

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2016-17 – 28 FEBRUARY 2017 - FINANCE PORTFOLIO

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
1	ASC Pty Ltd	General	Gallacher	Apprentices as part of permanent workforce	<p>Senator GALLACHER: How many are apprentices out of the 1,231 in total?</p> <p>Mr Lamarre: I would have to get back with you.</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: Can someone supply that? No-one in the room knows the figure?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We have taken it on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 5, 28 February 2017
2	ASC Pty Ltd	General	Gallacher	Reduction in employees	<p>Senator GALLACHER: Mr Lamarre, we know that there has been a loss of 130 positions. Has that all taken effect? On 6 January 2017 <i>The Advertiser</i> and <i>The Australian</i> reported that 130 trade positions would be lost by the end of February. Have those 130 positions been affected?</p> <p>Mr Lamarre: Yes, they have.</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: Did they include apprentices?</p> <p>Mr Lamarre: I cannot tell you if there were any apprentices on that list.</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: Perhaps you could take that on notice. How many of the 130 were achieved via forced redundancies or voluntary separations?</p> <p>Mr Lamarre: I do not have the exact figures. We will have to get back to you with the specifics, but the number of 130 that was announced turned out to be fewer, because there were a number of other vacancies that we had in other trades in other parts of the program, and we were able to move people over and save those jobs. For example, 10 electricians who were working on the ship program went back to the submarine program, where they had originally started.</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: Excellent.</p> <p>Mr Lamarre: It is typical, as we go through this six-week process of announcing what we always hope are the worst case job losses over a period of time, that we are able to place people in other jobs as best as possible. We also had—again, I do not have the specific figures—a significant amount of volunteer layoffs, if you will. That is another thing that we will do—ask for volunteers as we go through that process.</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: Perhaps if you could take on notice the break-up. It is pleasing to hear that people sought other opportunities within the organisation, but if we are relying on a report that says 130, it would be useful if you could tell us how many apprentices, who got work elsewhere and how many, if any, were forced.</p> <p>Mr Lamarre: Okay.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: Thank you, Minister. Mr Lamarre, if we could get the information on notice about the 130 that have gone.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 6, 28 February 2017
3	ASC Pty Ltd	General	Kitching	Expenses for Sophie Mirabella	<p>Senator KITCHING: Ms Mirabella was entitled to claim expenses as a director?</p> <p>Mr Lamarre: I believe so. I would not be across this issue.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: If you ask questions in relation to board matters, they are not questions that are appropriately directed to management. If you have questions in relation to board matters, you should address them to me, and I will take them on notice to assist you as best I can.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Is a board member entitled to claim expenses?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I will take on notice what expenses board members on the ASC may or may not be able to claim.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: How much has she claimed to date?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Over what period was this amount claimed? To aid you, I understand her expenses were around \$50,000—the breakdown is \$20,000 on airfares, \$20,000 on transport and \$272 for luxury beachside accommodation in Cottesloe. How do these expense claims compare to other directors on the ASC board? I am happy for you to take those on notice and come back.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I will take those questions on notice.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Let us see how reasonable they are, and maybe a breakdown of the airfares would also be good to see where she was travelling to.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We will see how we can assist you.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 8, 28 February 2017
4	ASC Pty Ltd	General	Kitching	Power outages	<p>Senator XENOPHON: I just want to go to the issue of power. Can you please provide me with an indication of the number of power</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA

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					outages that ASC has suffered over the last decade. Do you have any data— Mr Whiley: We would have that data, but we would have to take that question on notice.	Committee, Page 11, 28 February 2017
5	Finance	1/1.1	Gallagher	Underlying cash balance in 2017-18	Senator GALLAGHER: Can you confirm for me what the budget estimate was for the underlying cash balance in 2017-18 in your first budget? Senator Cormann: I do not have the 2014-15 budget papers with me, so we will take that on notice.	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 15, 28 February 2017
6	Finance	1/1.1	Gallagher	Consolidations undertaken for MYEFO	Senator GALLAGHER: Can you tell us how many consolidations were undertaken for the MYEFO? Ms Blewitt: I do not know that off the top of my head. We will have to take that on notice. We generally run anywhere between four and seven—that actually just depends. Senator GALLAGHER: How long is that process? When would have been the first and when would have been the last? Ms Blewitt: I am not sure what the month is, but basically after we do what is called a pre-ERC update we run the first consolidate. Senator GALLAGHER: A pre-ERC? Senator Cormann: Pre Expenditure Review Committee. Ms Blewitt: Yes, so it is actually getting estimates adjustments in the system. Senator GALLAGHER: So the first consolidation goes to the Expenditure Review Committee and then there is a process of others that would then lead to the final document? Ms Blewitt: Yes. We just work with Treasury to work out what the timetable is in doing that, and it depends. Senator GALLAGHER: Are you taking that on notice for me? Ms Blewitt: I will take it on notice to find out exactly how many.	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 16, 28 February 2017
7	Finance	1/1.1	Gallagher	\$250 billion of net budget improvement measures	Senator Cormann: ... That will be updated again in the next budget, to be delivered on the second Tuesday in May. At this point, given the work that we have undertaken so far, including having implemented more than \$250 billion worth of net budget improvement measures over the period to 2026-27, since we have come into government— Senator GALLAGHER: Can we have a list of those? Senator Cormann: We have provided that before but I am happy to provide it again. Senator GALLAGHER: It must be a growing list, because I have not heard \$250 billion—since you came into government, in 2013. Senator Cormann: Since we came to government in 2013. I have mentioned this figure before. I have been asked a question before and I am very happy to provide the information again on notice. ... Senator GALLAGHER: I note in your speech to The Sydney Institute that it was \$221 billion— Senator Cormann: There has been more now. The FOI request was for a briefing note to me. That was not— Senator GALLAGHER: I think it was about trying to get to the list of the decisions that have been— Senator Cormann: Well, I can take it on notice. I am quite happy to provide that information on notice. Senator GALLAGHER: Okay—up to the cumulative total of \$250 billion. Thank you.	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 17 and 22, 28 February 2017
8	Finance	2/2.1	Kakosche-Moore	Detection of waste	Senator KAKOSCHKE-MOORE: Can you tell me how much waste the Department of Finance has detected across the government from the last financial year or— Senator Cormann: We will take that on notice. It is a definitional question, to ask 'what is waste?'. We will take it on notice and see how we can best provide you with a sensible answer to that. Senator KAKOSCHKE-MOORE: Thank you, and also the definition of 'waste' that you use in bringing those figures together. Finally, what happens—on remediation and accountability—in a situation where waste is identified?	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 18, 28 February 2017
9	Finance	1/1.1	Gallagher	Childcare model	Senator GALLAGHER: What led to you thinking that the model was wrong? Was the increasing cost, without explanation? Ms Huxtable: When we see that from one budget update to the next we are not accurately forecasting spending on a program, we need to look carefully at the models to see if we can improve the accuracy of the forecasts. It is basically our responsibility to ensure that the budget forecasts are as accurate as possible. So we will continue to scrutinise at all times how those models are constructed. Senator GALLAGHER: So when it was escalating— Senator Cormann: The projections were escalating, not the actual expenditure.	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 23, 28 February 2017

