

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016

Agency - Comcare

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ15-000315

Senator O'Neill asked on 22 October 2015 on proof Hansard page 50

Question

COMCARE - Safety Rehabilitation and Compensation Amendment Bill - union consultation

Senator O'NEILL: Could I ask you to be a bit more specific about the groups that you are referring to there. In terms of the unions, have you only contacted the ACTU? Have you contacted anybody else?

Mr Hughes: We wrote to the ACTU and we intend to follow that up with some further conversations with the ACTU about which union groups would be interested in providing feedback on these draft products, but we have not gone into the level of detail at this point in time.

Senator O'NEILL: But you have not consulted anybody other than the ACTU at this point in time, if I am hearing you correctly?

Mr Hughes: As Ms Taylor pointed out, it is an ongoing process. We have received feedback on a number of products at this point in time. We expect to undertake further consultation on those products, because that feedback has to be incorporated and then reconsidered or incorporated into these products, and it is an ongoing process. In some cases we will not have a final product until we know exactly where the passage of the bill will land.

Senator URQUHART: When were the letters written?

Mr Hughes: I will have to take that on notice.

Answer

Refer to Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ15-000318.