

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2014 - 2015

Agency - Fair Work Building and Construction

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ15-000023

Senator Cameron asked on 26 February 2015 on proof Hansard page 137 & 138

Relates to previous Senate Parliamentary Question on Notice No. 916.

Question

FWBC - Bullying and harassment

Senator CAMERON: Mr Hadgkiss, I want to now turn to some consulting services that you undertook. I am not sure if you actually—I will come back to that. You got some consulting services from Right Management Consultants Pty Limited, are you aware of that?

Mr Hadgkiss: I am not familiar with that.

Senator CAMERON: You are not familiar with very much, are you?

Senator Abetz: Stop the badgering of the witness.

Mr Hadgkiss: With great respect, Senator Cameron. We have one hundred and—

Senator CAMERON: Come on! This is answers to questions on notice—

Senator Abetz: Senator Cameron, I have heard better affected laughter from a kindergarten child—

CHAIR: Senator Cameron, you have asked the witness a question. Mr Hadgkiss is trying to answer you—

Mr Hadgkiss: With great respect, we have 128 investigations. We are exceptionally busy putting people before the courts. I regret to say I am not familiar with every consultancy we use. I will take it on notice.

Senator CAMERON: Can you go to 8 and take me through what the findings were. Were they consistent with these examples of bullying and harassment?

Mr Hadgkiss: No, not to that extent.

Senator CAMERON: What were they?

Mr Hadgkiss: I will take that on notice.

Senator CAMERON: So you are saying it was not consistent with any of these or it is—

CHAIR: What he said was he would take it on notice. You are continually putting words in the witness's mouths when they have stated they will take it on notice. You can read about it and address it at the next estimates if you are not happy with the answer.

Answer

A survey of FWBC staff was conducted following the Director's appointment in October 2013.

As a result, a review was carried out. It concluded that bullying and harassment were not endemic issues within FWBC.