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					<p>Senator GALLAGHER: Then you were essentially having underspends, were you, when it came to actual—</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: Remember that the projections were going out into the forward estimates period.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Yes.</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: I would probably have to take on notice exactly what happened in the current year in terms of forecast versus spending. But this was more about what was in the forecasts going forward.</p>	
10	Finance	1/1.1	Gallagher	Better Management of the Social Welfare System program	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: And you agreed with those assumptions?</p> <p>Mr Hunt: We did, yes.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Can you just explain what they were?</p> <p>Mr Hunt: I do not have those. I would have to take that on notice. You may be able to get more information from human services later in the week. There were a number of different costing models and various components of these measures.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Did the model allow for incorrect information?</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: I think you would really need to ask DHS the detail of this. These—</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Surely Finance have to understand the details of the measure. If you are going to—</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: We have already taken that on notice. These engagements are—</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: It is the biggest savings measure announced in MYEFO and—</p> <p>Senator Cormann: But this is not our portfolio responsibility. We have, obviously, the role that I have already described. If you want us to go into the details of what are measures in other portfolio areas, then the only thing we can do for you is to take it on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 25 and 26, 28 February 2017
11	Finance	General	Abetz	Flag protocol	<p>Senator ABETZ: I have just got a very quick brief topic, a matter that was brought to my attention by a staff member of Finance. What is the protocol with flying flags in the Department of Finance and in the foyer?</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: I might have to take that on notice, but we would adhere to the government guidelines in that regard. I believe I have someone here who may be able to help you.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Mr Hirschfeld: The PM&C protocol specifies flag protocols for the flags that are flown outside the building.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ: Outside the building; not inside the building.</p> <p>Mr Hirschfeld: Not to my knowledge, but we can check that.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator ABETZ: Can you take on notice: who is actually responsible? With whom does the buck stop? Who makes the actual decision as to what flags are flown?</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator ABETZ: If you could provide with a copy of the relevant minutes of the executive board that made the determination in relation to the flying of this particular flag, that would be very helpful.</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: I will seek to do that.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 27, 28 February 2017
12	Finance	2/2.1	McAllister	Commercial loan to NBN	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Let me put it another way. Does the department consider the introduction or the regional broadband scheme was material in deciding the terms on which the commercial loan to the NBN might be offered?</p> <p>Mr Edge: I do not recall that being a factor in terms of our consideration of the issue, but I would—</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: So your personal recollection is no. Does anyone in the department know other than yourself? Is there anyone else involved in this process who could tell me?</p> <p>Mr Edge: I think we would need to take that on notice if you are asking for anything beyond my personal recollection. But my personal recollection is no.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 29, 28 February 2017
13	Finance	2/2.7	McAllister	Proceeds from Medibank Private	<p>Senator McALLISTER: I will turn to something different. I want to ask quickly about the initiative in MYEFO in relation to the Asset Recycling Fund. Previously the fund was expected to hold a series of financial assets which included the proceeds from Medibank Private, the Building Australia Fund and the Education Investment Fund. Just to confirm, is that correct?</p> <p>Ms Huxtable : Yes, that is correct.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Where are those funds being held at the moment? I am particularly interested in Medibank Private.</p> <p>Ms Powell: The Asset Recycling Fund is sitting with the Future Fund, I believe.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Including the Medibank Private proceeds?</p> <p>Ms Powell: I need to check that.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Sorry, Minister, you misunderstand me. I am asking what the quantum of funds are that were intended to be</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 30, 28 February 2017

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					placed into the Asset Recycling Fund and that will now be used for other purposes as set out on page 157 of the MYEFO. Senator Cormann: We will take that on notice. ... Senator Cormann: If you are asking us for a breakdown, that is beyond what is published in the half yearly budget update, and we will take it on notice. Senator McALLISTER: The budget update expresses it on page 157 in terms of expenses but I am trying to understand what the balance of the fund would have been had the measure not been discontinued. Senator Cormann: And, as I have indicated to you, that what is published is of course published. The question you are asking is beyond what is published and, given the information you are seeking goes beyond what is published and due to the nature of that information, we are taking it on notice.	
14	Finance	1/1.1	McAllister	Reduction of gross debt	Senator McALLISTER: To be clear: the \$10 billion, then, is intended to pay down debt? That is what it says in the budget measure. Senator Cormann: The effect of the decision is that gross debt will be less—as it says—by more than \$10 billion by 2019-20. That is right. Senator McALLISTER: And can you provide an estimate for the public debt interest of this reduction in debt? Senator Cormann: We will take that on notice.	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 32, 28 February 2017
15	Finance	1/1.1	Gallagher	Unlegislated measures	Senator Cormann: The complete list is in MYEFO and the complete fiscal impact is in MYEFO. The list and the impact in the PBO report is only in relation to those measures currently before the parliament. Senator GALLAGHER: Is there an update to what Finance provided on 11 November? Senator Cormann: There should be, because since then, as you know, with the generously received support of the Labor Party, for example the superannuation reform package was legislated. If you are asking us for an update I am happy to provide it. ... Senator GALLAGHER: So you will provide the committee with an updated list? Senator Cormann: Yes.	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 34, 28 February 2017
16	Finance	1/1.1	Gallagher	Omnibus bill	Senator GALLAGHER: Could we get the medium-term impact of the savings measures in the omnibus bill broken down by measure, please? Senator Cormann: We will take that on notice.	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 38, 28 February 2017
17	Finance	1/1.1	Gallagher	Omnibus bill	Senator GALLAGHER: That is progress from the last answer that you gave me to a similar question, so I will take that. In terms of the government's policy decision to link the omnibus bill to the NDIS savings special account, was that something that Finance had provided policy advice on? Senator Cormann: We will take that on notice. Ms Huxtable: We will have to take that on notice. I am not sure. ... Senator Cormann: Obviously, as you would appreciate, some of these discussions are happening in real time, and the appropriate processes of government were followed, but we will take the specific nature of your question on notice.	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 38 and 39, 28 February 2017
18	Finance	General	Gallagher	Expenditure on consultancy contracts	Senator GALLAGHER: I have a couple of questions on finances relating to some information from the annual report on consultancies. I noticed that there is a table there—table 9, expenditure on consultancy contracts. It shows a big increase between 2013-14, 014-15 and then sort of flattens out in 2015-16. Senator Cormann: We managed the biggest privatisation in the world in 2014-15—namely, the privatisation of Medibank Private. Senator GALLAGHER: So that is what that lumpy kind of— Senator Cormann: That would be a significant part of it. If you want us to get the breakdown, I am happy to get that for you. Senator GALLAGHER: I knew there would be some explanation for that. So you think that— Senator Cormann: Well, I know. It was a \$5.7 billion transaction. We have previously released the costs of managing that transaction. Obviously, with a \$5.7 billion transaction you would expect some costs in managing that. Senator GALLAGHER: Yes, sure. If you could give me a breakdown, that would be fantastic because then we can see what that is.	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 42, 28 February 2017
19	Finance	General	Gallagher	Corporate credit cards	Senator GALLAGHER: ...In relation to credit cards—I think there were corporate credit cards—there was an answer to a question on notice No. 53 where finance has provided a breakdown of expenditure by card type. I think in that it shows a larger amount of airfares and accommodation in 2014-15. Is there a reason for this? Ms Huxtable: I will have to take that on notice. It is something that is not immediately apparent. Can you repeat the question, please? Senator GALLAGHER: This is about question on notice 53.	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 42 and 43, 28 February 2017

