

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. EMSQ17-001512

Senator Cameron asked on 02 March 2017 on proof Hansard page 84

Question

ABCC - Outlook Calendar

Senator CAMERON: So can you provide the Outlook calendar for Mr Hadgkiss from the period he was employed or engaged or appointed as, first of all, the fair work building commissioner and then the ABCC commissioner? All Outlook diary entries?

Mr O'Keeffe: Yes. I will take that on notice.

Answer

The Commissioner complies with the guidance set out in the Australian Public Service Commission's publication 'APS Values and Code of Conduct in practice', which in section 4.7.5.c reflects that it is important to record and maintain in an accessible form significant events, including meetings and discussions with Ministers or stakeholders or members of the public which may be significant in terms of policy or program decision-making.

The Outlook calendar is not the means by which these records are kept.

As there is no requirement for a public servant to keep records of all calendar entries, there has been no process of quality assuring the entries that appear in the Commissioner's Outlook calendar. As a result of this the Outlook calendar does not constitute a complete or reliable record of events or activities because entries may be included in the calendar which did not occur, were cancelled, or were not attended.

Mr Hadgkiss was appointed as Director of Fair Work Building and Construction on 21 October 2013. To provide Mr Hadgkiss' Outlook calendar for the period from his commencement as Director would require Mr Hadgkiss to personally retrieve, review, consult with those that may be named in, and redact, more than 1,200 days of Outlook calendar entries. This would require an unreasonable diversion of resources.