

Thomas Abourizk

From: Media
Sent: Tuesday, 26 February 2019 11:16 AM
To: Sean Lounder
Subject: FW: Response sought - senate estimates [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

For FOI

From: Sean Lounder
Sent: Friday, 26 October 2018 11:36 AM
To: Media <Media@acnc.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Response sought - senate estimates [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Just for records.

From: Sean Lounder
Sent: Friday, 26 October 2018 11:36 AM
To: Gary Johns <Gary.Johns@acnc.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Response sought - senate estimates [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Morning Gary

We have a media enquiry from [REDACTED]. Apparently Senator McAllister has asked Senator Scullion (Minister for Indigenous Affairs) a few questions following your recent appearance at Estimates.

Here's the crux:

Senator McAllister asked Indigenous Affairs minister Nigel Scullion in senate estimates this morning to provide a formal response to Mr Johns' comments on Wednesday. McAllister said she found Mr Johns' past statements on Indigenous Australians, particularly the 2015 "cash cows" remark, offensive, and that Mr Johns had refused to back away from that statement when invited to do so this week. She said it was a concerning position for a senior public servant to hold.

Senator Scullion said he disagreed with Mr Johns' views but wanted to get across his comments more fully before responding.

[REDACTED] asked if you'd like to make a comment – I told them probably not, but said I'd ask.

Let me know what you think.

Kind regards
Sean

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, 26 October 2018 11:25 AM
To: Sean Lounder <Sean.Lounder@acnc.gov.au>
Subject: Response sought - senate estimates

Hi Sean,

Thanks for the chat. As discussed, I'm seeking a response from Mr Johns to comments made in senate estimates today which refer to Mr Johns's comments in estimates on Wednesday evening.

Senator McAllister asked Indigenous Affairs minister Nigel Scullion in senate estimates this morning to provide a formal response to Mr Johns' comments on Wednesday. McAllister said she found Mr Johns' past statements on Indigenous Australians, particularly the 2015 "cash cows" remark, offensive, and that Mr Johns had refused to back away from that statement when invited to do so this week. She said it was a concerning position for a senior public servant to hold.

Senator Scullion said he disagreed with Mr Johns' views but wanted to get across his comments more fully before responding.

Could you tell me if Mr Johns wishes to make any further comment on this issue, or if he wishes to dispute Senator McAllister's characterisation of his comments on Wednesday evening?

My deadline is ASAP today.

Regards,

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