



Senator Duniam
Chair
Senate Environment and Communications Legislation Committee
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Duniam

On 22 October 2018 I appeared as a witness before the Senate Environment and Communications Legislation Committee Estimates Hearing.

During the hearing Senator Waters said in relation to legal contracts entered into by the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

“We’ve uncovered that there are two contracts that relate to COTS; one for legal services to the firm Maddocks from 2 November 2017 to 22 December 2017, and one for \$25,000-odd for fraud risk assessment and fraud control plan services to KPMG, which is from May 2018 to 30 June 2018. Were these because you had concerns over the governance of the crown-of-thorns expenditures?”

In response I said

“.....we engaged probity advisers to give us expert advice...”

I wish to correct this answer. The contract with Maddocks was not for the provision of probity advice, but for the drafting of a Deed of Standing Offer for the crown-of-thorns starfish control tender, and advice about establishing a panel arrangement in accordance with the Commonwealth Procurement Rules.

I apologise for the error in my answer and trust this further information will be of assistance to the Committee.

Yours sincerely

Bruce Elliot
Acting Chief Executive Officer
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

5 November 2018