

Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services

Australian Securities and Investments Commission

Answers to Questions on Notice

Public hearing: 28 February 2020

Question No: 017
Reference: 47 and 48

Question:

Senator PRATT: Can you give me the date when those applications were withdrawn?

Ms Bird: The government made its announcement on 30 August last year. I imagine it was soon after, but I can't tell you the exact date. I can take that on notice if you would like.

Senator PRATT: Did any of those bodies withdraw their applications prior to the government's 30 August announcement?

Ms Bird: I'll take on notice exactly when the applications were withdrawn. There was quite a lot of conversation with government at the time as to what was happening. Whether some of the applicants understood what was going to be said before it was said, I don't know.

Senator PRATT: The original 2017 legislation asked for professional codes to be compliant. Could you please take on notice how many applications were lodged, the dates that they were individually lodged and the dates that each of those applications was individually withdrawn.

Answer:

Two applicants submitted final applications to ASIC on 16 August 2019, seeking approval of their compliance scheme.

On Thursday 10 October 2019, the first applicant withdrew their application.

On Friday 11 October 2019, the Hon. Josh Frydenberg MP, Treasurer, and the Assistant Minister for Superannuation, Financial Services and Financial Technology, Senator the Hon. Jane Hume, [jointly announced](#) that the Government would accelerate the establishment of a single disciplinary body for financial advisers. The single disciplinary body displaced the role of compliance schemes in monitoring and enforcing the *Financial Planners and Advisers Code of Ethics 2019*.

On Monday 14 October 2019, the second applicant withdrew their application.

On Tuesday 15 October, [ASIC announced](#) that it would make a legislative instrument to provide relief to Australian financial services licensees from the obligation to ensure their financial advisers were covered by a compliance scheme, following the Government announcement on 11 October 2019 and the withdrawal of the compliance scheme applications.