

Question on Notice

No. 619

Asked on Thursday 13 May 2021

MR S ANDREW ASKED THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE, MINISTER FOR WOMEN AND MINISTER FOR THE PREVENTION OF DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE (HON S FENTIMAN) –

QUESTION:

With reference to the taxpayer-funded Coral Reef Centre responsible for the information used to manage the reef and recent fraud allegations, in the journal Science, against its scientists–

Will the Attorney-General investigate the fraud allegations to ensure that taxpayers' money is hitting the mark and to ensure the integrity of JCU meets the requirements of the Act?

ANSWER:

I wish to advise the Member that the Centre of Excellence for Coral Reef Studies is funded by the Australian Research Council, a Commonwealth Government funded body which does not fall within my responsibilities. Further, I do not have investigation powers, therefore I advise the Member that allegations of research fraud should be raised with the relevant tertiary institution for investigation in the first instance.