

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 19 October 2015

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE15/009) - Minister hosting fundraising dinner for people tendering for a multimillion - dollar contract - Internal Product (DIBP)

Senator Carr, Kim (L&CA 34) asked:

Senator KIM CARR: Minister, is it the government's view that ministers are obliged to uphold the same ethical standards as Commonwealth offices?

Senator Cash: Ministers are required to uphold the relevant standards, but in relation to this particular tender I would need to take on notice anything you are referring to in that regard.

Senator KIM CARR: Yes. I am asking about the government's view about Commonwealth officers and the standards that apply to ministers as well.

Senator Cash: As I have stated, ministers are at all times required to uphold whatever relevant standards apply to them. In terms of the particular tender that you are referring to, I would need to take any matters on notice.

Senator KIM CARR: Could you advise the committee as to whether or not hosting a fundraising dinner attended by companies vying for a contract of this size is consistent with those standards.

Senator Cash: I have no information in relation to that particular dinner, so at this point in time the dinner and the guest list are an allegation that you are making. I have said that in relation to those details I will take them on notice.

Answer:

This is not a matter for the Department of Immigration and Border Protection.