

**Senate Economics Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Additional Estimates

2015 - 2016

**Department/Agency:** ABS

**Question:** AET 3715 - 3725

**Topic:** Survey of Tourist Accommodation

**Reference:** written - 29 February 2016

**Senator:** Wong, Penny

**Question:**

3715. How many suppliers were considered as part of the "extensive consultation with industry, government and investment stakeholders". Please list their names and whether based in Australia or overseas.

3716. When did the Proof of Concept process begin?

3717. Who requested the Proof of Concept?

3718. What date was it requested?

3719. Please supply a copy of the Proof of Concept.

3720. Has the ABS reported to the Minister for Tourism, Austrade, Tourism Research Australia or Tourism Australia about the outcome of the Proof of Concept?

3721. Has any final decision about the future of the STA been taken? If so, by whom, what date and how was this communicated?

3722. What is the cost of conducting the Survey of Tourist Accommodation on an annual basis?

3723. When does the data for the STA need to be collected by in order for the next results to be published on time?

3724. Has Minister Colbeck made any representations about the STA to the ABS or the relevant Minister?

1. 3725. If so, please specify the date, nature of the representations and the outcome.

**Answer:**

[insert response, referencing relevant question numbers above]

**3715.**

Austrade, through Tourism Research Australia, consulted extensively with a range of stakeholders prior to the Proof of Concept project being commissioned. Austrade have provided details of this engagement within their submission.

**3716.**

The Proof of Concept project began in late August 2015.

**3717.**

Austrade engaged the ABS to undertake this project. A Letter of Intent between both Agencies was developed to specify the project requirements. Austrade was heavily involved throughout the entirety of the project.

**3718.**

The request was received by ABS in July 2015.

**3719.**

The final report has been delivered to Austrade. They will attach the report to their submission.

**3720.**

Austrade is undertaking all Ministerial and Inter-departmental engagement in relation to the project.

**3721.**

This decision rests with the Government.

**3722.**

The cost of conducting the 2015-16 Survey of Tourist Accommodation on an annual basis is approximately \$550,000.

**3723.**

The data for the STA needs to be collected from July to September 2016 in order for the 2015-16 financial year results to be published in November 2016.

**3724.**

Minister Colbeck met with Austrade on 15 March 2016.

**3725.**

See response to 3724.