

## **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. EMSQ17-001530**

**Senator Cameron asked on 02 March 2017 on proof Hansard page 99**

#### **Question**

##### **ABCC - field books**

Senator CAMERON: So what happens to these field books when they fill up? Are they like a 12-month field book with a date in it and stuff? What does a field book look like?

Ms Cato: We might take that on notice. I understand that certainly any relevant note that is taken is copied and recorded digitally into the case management system. We will take on notice whether or not they actually have a field book.

..

Senator CAMERON: A couple of minutes ago, I was told there were field books. I have never heard the term before. Now we are not sure if there are field books. Does anyone know if field books are kept?

Mr Hadgkiss: I think we said we will take it on notice.

..

Senator CAMERON: So you will take on notice these field books?

Mr O'Keeffe: Yes.

Senator CAMERON: So can we have a look at a field book, if they are there?

Mr O'Keeffe: Yes.

Senator CAMERON: Can we pick one of your investigators from Melbourne to provide a field book?

Mr Hadgkiss: I think it is a national system.

Mr O'Keeffe: I think the senator is asking for an example of a field book.

Senator CAMERON: Yes.

Mr Hadgkiss: We could not give you the actual contents of a field book because most of the matters pertain to ongoing investigations or matters currently before the court.

Senator CAMERON: But not every matter would be before the court.

Mr Hadgkiss: I will take it on notice, in fairness.

Senator CAMERON: What are you taking on notice?

Mr Hadgkiss: The handing over of a typical investigator's notebook and the contents therein.

Senator CAMERON: But you are not sure if you do have field books?

Mr Hadgkiss: Well, you asked the question. I said I would take it on notice.

#### **Answer**

In 2011, former ABC Commissioner Leigh Johns abolished the requirement for inspectors to keep diaries as an official record of an inspector's work. The official record of an ABCC inspector's work is held in AIMS, the agency's case management database. AIMS contains the complete record of ABCC investigative activities.