

Question on notice no. 31

Portfolio question number: SQ24-000440

2023-24 Additional estimates

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee, Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts Portfolio**

Senator Bridget McKenzie: asked the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts on 12 February 2024—

Senator McKENZIE: ... The reality is that right now we have two air traffic controllers go sick and the whole country stops. That's what's happening. You can talk about the white and green paper process as much as you like, but right now businesses and families are all struggling with the fact that Airservices Australia, as an agency, can't get its act together. My question, Minister, is: why has it taken the Senate to instigate an investigation into this agency? Why hasn't Minister King herself reviewed the behaviour and the functionality of Airservices Australia? You might want to take that on notice.

Answer —

Please find answer attached

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport

QUESTION ON NOTICE

Additional Estimates 2023 - 2024

Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts

Committee Question Number: 31

Departmental Question Number: SQ24-000440

Division/Agency Name: DIV - International Aviation Technology and Services

Hansard Reference: Spoken, Page No. 57 (12 February 2024)

Topic: Governance of Airservices Australia

Senator Bridget McKenzie asked:

Senator MCKENZIE: [...] The reality is that right now we have two air traffic controllers go sick and the whole country stops. That's what's happening. You can talk about the white and green paper process as much as you like, but right now businesses and families are all struggling with the fact that Airservices Australia, as an agency, can't get its act together. My question, Minister, is: why has it taken the Senate to instigate an investigation into this agency? Why hasn't Minister King herself reviewed the behaviour and the functionality of Airservices Australia? You might want to take that on notice.

Answer:

The Minister of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government, the Hon Catherine King MP's Statement of Expectations for Airservices Australia clearly sets the minister's expectations around Airservices' organisational capability, culture, staffing and service levels and updates on these matters are provided on a regular basis.