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					<p>Ms Huxtable: Yes. I have that here.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: A larger amount of airfares and accommodation in 2014-15.</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: I would have to take on notice exactly what made that up. But, as the minister said, depending on the activity we are involved in, obviously there can be an impact in terms of the travel requirements. Unless one of my colleagues can help.</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: One of my colleagues advises me that it may be the case that that added expenditure is because of the travel required at that time by the Medibank Private sale taskforce. You would see the correlation between the two. But I would prefer to take that on notice, if I could.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Yes. All right. It might be good if we can then get a comparison.</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: We could update this?</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Yes. Exactly.</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: This is our financial year so we could not really update it, obviously. We can only give you the year to date for 2016-17.</p>	
20	Finance	1/1.1	Gallagher	CBMS-R	<p>Mr Sheridan: It is based on SAP software. It uses a couple of modules of SAP software, one of which at the time was relatively new—a public budgeting framework. That is where we have done most of the customisation to meet the essentially unique characteristics of the Australian government budget system. It has taken a lot of work to get that working correctly.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Have you got a final budget for it?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We might have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: Some of these elements have been not for publication because they relate to commercial arrangements.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: But presumably once it is operational, you will have a total project cost.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: And we will be able to provide information once the project is complete. While there are live ongoing commercial implications, we will provide as much as we can.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 44, 28 February 2017
21	Finance	General	Gallagher	Payment of accounts	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: In terms of the government's policy on pay on time or pay interest policy, which requires payment no longer than 30 days for contracts after the date of receipt of contracts up to \$1 million, do you report performance against this pay on time policy?</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator Cormann: But the answer is yes, we comply with those requirements. That is the answer to your question.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Can you tell me what you achieved in relation to that?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: That is probably somebody else's.</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: That is my responsibility, but I do not have that number with me. If I can, I will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: All right. And if you are taking that on notice, whether or not you have had to pay interest on any that you have failed to. I presume as part of that that you would also give an explanation about why you did not meet that.</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: Yes. We will give you as much as we can.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 44 and 45, 28 February 2017
22	Finance	2/2.1	Kitching	Appointment of Jamie Briggs to Moorebank board	<p>Senator Cormann: When we came into government, Moorebank had a very large and very unwieldy board. At the request of the chair, Dr Kerry Schott, after coming into government, we did not fill all of the positions that had been made available on the board. I can provide on notice how many people were on the board when we came in. I think it went down to about five or six. So there were a number of vacant positions. Towards the end of last year, I decided to recommend to the cabinet that we appoint Jamie Briggs to one of the vacancies.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Of course. Did Mr Briggs approach you? He would have known you were the decision-maker. Did he approach you for the role, or was he approached?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: No. I approached him. Senator KITCHING: When did you do that?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I have to take that on notice.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator Cormann: You are making a very inaccurate assertion there. I did say, and that is accurate, that I initiated the approach to Mr Briggs. But, of course, he had to supply the necessary paperwork. He had to sign the necessary forms. That was not managed by me, I have to say. That was managed, as you would expect, through a departmental process. The appropriate paperwork and the appropriate checks and balances were gone through as this was put to the cabinet.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: I will ask you, or perhaps one of the deputy secretaries may know, for a full list. What other paperwork did he have</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 49 to 51, 28 February 2017

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					<p>to be aware of? I am thinking of codes of conduct, policy documents et cetera.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: If you are now going to his induction as a director on a government business enterprise, I am very happy to provide you on notice with the induction material for directors both as they apply generally to directors on government business enterprises—</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: That would be great. Thank you.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Is the director's fee \$60,000?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I will take that on notice. It is published on the Remuneration Tribunal website, so it is a matter of public record. Whatever is listed there is what it is.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Well, of course, Andrew Fraser did not have the incident similar to Hong Kong. How long was it between when he accepted the role and when the announcement was made?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: The announcement would have been made on the spot because he could only accept the role after the cabinet decided. I can get you the exact dates. It would be pretty well about the same time because he can only accept the position after the cabinet has decided to offer it to him.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Was there a reason the announcement was made on 16 December?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Because that would have coincided with the cabinet meeting at which the decision was made. From memory, it might have been the last cabinet meeting before we went to the Christmas break, but I will check that. Essentially, as soon as a decision was made, it was announced.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Was the announcement circulated to the media?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I would have to take that on notice. I do not get involved in the logistics at that level. You might get involved in logistics at that level. I do not.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: There was a suggestion in a newspaper article that the announcement was not circulated.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Well, I have read that suggestion. I will take that on notice and see what we can provide you with on notice.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: So you will see what you can provide?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Yes.</p>	
23	Finance	2/2.1	McAllister	NBN average revenue per user	<p>Senator McALLISTER: In the half yearly results for 2016, the average revenue per user remained constant at \$43. Is that consistent with the evidence you have just provided? Can you explain the seeming discrepancy between those two pieces of information?</p> <p>Mr Jagers: I am sorry, but I do not have that piece of information in front of me that you have just referred to.</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: Senator, I know that NBN representatives are appearing this evening in the communications portfolio. Getting into detailed questions around the rate of return and the assumptions sitting under that is probably better directed to them than us.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: I am conscious that the minister is the shareholder minister for the NBN.</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: Sure. We can take it as best we can.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 51 to 52, 28 February 2017
24	Finance	2/2.1	McAllister	NBN medical alarm subsidy scheme	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Minister, are you aware of the NBN medical alarm subsidy scheme?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: The which?</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: The NBN's medical alarm subsidy scheme.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: In general terms. Again, you are now going to something specific that probably should be pursued with the NBN business rather than with the shareholder.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: I am mostly interested in the decision framework here. I am not going to ask you details about the scheme. I want to understand whether the eligibility criteria for this scheme was a decision of government or whether government had input into the decision.</p> <p>Mr Edge: We would have to take that on notice. I understand that there were some technology issues back a number of years ago around the NBN rollout and whether certain medical alarm devices work on the network. But I think that was a live issue probably several years ago. But if you are after specific details around that scheme and so on, we would need to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: I am not asking for specific details around the scheme. I am asking about whether the minister or the department has played any role in decisions made by the NBN around the scheme.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: NBN had indicated that this initiative has a funding envelope of around \$100 million. Is that a figure anyone here can confirm?</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 53, 28 February 2017

