

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016

Agency - Comcare

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ15-000326

Senator Cameron asked on 22 October 2015 on proof Hansard page 52

Question

COMCARE - Annual Report

Senator CAMERON: Thanks for that, Ms Taylor, but can I indicate to you that, as an experienced public servant, you should be well aware that these are the estimates where annual reports are scrutinised. If you do not deliver, we cannot do our job, and our job is an important part in providing accountability to the public. As far as I am concerned, it is a serious issue. I know what the date is for the report, but, in not having the reports so that we can scrutinise them, I have to place on record my concern of the failure of Comcare to provide that report. I hope it does not happen again. Can you provide me details of what the problems were and why you could not get the report to us in time for scrutiny? Can you outline the timetable that you are undertaking at the moment and why that timetable could not meet the deadline for this committee?

Ms Taylor: I will take that on notice, Senator.

Answer

There were slight delays to the timetable as auditor clearance of the Annual Report was not provided until 13 October 2015. This meant that final edits and proofing occurred 13–15 October, with printers' proofs provided and edited 16–19 October and printing of the report 20–28 October.