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. EMSQ17-001529

Senator Marshall provided in writing.

Question

ABCC - Establishment of the Commission

Can you take us through the establishment of the Commission please – What divisions have you established to ensure you're completing your statutory functions including those amendments that were proposed by the cross-bench? Have your staffing levels changed? Has your salary changed?

How much has it cost so far to change the name of the FWBC to the ABCC?

How much is it estimated to cost?

What procedures and processes have you changed? What have you retained? How many successful convictions have you secured since the change?

How does that compare to the former FWBC?

Answer

- 1. New functions have been integrated within the agency's existing structures and no new divisions have been established.
- 2. There has been minor movement in staffing levels in the transition period.
- 3. There has been no change to the Commissioner's salary.
- 4. \$12,652.69 (ex GST).
- 5. Not more than \$20,000 (ex GST).
- 6. Agency policies and procedures that were in existence on 1 December 2016 have been reviewed and updated to reflect the new identity and functions of the ABCC.
- 7. The ABCC and its predecessor agencies commence civil penalty litigation and do not prosecute criminal convictions. The Building and Construction Industry (Improving Productivity) Act 2016 applies only to conduct that occurred on or after 2 December 2016. As it ordinarily takes at least six to twelve months to have a matter resolved by the courts, no matters have yet been finalised.
- 8. See answer 7 above.