

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017

Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ17-001495

Senator Cameron asked on 02 March 2017 on proof Hansard page 58

Question

ABCC - Details on advice provided on Agreements

Ms Cato: I am happy to talk to these issues, if you like. With respect to how many agreements are in the industry, I think that is not a matter that we monitor. What we do have oversight of is those that come to the agency for advice—contractors that seek advice from the agency. We give advice to them on code compliance. We are able to give you statistics in that respect.

Senator CAMERON: Okay. On notice, can you provide me details of all the agreements that have come before you for advice?

Ms Cato: We have approximately 335 requests for preliminary advice on draft agreements.

Senator CAMERON: Can you provide me a list of what companies have sought that advice?

Ms Cato: I will have to take that on notice.

Answer

As at 16 March 2017, advice had been sought in respect of 388 proposed agreements.

The advice was sought by a mixture of companies, trusts, law firms, unions and employer associations. Many of the parties sought advice on more than one occasion and in relation to more than one agreement.

The ABCC does not disclose who has sought advice from the agency or the content of that advice. Neither does the ABCC confirm whether or not specific entities have sought advice without the express consent of that primary party.