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					Ms Huxtable: Not that I am aware of. But we can take that on notice and see if we can find out for you. Senator McALLISTER: Yes.	
25	Finance	2/2.1	McAllister	NBN medical alarm subsidy scheme	Senator McALLISTER: Perhaps you could take this on notice also. The company has indicated that they wrote to you on 5 March 2015. I wonder if you can table any correspondence between yourself and the NBN in relation to this matter. Senator Cormann: Well, any correspondence would not have been with me on my own. Any correspondence between the government and the NBN is joint correspondence in a general sense between me and the communications minister and NBN. Look, I will take on notice the question you ask and see whether we can add anything to that answer.	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 53, 28 February 2017
26	Finance	2/2.1	Gallagher	Australia Post executive remuneration	Senator GALLAGHER: I have a series of questions on executive remuneration of a GBE, particularly Australia Post. Has the department since late 2013 had any discussions with Australia Post or the department of communications about executive remuneration? Mr Edge: Has the department had any conversations with Australia Post about executive remuneration? Senator GALLAGHER: Yes. Mr Edge: I have not had any such conversations. I would need to take it on notice as to whether any other officers of the department have had conversations about remuneration. ... Senator GALLAGHER: So in the time that you have been in your role, the past two years, you have not had any discussions with either the department of communications or Australia Post about executive remuneration? Mr Edge: As I said, me personally, no, I have not. Senator GALLAGHER: But you will take it on notice as to whether there were previously? Mr Edge: Yes.	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 54, 28 February 2017
27	Finance	2/2.1	Gallagher	Australia Post executive remuneration	Senator McALLISTER: Were you aware of the maximum amount available as a bonus? Senator Cormann: I will have to take that on notice. I would have to take that on notice.	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 60, 28 February 2017
28	Finance	General	Paterson	Finance graduate video	CHAIR: Thank you. I have some questions on outcome 2.1, which we will proceed to now. I have one substantive question and one that is of less substance, so I will start with the one that is of less substance. Ms Huxtable, are you familiar with the finance department's graduate recruitment campaign and associated video entitled Game Changers? ... CHAIR: And you have not yet obtained the cost? Mr Fredericks: No. CHAIR: If you could provide that on notice, that would be great.	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 61, 28 February 2017
29	Finance	2/2.3	Ludlam	Perth Freight Link	Senator LUDLAM: When the funding commitment was made, did you or Prime Minister Abbott have a completed business case? Senator Cormann: The process of assessment went through all of the appropriate channels. It was considered in the appropriate fashion. Senator LUDLAM: I just asked a really direct question. Senator Cormann: Of course, you have been pursuing, I think, six or seven orders through the Senate now. Senator LUDLAM: And you have denied all of those. Senator Cormann: That is not right. We have provided as much information as we could provide without harming the public interest. Senator LUDLAM: I am not asking for documents here. Senator Cormann: And, of course, including that part of the business case which could be publicly released and has been publicly released. Senator LUDLAM: Yes. I understand that. Did you or the Prime Minister at the time, Mr Abbott, have those documents at the time the funding decision was made? Senator Cormann: I will take on notice what specific documentation was in front of government. Senator LUDLAM: How could you not know? Did you have a cost-benefit analysis? Senator Cormann: You are obviously asking me questions now about 2014. I will take them on notice to make sure the answers I provide are 100 per cent accurate.	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 65, 28 February 2017

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QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
30	Finance	2/2.1	Gallagher	Use of contractor service providers and consultants	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: What is happening with the use of contractor service providers and consultants? Is it going up?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: In terms of numbers?</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Numbers and value of contracts.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We will have to take specific numbers on notice. Are you interested in trend numbers?</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator Cormann: The ASL numbers are published in the budget papers; that is why I can give them to you. That is something that we directly track.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: But surely Finance keeps an eye on what is happening across the Public Service in relation to the use of consultants and contractors.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: It does obviously get managed on a portfolio-by-portfolio basis. The efficiency dividend is applied, which means that departmental resources, of course, are kept as efficient as possible. But, in terms of specific numbers, we will take that on notice.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: I do not disagree that there is a use and a time and place for consultants and contractors. I guess what I am interested in is whether, as you are keeping the growth of public servants at a stable level, you are seeing increases in other areas. Some would argue that there are some false savings there. If you provide that on notice, that would be useful.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 67, 28 February 2017
31	Finance	2/2.5	McKenzie and Marshall	Australian-made paper	<p>Mr Sheridan: The majority of the paper in 2015-16 was indeed purchased from Australia—62 per cent by quantity and 59 per cent by value. In the same year, 2015-16, 37 per cent of the paper purchased by volume was 100 per cent recycled and 34 per cent was 50 per cent recycled. I can provide more detail if you would like, Senator.</p> <p>Senator McKENZIE: Mr Sheridan, have those numbers gone up over time?</p> <p>Mr Sheridan: They vary over time. Our general paper consumption is falling over time, but the numbers vary between years and suppliers. I do not have an ongoing prediction. I could take it on notice, if you like, but I do not have one with me.</p> <p>Senator MARSHALL: Just clarify for me. I thought the first question I put to you was really an answer to a question from the last estimates about 0.2 per cent being the amount of paper purchased that was manufactured in Australia. I thought you agreed that that was the case.</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: I think you might have just been talking about finance department.</p> <p>Mr Sheridan: Rather than the government.</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: That is the figure that I recall.</p> <p>Senator MARSHALL: Yes. I am actually talking about the finance department.</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: It was the finance department. We do have an updated figure in respect to the finance department.</p> <p>Senator MARSHALL: Yes. Thank you.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We might have to take that on notice. We will provide an update on notice. This is an answer that was obviously provided on notice. We will provide the same information on notice on an updated basis.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: So this particular table is in respect of financial year 2015-16. We can provide a year to date figure as best we can. We will provide the most up to date as best we can.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 71, 28 February 2017
32	Finance	2/2.5	Kitching	Procurement rules	<p>Senator KITCHING: Ms Huxtable, we are entering into a brave new world of new procurement rules from 1 March. Did you give any advice regarding the changes to the procurement rules?</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: We did provide advice on that at the time, yes.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: So when did you do that? What dates?</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: I am happy to take on notice the exact dates.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: In that week when the ABCC bill was before the Senate, was there advice given in that week, or was there advice given previous to that week?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Well, there was advice given previous to that week, of course.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: When? Was it the week before?</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We have taken that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Ms Huxtable?</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: I am sorry. I do not recollect the exact details. I certainly know that we provided advice, I would say at that time and previous to that time. But I would have to take it on notice. You are asking for the exact dates.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 72 and 73, 28 February 2017

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QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
33	Finance	2/2.5	Kitching	Procurement rules	<p>Senator KITCHING: Was that a conversation with Senator Xenophon, do you mean, not a conversation at cabinet or an agenda item on the cabinet papers?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Before the government decided to proceed a particular way, after having reached certain understandings with Senator Xenophon, we followed the proper processes and received the necessary authority as required to make relevant changes. If you want more detail, we will provide that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: The detail I would like, which you have agreed to provide on notice is: what date did it go to cabinet?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Well, we will provide on notice whatever we can provide.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator Cormann: It has gone through the normal processes of government with the appropriate authorities provided.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: So, therefore, that would go to cabinet. So what date did it go to cabinet?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Well, you are making all sorts of assumptions. We will provide on notice the answer about what date the appropriate authorities were received to make the changes that we have announced in relation to the procurement arrangements for the Commonwealth.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 77, 28 February 2017
34	Finance	2/2.5	Kitching	Procurement rules	<p>Senator KITCHING: Did you and Ms Huxtable have a discussion around changes to the procurement rules prior to that week?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I do not believe that Ms Huxtable and I had conversations.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Anyone in the department?</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I will check.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 76, 28 February 2017
35	Finance	2/2.1	McAllister	CEFC	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Great. Has Finance given any advice to the government on the CEFC's investment mandate?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Not recently. I might have to take that on notice. There are obviously certain processes being considered, but I am not aware of any recent advice on the investment mandate.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 80, 28 February 2017
36	Finance	2/2.2	McAllister	gov.au platform	<p>Senator McALLISTER: There has been public reporting, Minister, that a business case in relation to the gov.au platform was submitted for cabinet consideration and then withdrawn at your direction. Is that correct?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I am not aware of having withdrawn a cabinet submission, so you will have to be a bit more specific. I am not aware of having withdrawn a cabinet submission on this topic. It looks like you are asking questions in relation to matters that are within the responsibility of the Prime Minister's portfolio and specifically the Digital Transformation Office. So I am not sure what information you are relying on there. I am happy to take on notice and see whether there is anything I can add to that answer, but I am not aware of that proposition that you put to me. I was given advice, which I have just shared with the committee. Senator McAllister, I was directly translating what has been put to me.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 82, 28 February 2017
37	Finance	2/2.3	Gallacher	Department of Immigration and Border Protection leasing arrangements	<p>Senator Cormann: Well, you asked specifically about this department. I can confirm that my department was involved with the Department of Immigration and Border Protection in relation to their leasing arrangements; that is right.</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: So did you sign off in April 2016 on this proposal?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I have to take on notice the specific dates. But I can certainly confirm that the agreement that was reached in the end, which was better than where we started, involved my department as part of the process.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 83, 28 February 2017
38	Finance	2/2.3	Gallacher	Department of Immigration and Border Protection leasing arrangements	<p>Senator GALLACHER: But my simple question is: can we see the value for money proposals that you have considered, because we cannot see them at the moment?</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: Without wanting to delay this, Chair, this is a very complex approach to market involving three or four departments. It involves the consolidation of 12 footprints down to four. It is an extremely complex proposal for a committee, even one as skilled as the Public Works Committee, to get its head around. What I am simply saying is that Finance could assist that protocol and procedure by giving us further and better particulars of each and every site.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I will take on notice what other information finance may be able to provide to assist that committee. I will take that part of it on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 85, 28 February 2017

