

## Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

### QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014-2015

#### Agency - Fair Work Building & Construction

Department of Employment Question No. EM1555\_15

Senator Cameron asked on 23 October 2014 on proof Hansard page 66

#### Question

##### FWBC - Correspondence with Mr Ashton

Mr Hadgkiss: The letter that I signed, to the best of my recollection—if it went to Mr Ashton; I am not sure who it went to—was inquiring as to the status of matters involving criminal conduct that had been referred to the Victoria Police. I do not recall that they were about corruption. It could have been an inquiry into the status of those matters. Senator CAMERON: Can you table that correspondence so we can get to the bottom of exactly what you did do? Mr Hadgkiss: Yes. ...

Cont. Pg 74 Mr Hadgkiss: While we wait, I think I can throw some light on the letter to Mr Ashton. Senator CAMERON: Oh, can you. Mr Hadgkiss: It was not signed by me. I am told it was signed by one of my officers. Senator CAMERON: At what level? Mr Hadgkiss: The letter concerned was signed by me and refers to matters that have been referred to the Victoria Police by one of my officers. Senator CAMERON: What officer? What level of officer? Mr Hadgkiss: I do not know without going through the whole list. Mr Hadgkiss: So you do not know. You signed the letter. Senator Abetz: We will take it on notice. Mr Hadgkiss: I will take it on notice. Senator CAMERON: We have now established you did sign a letter. Mr Hadgkiss: I did, yes. Senator CAMERON: Drafted by one of your senior officers, was it? Mr Hadgkiss: I am not sure. Senator CAMERON: So we have a letter and that letter will be tabled. Mr Hadgkiss: No. I will take that on notice, I said.

#### Answer

Providing copies of correspondence between FWBC and police agencies may prejudice ongoing working relationships with police agencies throughout Australia.