

QUESTION No.: SI-20

Senator KIM CARR: What was the role of the department in last week's meeting the Prime Minister had at the University of Western Sydney?

Ms Beauchamp: I attended that meeting last Friday at the University of Western Sydney. Is that the one you are talking about?

Senator KIM CARR: Yes. It was the one on 15 October.

Ms Beauchamp: My role there was to support my ministers. So it is primarily a listening role in terms of hearing from both academia and business about what works and what does not work—just some of the ideas, whether there were any barriers or constraints around innovation and addressing some of the areas around skills and capability. So it was primarily a listening role for me.

Senator KIM CARR: Is the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet the lead agency for this meeting?

Ms Beauchamp: Yes, in supporting the Prime Minister they would be the lead agency in terms of organising it, yes.

Senator KIM CARR: When did you become aware of the meeting?

Ms Beauchamp: I would have to take that on notice.

Senator KIM CARR: We were told that CSIRO were made aware on 10 October, which would have been the Saturday before. When did you become aware of it?

Ms Beauchamp: It was about that time that I knew it was going to occur. My role, rather than receiving a formal invitation as such, was there to support my ministers.

Senator KIM CARR: But it was developed on a Saturday.

Ms Beauchamp: You would have to ask the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Senator KIM CARR: I am just asking if you were told about it on a Saturday?

Ms Beauchamp: As I said earlier, I would have to take it on notice, specifically. It was around that time.

ANSWER

Early in the week commencing 12 October 2015.