

Prof Les Christidis - Answer to question taken on notice during evidence 3 September 2012

The NMSC was contacted by Andrew Fraser's office to enquire whether we had put in a submission on the Cronulla closure, and if not, would we be willing to. I was away overseas and was contacted by my staff. I had not been aware of the Select Committee. As the NMSC is working closely with DPI fisheries I was keen to put in a submission but was not going to be able to meet deadline.

We were then advised by Andrew Fraser's office that we could have an extra week and we could submit it through his office as the website for online submissions had closed.

This meant I was able to write the submission after I returned from overseas.

The submission focussed solely on areas relevant to research opportunities and was not influenced by any other factors. Having it submitted through Andrew's office was purely for practical purposes. The NMSC submission therefore represents our independent view.