

SPONDING TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE: FAMILY BUSINESS INQUIRY

Thank you for your e-mail. The attached is the ACA response to the Family Business Inquiry verbal evidence sessions. These are the two extracts that required further information (question on notice). Our response follows each extract.

Senator BOYCE: The chair is telling me we need to be moving on to our next witnesses, but I was initially concerned at the lack of submissions from the rural sector to this inquiry. I am not quite so concerned now. **Can either of you briefly comment, or perhaps provide in writing, your views about whether there are any substantive differences between agribusiness family businesses and other family businesses.**

Mr Joseph : We can take that on notice and send the answer back to you, if you like. We would be happy to do that for you.

Senator BOYCE: Thank you. **Tell us whether it is about culture, tax or any aspect.**

We advise in response:

1. That the ACA has no empirical evidence to substantiate anything other than personal viewpoints.
2. Nonetheless, the ACA provided throughout the verbal testimony comments implying a close relationship between agribusinesses and family business simply because of the large number of agribusiness's that are family business, particularly in rural areas. However, the nub of this inquiry is about defining an agreed definition of what constitutes a 'family business'. It follows that until that happens, gathering statistics to enlighten us is duly frustrated. All we can do is provide comment based upon anecdotal evidence in the meantime. The ACA as it is currently constituted can only observe that there are no substantive differences other than the nature of the business undertaken by the family business (i.e. is it involved in agribusiness or not).
3. For the most part, agribusiness family businesses and family businesses are similar.

CHAIR: I understand that the **Agribusiness Council has lobbied the government to amend legislation regarding family trusts**, so perhaps I could ask you on notice if you could provide the committee with those **submissions**.

Mr Joseph : Yes.

We advise in response:

1. Upon checking the wording of this comment, the ACA advises that it has not lobbied the government to amend any legislation regarding family trusts.

2. The only lobbying to government concerning family trusts is that contained in our written and verbal submissions to this Inquiry.
3. The ACA has made a number of submissions to various State and Federal Government inquiries on a range of other topics.

Thank you for the opportunity to clarify matters. Please feel free to contact us if

1. The ACA has have inadvertently missed anything; or,
2. You wish any further clarification.

Cheers,

Roy Duncanson
CEO

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