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QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
39	Finance	2/2.5	Rhiannon	Trans-Pacific Partnership	<p>Senator RHIANNON: I will ask the other one. We might have been referring to the other one. I am not sure if this is the Department of Finance. I am trying to track it down where it is. There was another report. First, I want to understand if the department is involved. It has been reported that \$12.4 million over four years has been allocated to upgrade IT systems to deliver greater transparency of the Trans-Pacific Partnership.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Mr Sheridan: I think you might be referring—I am not sure—to money that is put aside to support domestic review legislation or reporting in the context of AusTender for the TPP. So I think it is—</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: Yes. It sounds like that.</p> <p>Mr Sheridan: I think it is either additional reporting that was required under the TPP or perhaps to support domestic review. But I would have to take the detail on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 85 and 86, 28 February 2017
40	Finance	2/2.5	McAllister	gov.au project	<p>Senator McALLISTER: What I am interested in understanding is whether the Department of Finance had any concerns about the gov.au project?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We will have to take that on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 86, 28 February 2017
41	Finance	2/2.3	McAllister	Malabar	<p>Senator Cormann: In terms of changing a perpetual licence giving access in perpetuity to something that is time limited, the process was to finalise the lease arrangement around something that is more time limited than a perpetual licence. I am happy for Ms Hall to provide that information.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Great. Terrific.</p> <p>Ms Hall: As you would be aware, the Commonwealth was unsuccessful in previous legal proceedings to remove the New South Wales Rifle Association from the site.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: This is the previous Labor government.</p> <p>Ms Hall: Following that decision—and I am not sure on precise timing—the department engaged with the New South Wales Rifle Association to negotiate the terms of the lease that the minister has referred to.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: When you say not precise, was it a quarter of a year or a half of a year later?</p> <p>Ms Hall: I am happy to take that on notice. I have been in this role for only 18 months. It was certainly underway when I commenced in the role in mid-2015.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 88, 28 February 2017
42	Finance	2/2.3	McAllister	Malabar	<p>Senator McALLISTER: How were the questions of cost addressed by the department in coming to an arrangement with the rifle association about what the rent would be and what the indexation would be?</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Is that benchmarked against any other indexation rate? How did you come up with the indexation rate?</p> <p>Ms Hall: It largely reflects the arrangements that had been in place under the previous licence.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: So your evidence is that 3.5 per cent reflects the indexation rate?</p> <p>Ms Hall: No.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: No. The 3.5 per cent is actually more generous to the taxpayer.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Well, I am asking how 3.5 per cent was arrived at.</p> <p>Ms Hall: I will have to take the detail of that on notice.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Ms Hall, are you able to tell me about value for money or any kind of process you went through to ensure value for money in establishing a negotiating position?</p> <p>Ms Hall: The department would have followed the relevant requirements with respect to the obligations under the frameworks that govern disposals of interest in land, which this transaction was. I would have to come back to you on notice in relation to the detail of the specific assessments and authorities that were provided as part of that process.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: I would appreciate it if you would.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 88 and 89, 28 February 2017
43	Future Fund Management	General	Carr	Education Investment Fund	<p>Senator KIM CARR: Have there been any withdrawals from the fund since MYEFO was announced in December?</p> <p>Mr Neal: I would have to take that on notice. I am not sure, to be honest. I do not believe so.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 90, 28

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QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
	Agency				... Senator KIM CARR: I am interested to know the last time there was a withdrawal from the fund. Senator Cormann: We will take that on notice. You understand, of course. You know the intentions of the government when it comes to the Education Investment Fund and the Building Australia Fund. They are reflected in the budget papers. But we will provide on notice the specific date of the last withdrawal.	February 2017
44	Future Fund Management Agency	General	McAllister	Investment mandate	Senator McALLISTER: When the original rate of return was set, what advice was sought? Senator Cormann: When the original rate of return was set? That was in 2006 or thereabouts. I would have to very much take that on notice.	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 92, 28 February 2017
45	Future Fund Management Agency	General	Kitching	Facilities upgrades	Senator KITCHING: In the original question on notice, the photos of the upgraded facilities were requested but they were not provided with a response, and nor was there any mention of them in the response. Was there a reason why the photos were not provided? Can you now provide them? Mr Neal: I do not know whether there was a reason why the photos were not provided. I would have to look into that.	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 94, 28 February 2017
46	Future Fund Management Agency	General	Kitching	Facilities upgrades	Senator KITCHING: The \$3.3 million included \$25,000 for kitchen appliances and supplies. What appliances and supplies does that include? Can a list be provided? Mr Neal: One of the complexities of the move was that we moved the external meeting room part of our offices from one floor to another so that we could have all the people on one floor. So that meant building a new catering kitchen essentially for the external part of what we do. So a lot of that would be the sort of appliances you would expect in a catering style of kitchen. Beyond that question, I guess I would have to take on notice what the specifics were if you wanted that. Senator KITCHING: But it is a professional catering kitchen? Mr Neal: It is a professional catering kitchen. Obviously we are an organisation that is essentially an outsourced business. So we have fairly large accommodation for external meeting rooms because of that. We have a lot of external meeting rooms. Where catering is required, we would try and do that internally, obviously, to reduce the costs. Senator KITCHING: There was about half a million dollars for furniture. Can you provide a list of that furniture as well? Mr Neal: I am sure we can. Senator KITCHING: And the AV and computer equipment came to more than half a million dollars. Are you able to provide an itemised list of that equipment? Mr Neal: Yes. I am sure we can.	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 94, 28 February 2017
47	Finance		Farrell	Campaign advertising	Senator FARRELL: I have questions regarding campaign advertising. Dr Helgeby, could you provide us with an update on the amount of advertising expenditure for the year to date? Senator Ryan: Some of those numbers are literally being compiled as we speak and have not been finalised. If you want to shoot me a series of questions I will be able to take them on notice, but I will get back to you sooner rather than later—probably not this evening; I am awaiting some final numbers. Senator FARRELL: I have just asked a question. Senator Ryan: I will take that on notice. Senator FARRELL: Are you able to break the amounts down to those amounts that are in reference to campaign expenditure and non-campaign advertising expenditure? Senator Ryan: Yes, we will be able to do that. We will take that on notice too.	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 96, 28 February 2017
48	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell	Security services of prime ministers	Senator FARRELL: These questions have been asked in PM&C. My understanding is that Finance provides the payment for the security services of prime ministers. Is that correct? Mr Fredericks: One of the problems is that it is certainly not in this program. Senator Ryan: I will take that on notice. ...	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 98, 28 February 2017

