

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2015-16

Finance Portfolio
27-28 May 2015

Department/Agency: ASC Pty Ltd

Outcome/Program: General

Topic: Air Warfare Destroyer Project – request for copy of forensic audit

Senator: Wong

Question reference number: F13

Type of question: Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 65, 27 May 2015

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 10 July 2015

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator WONG: Can I just go then back to the question that I asked you, Senator, which you declined to answer—and I would say to you the reasons you gave are not reasons that are contemplated by the order that the chair read out—and that was whether or not Mr Carter had asked you for a copy of the forensic audit.

Senator Cormann: I do not want to talk on behalf of Mr Carter about what was discussed at a private meeting, but I will take it on notice and will consult with Mr Carter to see what he might be prepared for me to provide on notice.

Answer:

The Air Warfare Destroyer (AWD) Alliance conducted the forensic audit to establish a true and realistic rebaseline of the estimated cost and schedule for the completion of the AWD Program. The ASC Board and Management had full access to that forensic audit material as an AWD Alliance member.

Analysis was also undertaken by a number of external advisers, who provided various reports to the Commonwealth, which considered, tested and assured the robustness of the forensic audit process. Collectively, these reports form a detailed analysis of the estimated costs to complete the AWD Program. The additional assurance work undertaken was not provided to ASC as it is confidential to the Commonwealth.