

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Budget Estimates May 2017

Communications Portfolio

Department of Communications and the Arts

Question No: 195

Program 2.1

Hansard Ref: Page 52, 25/05/2017

Topic: Consultation – changes to 457 Visas

Senator Kakoschke-Moore, Skye asked:

Senator KAKOSCHKE-MOORE: Just going back to the issue of consultation and collaboration between departments around major government policy changes, we already know that the Department of Education and Training did not consult with you about the changes to the eligible course lists for VET Student Loans. Were you consulted by the Department of Immigration and Border Protection around the changes to 457 visas recently and the removal of occupations from skills lists?

Ms Basser: I would need to take that on notice.

Senator KAKOSCHKE-MOORE: So you cannot say for sure, one way or the other at this stage, whether or not they spoke to you before they removed musical director and a whole bunch of other arts professions from the list. What about the Department of Employment; did they consult with you about removal of arts courses from the eligible occupation lists for 457 visas?

Ms Basser: I would need to take that on notice just to check.

Answer:

Please refer to Question on Notice 48.