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QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
					<p>Senator FARRELL: My question really goes to former Prime Minister Abbott—perhaps future Prime Minister, I'm not sure—who indicated that had he chosen to stay at his private residence in Sydney rather than Kirribilli House because there would have been a cost to the taxpayer of a million dollars. What I am trying to illicit is: was any advice provided to the former Prime Minister by Finance to back up that figure of a million dollars?</p> <p>Senator Ryan: So, you are now asking, if I might say, Senator Farrell—I want to be precise about this—about advice provided to the former Prime Minister on if or when he raised that issue about living in one place or the other?</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Yes.</p> <p>Senator Ryan: What I am saying here is that the officials are not aware of this being Finance and it is definitely not outcome 3 related. I will take that on notice.</p>	
49	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell	Review into entitlements	<p>Senator FARRELL: Very good. The review into entitlements was originally announced on 2 August 2015 by the then Prime Minister, Mr Abbott, and a final recommendation was provided to the government on 22 February 2016. Can you tell us how many briefings were provided to the various special ministers of state during that period?</p> <p>Ms McGregor: We will take the specifics on notice. We could get that for you.</p> <p>Senator Ryan: That is with the proviso, Senator Farrell, that preparation work, drafts and briefings that relate to cabinet processes would not be included in that.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Yes, but I am asking about briefings between when the original announcement was made by the former Prime Minister and when you got the report.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: On this topic, anyway. Are we able to receive copies of those briefings?</p> <p>Senator Ryan: We do not normally do that.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: I am not inquiring whether you normally do it. I am asking, 'Are we able?'</p> <p>Senator Ryan: I will take that on notice as to past practice and the application of various Senate orders.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 99, 28 February 2017
50	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell	Review into entitlements	<p>Senator FARRELL: Can you tell us why the Prime Minister requested an interim report and recommendations from the committee on 17 October 2015?</p> <p>Senator Ryan: That is a while ago. People will do what they can do, but that was quite a while ago, and we are examining the budget estimates for the current financial year.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: I am asking you the question, Minister. I appreciate it was a while ago. The fact of the matter is that the Conde report is now a topical subject of debate, and we are simply asking some questions about the historical background—</p> <p>Senator Ryan: Given the time, I think it is fair to say we will take that on notice. It is not something that people preparing for estimates this year have on recall.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 99, 28 February 2017
51	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell	Review into entitlements	<p>Senator FARRELL: Has the Department of Finance provided any advice to the Special Minister of State regarding the progress of the committee's work?</p> <p>Senator Ryan: Can you be more specific? Are you asking a question about me, because I was not the minister during the committee—</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: No, I am asking a question to the department. Have they at any time provided advice to any of the special ministers of state dealing with the Conde report, expressing any concern regarding the progress of the committee's work?</p> <p>Senator Ryan: Again, it is very historical. I will take that on notice—but it does go back a substantial period of time. It is not something that the officials are going to have on the table—honestly, 2015 information for 2017 additional estimates. So we will take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: I accept that you will take that on notice. If they do not have the information then obviously they cannot provide it today.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 100, 28 February 2017
52	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell	Review into entitlements	<p>Senator FARRELL: Are you able to tell us how many meetings there were between the minister and Mr Conde?</p> <p>Ms McGregor: Between the Special Minister of State and Mr Conde?</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Yes.</p> <p>Ms McGregor: We would have take that on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 100 and 101, 28 February 2017

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					<p>Senator Ryan: It is not information that the department would necessarily have. I will take that on notice, because you are asking about a colleague who was previously in this role.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Can you provide us with details of those briefings?</p> <p>Senator Ryan: I will take that on notice, because, again, it is consistent with my previous answer.</p>	
53	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell	Parkinson Inquiry	<p>Senator FARRELL: During the course of that investigation, was any advice sought by the Prime Minister's department regarding the member for Farrer in assisting—</p> <p>Senator Ryan: Yes, there was.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: When was that, Mr Fredericks.</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: We received a request for advice on or around 9 January.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: What was the nature of that?</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: It was a request for Ministerial and Parliamentary Services to provide PM&C with information about the then minister's travel to and from the Gold Coast and within the Gold Coast, paid for by Finance.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Over what period of time?</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: I do not have that information. I can take that on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 101, 28 February 2017
54	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell	Parkinson Inquiry	<p>Mr Fredericks: There was a second request for information about all charter travel during the then minister's time as a minister to all destinations.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Was that also on 9 January?</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: That was on or around 11 January.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: It is, obviously, a bad time for requests to be made—in the Christmas period. Was there any other information?</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: I understand that, from time to time, inquiries were made of our people who were experts in the work expenses framework for advice. But I do not have any details of that.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Was that during those three days or after that period?</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: I would presume it was during those days, but I would like to take that on notice too, please.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 101 and 102, 28 February 2017
55	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell	Parkinson Inquiry	<p>Senator FARRELL: Are you able to provide us with copies of the information you have provided to the Prime Minister's department?</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: I think we will need to take that question on notice.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Are you taking on notice the question as to whether you will provide the information?</p> <p>Senator Ryan: Senator Farrell, can I interpose myself here—and I am again happy to be corrected. I do recall at the time that Mr Parkinson's report was advice to a committee of cabinet. If the advice was provided for that purpose, it would not be appropriate to release it.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: I am aware of the rules; I am simply asking the question.</p> <p>Senator Ryan: I am just saying that that is the proviso and the prism of privilege that—</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: This is the second or third time you have reminded us of the rules. We are familiar with the rules.</p> <p>Senator Ryan: I think, to be fair to Mr Fredericks, if—</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: I have been very fair to Mr Fredericks.</p> <p>Senator Ryan: I am just trying to be fair that there was no observation that this may involve that rule. I was only highlighting that, if my memory serves correctly, that rule would be engaged here but not with some of the other questions you have asked.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: I understand the rules, Minister, and obviously I would not want Mr Fredericks to break any of the rules in providing the information. I am simply asking the question so that I can elicit an answer. If the answer is that you cannot provide it, so be it, but that was not the answer that Mr Fredericks gave. He said he was going to take the question on notice. What I was inquiring was what question he was taking on notice, and I think he answered the question. I take it that the—</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: I think the minister has answered the question for me. The question I am taking on notice is whether I am in a position to provide this committee with any documentation.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Yes. Well, the minister went a bit further than that, rather implying that—</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: But he was describing the grounds on which I might advise this committee that I am unable to provide any documentation.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Yes, but, of course, you will examine the issue on its merits, I assume, and if the information does not fit into the category that is expected under from provision then you will provide the information.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 102, 28 February 2017
56	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell	IPEA	<p>Senator FARRELL: Can you tell us what the classifications are of the people who are doing the transfer?</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 106, 28

