

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

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND SCIENCE

TOPIC: Automotive Transformation Scheme – Company Contracts

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 22 October 2015, page 94)

QUESTION No.: SI-32

Senator KIM CARR: How much is left in the ATS over the life of the program?

Dr B Williams: I beg your pardon?

Senator KIM CARR: How much money is left in the ATS over the life of the program?

Dr B Williams: The expected spend at the moment is \$1.7 billion from the \$2.5 billion available.

Senator KIM CARR: There is \$0.8 billion left?

Dr B Williams: In expected underspend.

Senator KIM CARR: The underspend is \$0.8 billion, is it?

Dr B Williams: Yes. That is for the capped aspect of the program. For the uncapped aspect, there is an expected spend of \$337 million.

Senator KIM CARR: That is out to 2020-2021?

Dr B Williams: Correct.

Senator KIM CARR: Do the current forward estimates take into consideration the figures from funds that are committed to the ATS for firms that are not directly contracted to companies operating in Australia—that is, firms that have contracts with international suppliers at the moment?

Dr B Williams: We will need to clarify that.

Senator KIM CARR: How much is your expectation?

Dr B Williams: Sorry, could we clarify the question?

Senator KIM CARR: It has been presumed that the only companies that are eligible for assistance are the ones who have direct contracts with Holden, Ford and Toyota for production in Australia. That is not true, is it?

Dr B Williams: There are other export customers as well.

Senator KIM CARR: That is right. They are entitled to support under the scheme. I want to know, in your expectation, the number of firms that have direct contracts with companies, and does that affect your projections on the forward estimates?

Dr B Williams: I might need to take that one on notice.

Senator KIM CARR: Of course you will. I appreciate that. Will you be able to tell me how many firms are likely to be in that category?

Dr B Williams: I would need to take that on notice.

ANSWER

Approximately 20-25 participants currently supply original equipment, tools or services to overseas customers.