

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018

Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ17-004188

Senator Roberts asked on 30 May 2017 on proof Hansard page 111

Question

ABCC - advice provided to unions on the building code

Senator ROBERTS: You mentioned on the first page of your statement under 'building code' that you are providing expedited advice on individual clauses. How is that being provided—email, letter, personal?

Mr Hadgkiss: A combination. Generally we ask that contractors or unions or industry associations avail themselves of our website. There is a special portal and they would put their clause through. I think Ms Cato gave evidence that we would do everything to expedite such an application.

Senator ROBERTS: You have said that this advice is particularly helpful for unions and industry associations. Could you name some of the unions and some of the industry associations?

Mr Hadgkiss: Certainly we have had from the Australian Workers' Union—

Ms Cato: We would probably have to take on notice who has actually sought advice.

Answer

The ABCC has received requests for advice on individual clauses from a number of sources.

Given the recent threats to the AWU by the CFMEU and other unions for seeking advice from the ABCC, disclosure of this information may compromise the safety and privacy of those who have sought advice.