

Rural And Regional Affairs And Transport

QUESTION ON NOTICE

Additional Estimates 2021 - 2022

Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

Committee Question Number:19

Departmental Question Number: SQ22-000023

Division/Agency Name: Civil Aviation Safety Authority

Hansard Reference: : Spoken, Page No. 97 (14 February 2022)

Topic: CASA - Termination / administrative action

Senator Malarndirri McCarthy asked:

1) Senator PATRICK: How many people has CASA fired for overreach? That's a reasonable question.

Ms Spence: We look to make sure that we operate consistently with what our regulations require.

Senator PATRICK: I am happy for you to take the question on notice. It's a genuine question.

Ms Spence: I'm very happy to take that on notice.

Senator PATRICK: Thank you. I suspect it's none.

Ms Spence: What I'm saying is that we do take action in relation to suggestions about people going beyond what the regulatory framework requires.

2) Senator PATRICK: Maybe you can also give us the number of people who have been subject to administrative action inside your organisation as well.

Ms Spence: Yes.

Answer:

1) For the period 1 July 2020 to 16 February 2022, the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) made no terminations as a result of conduct that could be regarded as regulator 'overreach'.

2) Administrative action has been interpreted to mean action that relates to an allegation of a breach of CASA's Code of Conduct.

CASA publicly reports statistics related to Code of Conduct investigations (page 92 in the 2020-21 CASA Annual Report – zero cases last year).

More broadly, in 2020-21, one staff member had their employment terminated due to unsatisfactory performance.