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					Ms McGregor: I do not have that detail. I can take it on notice.	February 2017
57	Finance	3/3.1	Dastyari	Senator Bernardi's Staff allocation	<p>Senator Ryan: Might I say that I think there have been precedents set. I have made some preliminary inquiries, and I believe that there have been examples in the past. Was it Senator Shayne Murphy from Tasmania who left the Labor Party?</p> <p>Senator DASTYARI: Yes, it was. And Senator Mal Colston.</p> <p>Senator Ryan: And Senator Mal Colston. They are just two off the top of my head.</p> <p>Senator DASTYARI: Rats!</p> <p>Senator Ryan: And I do not have it on me, but I will get for you, because I have looked it up previously as best I could, whether there was similar treatment for them as there was for other crossbench senators. So I think there are already precedents in place.</p> <p>Senator DASTYARI: Minister, it sounds like you have put your mind to this question already.</p> <p>Senator Ryan: I just cannot recall it off the top of my head, but yes.</p> <p>Senator DASTYARI: But you have already put your mind to the question of how the staffing allocation for someone who leaves a major political party is dealt with?</p> <p>Senator Ryan: Yes, I have, because the way I try to deal with all staffing related issues is: the first thing I seek to find out is past practice, because so many of these things are customary practice. I have just been reminded that when the member for Fisher, Peter Slipper, resigned as Speaker, he had left the Liberal Party, and he was provided with additional staff, and Senator Murphy, the one that I just mentioned, was provided with additional staff. I think the staff allocation was lower at that point for a member of the crossbench, but I can get you this on notice.</p> <p>Senator Ryan: My office has advised me that late today—I have not got to this part of my in-tray yet—I received a letter from the Prime Minister providing Senator Bernardi with the same staff as other Senate crossbenchers.</p> <p>Senator DASTYARI: So that is two or three staff?</p> <p>Senator Ryan: One adviser, two assistant advisers.</p> <p>Senator DASTYARI: Okay. Well, that answers that question.</p> <p>Senator Ryan: I have a whole list of examples that I can read out.</p> <p>Senator DASTYARI: No. We understand. Minister Ryan, if you could take this on notice—if you don't mind, Chair—</p> <p>CHAIR: Please.</p> <p>Senator DASTYARI: as this follows on from the statement. With the information you have provided us—and I accept this—it appears the precedent has been and continues to be that all crossbenchers are treated the same, regardless of how they came to be a crossbencher. Can you take that on notice to confirm that, but that seems to be the case.</p> <p>Senator Ryan: What I am happy to try and do is provide examples of where it has happened. I honestly cannot confirm a negative. I cannot prove that it has never happened but I can provide you with a whole bunch of examples where it has happened this way. They do reflect both major parties and minor parties—Meg Lees, Shayne Murphy, Peter Slipper. I think there might be one example where it did not happen, but I will get you a comprehensive list. When I checked it, I do recall there being quite a lot.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 111 and 112, 28 February 2017
58	Finance	2/2.7	Farrell	Appointment of Mr Philip Ruddock to the position of Special Envoy for Human Rights/1948 pension scheme	<p>Senator FARRELL: Yes. Did the department provide any advice to Mr Ruddock in advance of his accepting this position or after he had accepted it?</p> <p>Ms Powell: The department has been in contact with Mr Ruddock a number of times. I do not know the exact details but I know that he has called on a number of occasions.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: He has called the department?</p> <p>Ms Powell: As do many parliamentarians to discuss payment of their pensions. In particular because he was leaving parliament, he would have to talk to officers of the department to set up the payment arrangements, so there was nothing unusual about that.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Yes, but did he receive any advice in respect of this particular arrangement that I am referring to now?</p> <p>Ms Powell: I am sorry; I do not know.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: You do not know. Are you able to find out for us?</p> <p>Ms Powell: Yes, I will take that on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 111, 28 February 2017
59	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell	Tasmanian Offices	<p>Senator FARRELL: I would like to know the estimated cost of Senator McKim's proposed move in the Hobart CBD.</p> <p>Ms McGregor: I might take that on notice, Senator, as I do not have that detail.</p> <p>...</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 112 and 113, 28 February 2017

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					<p>Senator FARRELL: Has the department been given any reason as to why Senator McKim wants to move offices? Ms McGregor: We might have to take that on notice, too, Senator. Senator FARRELL: Do you know who owns the building that Senator McKim wishes to move into? Ms McGregor: I will have to take that on notice, too. Senator FARRELL: Can you tell us the distance between Senator McKim's current office and his new office? Senator Ryan: I suppose they might, but you could probably jump on Google Maps and do it too. Senator FARRELL: I could. I am asking the department. Senator Ryan: Okay. They can take it on notice. ... Senator FARRELL: Can you tell us how the cost of the new fit-out will compare with similar fit-outs in Tasmania? Ms McGregor: I will take that on notice too. Senator FARRELL: Okay. Can you tell us whether the design plan for the senator's new office includes an atrium for green foliage? Ms McGregor: I will take that on notice as well. Senator FARRELL: And whether or not it includes a bicycle storage room? You do not know the answer to that one? Ms McGregor: I do not know. Senator FARRELL: Take it on notice. CHAIR: Is there a wind farm on the room? Solar panels, perhaps? Senator Ryan: And batteries. Senator FARRELL: You can take those on notice as well, Ms McGregor. Senator Ryan: Water recycling? Do not forget water recycling. Senator FARRELL: Can you tell us whether there is a shower? Ms McGregor: I will provide you with as much detail as I can. Senator FARRELL: If these items were to have been included in the new building, can you tell us, firstly, how much they would cost and, secondly, whether it is standard accommodation for Senate electorate offices. Ms McGregor: Yes.</p>	
60	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell	Office of Senator Bushby	<p>Senator FARRELL: Perhaps you know the answer to this question: for Senator Bushby, can you tell us how much will be the cost of his new office in Launceston? Ms McGregor: We will have a look at that, yes. Senator FARRELL: Would you be able to tell us the distance between Senator Parry's office and Senator Bushby's new office? Ms McGregor: Yes.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 113, 28 February 2017
61	Finance	3/3.1	Paterson	Distance between offices	<p>CHAIR: Just while we are asking about distance between offices, for my Victorian colleagues Senator Marshall and Senator Carr, what is the distance between their offices, and which federal electorates are they located in? Ms McGregor: Okay.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 113, 28 February 2017
62	Finance	3/3.1	Paterson	Distance between offices	<p>CHAIR: I am also really interested in exploring further this distance between offices issue. On notice: the distance between Lisa Singh's office and Carol Brown's office in Tasmania would be helpful.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 114, 28 February 2017
63	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell	Privately funded offices	<p>Senator FARRELL: With Senator Duniam setting up in Devonport, it would seem that there is only one Liberal Senate electorate office, that of Senator Abetz, left in southern Tasmania. Would that be correct? Senator Ryan: I am trying to raid my memory here, but there may be private offices as well. Ms McGregor: Yes. Senator Ryan: Many senators and members utilise the provision of a privately funded office. Do we normally disclose those? I will take that on notice, but I do recall some requests for private offices.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 113 and 114, 28 February 2017

