

Environment and Communications References Committee  
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Dr Wendy Craik  
Inquiry into Australia's faunal extinction crisis  
23 August 2019

---

**QUESTION 1:** Hansard page 22 – Senator Rice (Chair)

**CHAIR:** In the study, the review and the report, through the whole process, did you get good representation across the country of all of the various interactions between agriculture and the EPBC Act?

**Dr Craik:** We tried to. We did our best, going around the country. We went out to seven regional areas. We did quite a bit of on-ground activity, looking at places.

**CHAIR:** Where exactly did you go out on the ground?

**ANSWER:**

As per Appendix 4 of the final report, the full list of locations where consultations were conducted by a member of the review team in person is as follows: Canberra, Byrne Valley, Townsville, Melbourne, Sydney, Walgett, Ilford, Brisbane, Coolringdon, Cooma, Launceston, Hobart, Broome, Perth.

**QUESTION 2:** Hansard page 26 – Senator Gallagher

**Senator GALLAGHER:** Do you recall when that was held? Was it the end of September?

**ANSWER:**

Monday 7 May 2018 – With Minister Frydenberg and Assistant Minister Price – see my letter to the Committee.

Tuesday 21 August 2018 – With Minister Frydenberg and Assistant Minister Price.

**QUESTION 3:** Hansard page 26 – Senator Gallagher

**Senator GALLAGHER:** Do you recall when that was held? Was it the end of September?

**Dr Craik:** I think we handed in the report in October sometime, just judging by these dates here.

**ANSWER:**

The final report is dated Friday 28 September 2018 on the cover page and was submitted to DoEE with a transmittal letter for Ministers Price and Littleproud on this date. DoEE subsequently requested that the transmittal letter be addressed to Minister Price only – this

change was made and the transmittal letter and report was re-submitted to DoEE on Thursday 4 October 2018. We do not know exactly when the report and letter were then transmitted to the Minister by DoEE.

**QUESTION 4:** Hansard page 26 – Senator Gallagher

**Senator GALLAGHER:** Was a draft review provided to those officers?

**Dr Craik:** I don't recall that it was, no.

**CHAIR:** Didn't you say before there was a draft given to the officers?

**Dr Craik:** I don't recall saying that, no.

**CHAIR:** A draft of the recommendations.

**Senator GALLAGHER:** Yes, a meeting on the recommendations.

**Dr Craik:** We met with them to talk to them. I can check, but I don't remember that we did. I can't be 100 per cent certain, but I don't remember that we did.

**CHAIR:** If you could take that on notice, that would be great.

**ANSWER:**

A draft report was given to the Department on 15 August 2018. The recommendations in the draft were carried forward into the final with some wording changes and reordering and two were put into the text rather than remaining as standalone recommendations. One recommendation was added to the final report - recommendation14 concerning the Minister reporting on progress on harmonisation between state and federal legislation.