

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016

Outcome 2 - Workplace Relations and Economic Strategy

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ16-000067

Senator Cameron asked on 11 February 2016 on proof Hansard page 80

Question

Correspondence from chief executive of the Royal Commission

Senator CAMERON: Okay. Secretary,—maybe you cannot do this—can you advise why the commissioner would need to get a copy back?

Mr Cully: No, Senator, the chief executive of the trade union royal commission contacted us and asked for a copy at the royal commissioner's request.

Senator CAMERON: Was it sent to the chief executive?

Mr Cully: Yes, it was.

Senator CAMERON: So it was not sent to the royal commissioner, it was sent to the chief executive of the royal commission.

Mr Cully: Yes, Senator.

Ms Parker: For him.

Senator CAMERON: For him?

Ms Parker: That is what she said, yes.

Senator CAMERON: Did they give any reasons why he should have access to it?

Mr Cully: No, Senator.

Senator CAMERON: Did you think to ask?

Mr Cully: No, Senator.

Senator CAMERON: Senators have been told that they would be sent to jail for two years to access it, but you have sent it to a chief executive of the royal commission.

Mr Cully: Sorry, Senator, I do recall that he wanted it for his records.

Senator CAMERON: He wanted it for his records?

Mr Cully: To have a full set of his royal commission records.

Senator CAMERON: Did he write to you and ask for it?

Mr Cully: No, he did not.

Senator CAMERON: You got no correspondence from this individual asking for the document on a formal basis?

Mr Cully: I would have to take that on notice. I may have an email.

Answer

Email correspondence was received from the Chief Executive Officer of the Royal Commission requesting a copy of the confidential volume of the final report for Commissioner Heydon.