

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
AUSTRALIAN LAW REFORM COMMISSION

**Question No. 12**

**Senator Brandis asked the following question at the hearing on 29 May 2013:**

**Senator BRANDIS:** So, you have had a conversation—just one—with the Attorney-General about the ALRC's work program. Is that right?

**Prof. Croucher:** Yes.

**Senator BRANDIS:** And you are not sure whether that included a reference to this particular matter.

**Prof. Croucher:** Not specifically. I took the call from a hospital room, so I was somewhat distracted at the time. I cannot say as a matter of fact whether that was in it. The work program was in the half-hour discussion I had with the Attorney.

**Senator BRANDIS:** That is fine. I am not trying to trick you. I just want to know what the best of your recollection is. But you also recall having a conversation with a staffer in the Attorney-General's office specifically about this?

**Prof. Croucher:** That is correct.

**Senator BRANDIS:** Just one conversation?

**Prof. Croucher:** One conversation is what I recall. I was to meet the Attorney, but he was not available, so I had a discussion with a staffer.

**Senator BRANDIS:** When was that?

**Prof. Croucher:** I could pin it down by diary reference.

**Senator BRANDIS:** Can you take that on notice and let me know?

**Prof. Croucher:** I certainly can.

**The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:**

ALRC President Rosalind Croucher met with the Attorney-General's Advisor on 19 March 2013 and spoke about a number of matters including the ALRC's work program and potential new inquiries. The meeting had been scheduled with the Attorney-General but due to unforeseen circumstances, he was not available.

Professor Croucher spoke to the Attorney-General on the telephone on Friday 26 April 2013 about the ALRC's work program and potential new inquiries.