

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2012-13 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 3

Question No: 101

Topic: Problem Gambling

Hansard Page: 14/02/2013 CA39

Senator Cash asked:

Can you provide the minutes and meeting papers for the two meetings of the pokie trial oversight committee held on 12 October and 12 December 2012?

Answer:

The Trial Oversight Committee met for the first time on 12 October 2012 and for the second time on 10 December 2012. Please see the communiqués from these meetings below, which serve as official minutes endorsed by Trial Oversight Committee members.

The meeting papers are unable to be released at this time as the Department is currently procuring services for the preparatory work for the ACT trial and the content of the papers relates to this procurement.

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TRIAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Meeting #1 – Communiqué

Key Issues:

- While negotiations for the conduct of the trial are continuing in advance of a final agreement, the Trial Oversight Committee of the ACT trial of pre-commitment met for the first time on Friday 12 October 2012.
- The focus of the first meeting was to discuss the establishment of the Committee and the preparatory work elements of the ACT trial.
- It is expected that the procurement for the preparatory work of the trial will begin before the end of 2012.
- Federal Member for Fraser, Dr Andrew Leigh MP, attended the first meeting and spoke to Committee members on the importance of the trial for the Government.
- CEO of ClubsACT, Mr Jeff House, also spoke to the Committee, about the trial from the industry's perspective.
- The Committee discussed the importance of the initial preparatory stages of the trial, particularly around the trial design and evaluation components, as these will establish the foundations of a robust and independent trial and give the trial the best opportunity of success.
- The Committee was also informed of the role it will play in providing advice on technical and implementation issues on the trial, to the Commonwealth and ACT governments, as well as to the independent contractors that form the independent trial management group.
- The Committee will continue to meet to oversee the establishment of the trial at key milestones throughout the preparatory phase of work.

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TRIAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Meeting #2 – Communiqué

Key Issues:

- The Trial Oversight Committee of the ACT trial of pre-commitment met for the second time on Monday 10 December 2012.
- An update was provided to members on the National Gambling Reform Bills and the trial of dynamic warning messages in Queensland. An update was also provided by clubs.
- The focus of the second meeting was to provide an update on, and to discuss, the preparatory work of the ACT trial, mainly the Department's procurement approach to secure services for:
 - The design of an optimum pre-commitment system
 - The development of an evaluation strategy for a pre-commitment system
- Specifically, the research scope, purpose and statement of requirements were discussed, so that tender documentation may be finalised and released to market.
- The Department intends to release an Expression of Interest for the design of an optimum pre-commitment system before the end of 2012, followed by a pre-qualified Request for Tender in early 2013. A Request for Tender for the development of an evaluation strategy will also be released to the open market in early 2013.
- The Committee will continue to meet to progress the preparatory work for the trial, while negotiations for the conduct of the trial are continuing in advance of final agreement.
- The Committee will continue to meet to oversee the establishment of the trial at key milestones throughout the preparatory phase of work.