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64	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell	Ballot for Enterprise Agreement	<p>Senator FARRELL: I want to ask some questions about the recent ballot for the enterprise agreement. Our electorate staff were involved in a ballot from 21 to 25 November. It was through an online system. Does the department have any record of the complaints received during the ballot process?</p> <p>Ms McGregor: I might take that one on notice. I am just not sure if we would have received the complaints or if the organisation conducting the ballot had a process to receive those complaints. I do not want to get the detail wrong.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Ms McGregor: My recollection is that there may have been a very small number of complaints. I am just not sure whether they came straight to the department or whether they went to the company that was conducting the ballot.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: And if they went to the company, would you have expected the company to then pass on those complaints to you?</p> <p>Ms McGregor: Yes. We would have heard about them.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Can you find out whether or not they did do that?</p> <p>Ms McGregor: Yes.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 114, 28 February 2017
65	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell	Chris21 - Ballot for Enterprise Agreement	<p>Senator FARRELL: Who in the department had access to the results of the ballot and in particular the unique Chris code?</p> <p>Ms McGregor: Within the department that Chris21 code is a code that the people managing the Chris21 system would have access to. Anyone who rings the department in relation to employee matters will sometimes ask for that code. They might have forgotten their Chris21 code. We hold that information as part of our normal operations. I do not believe that anyone who was involved with that ballot process at all—it is my understanding that the independent company did not have that access, but I might take that on notice as well to check for you.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 115, 28 February 2017
66	AEC		Farrell	Early voting	<p>Senator FARRELL: I suppose the conclusion I am asking you to give an opinion about is: if it is true that more people are voting earlier, then that suggests, to me anyway, that perhaps they are less likely to vote informal. And given that the informality rate has in fact gone up, particularly in respect of the Senate, perhaps the informality rate for people voting on the day is higher than the figures lead us to believe.</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I am not aware of a causal link between those two things, and I am not sure we have done that study. But I am happy to take it on notice to see whether we have got any extra information that might shed light on that for you.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 118 and 119 28 February 2017
67	AEC		Farrell	Delays on voting day	<p>Senator FARRELL: You are as aware as anybody of the complaints about the long delays on the day, and I think we have had some conversations about that before. Are you able to tell us whether there is any link between the increased level of informality and the longer delays on election day?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: Off the top of my head, we may have that data. I am not sure we have done that check just yet. Allow me to question our experts on that to see whether that is something that we do. I am not sure there will be a causal link. I think the increase in the informality rate will be mostly linked to a new voting system despite the ad campaign that we did and the other factors that we have just mentioned before: English is a second language, the large number of candidates on the polling paper and some confusion about the process.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: I would appreciate if you could at least spend a little bit of time thinking about that issue. If there is a link that you discover, you may wish to provide us with some information about it. In the same vein: you talk about assistance given to people at particular polling booths. Where you provided that assistance to voters, was there a noticeable decrease in informality?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I think I might look at that data for you. We should be able to work out whether, in those areas where we provided voter assistance officers, that had an impact on the informality in those polling booths. We may have already done that work, but let me examine that. I will come back to you in that process.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 118 and 119, 28 February 2017
68	AEC		Rhiannon	Verification reports	<p>Senator RHIANNON: I will come back to that to get a bit more information. Are the verification reports by IV&V and IBM publicly available?</p> <p>Mr Courtney: I am not sure if the IV&V reports have been released. I will have to take that on notice. The IBM reports have not because they were not directly related to the count of the votes.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: The IBM, you know, has not been released and the IV&V you will take on notice.</p> <p>Mr Courtney: I will.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 120, 28 February 2017
69	AEC		Rhiannon	Scrutineering and the Count	<p>Mr Pirani: Again, my comments are that the act is very clear as to what a scrutineer is able to examine and what information from the</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA

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					<p>computer system we are required to provide. That is the information that is provided in those reports that come out of EasyCount.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: Thank you. Mr Rogers, would you be able to take on notice if the act—and I have not been querying that—that is being followed is keeping up to date with the change in technology?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I am happy to consider that and to provide a response on that.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: Basically, I am just trying to work out if every effort is being made by the commission to develop a form of cryptographic hash that will be publicly available to scrutineers.</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I will take that on notice.</p>	Committee, Page 121, 28 February 2017
70	AEC		Rhiannon	Scrutineering and the Count	<p>Senator RHIANNON: ...Can you supply a full breakdown of what ballots were in which queues for the Central Senate Scrutiny for the last election?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I will take on notice what information I can provide you.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 121, 28 February 2017
71	Finance	2/2.5	Roberts	Public tenders for supplying goods and services	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does the Government have a policy for dealing with public tenders for supplying goods and services to organisations like TAFE for advantaging Companies that pay no tax in Australia over companies that do pay tax in Australia? 2. If not then why have two stationary supply companies (Staples Australia & Office Max international) with a history of not paying tax in Australia able to win contracts with Government departments (NSW) to supply cleaning products to hospitals? 3. Has the Government realised there are many small to medium sized Australia companies capable of supplying cleaning products to our hospitals , but they are unable to win the tender due to the onerous conditions of the tender and because they are at a competitive advantage when they pay income tax and if so, have they factored that into the tender process so the real value of keeping money in Australia is part of the decision process? 	Written
72	Finance	General	Hanson-Young	Finance Graduate Video	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much was spent developing and creating 'The Game Changers' Gradute Program video? 2. Why was it created? 3. How long was spent working on it, from idea development through to completion? 4. Was an exterior agency used to create it or was it made entirely in house? 5. Is it a part of a series, involving other departments? If so, which departments? 	Written
73	Finance		Bilyk	Act of Grace payments	<p>I refer to the Department's FOI disclosure log (FOI 17/21) which shows the total value of Act of Grace payments made by financial year from 2013-14 to 2015/16.</p> <p>Can an itemised list of what each payments was for, the value of each payment and who each payment was made to please be provided?</p>	Written
74	All		Bilyk	Ministerial functions	<p>In relation to any functions or official receptions hosted by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio since 1 October 2016, can the following please be provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of functions; • List of attendees including departmental officials and members of the Minister's family or personal staff; • Function venue; • Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive); • Details of any food served; • Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage; and • Details of any entertainment provided. 	Written
75	Finance		Bilyk	Departmental functions	<p>In relation to expenditure on any departmental functions or official receptions etc since 1 October 2016, can the following please be provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of functions; • List of attendees; • Function venue; • Itemised list of costs (GST <u>inclusive</u>); • Details of any food served; 	Written

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage; and • Details of any entertainment provided. 	
76	Finance	General	Bilyk	Plants and gardens	<p>1.a What was the total cost (GST <u>inclusive</u>) of acquiring and maintaining indoor plants for all departmental premises in calendar year 2016?</p> <p>1.b What was the total cost (GST <u>inclusive</u>) of external gardens and landscaping for all departmental premises in calendar year 2016?</p> <p>2.a What was the total cost (GST <u>inclusive</u>) of acquiring and maintaining indoor plants for ministerial offices in calendar year 2016?</p> <p>2.b Please provide separate figures for each Minister's office in the portfolio, covering ministerial offices both at Parliament House and elsewhere.</p>	Written
77	Finance	General	Bilyk	Subscriptions	<p>1. What was the total cost (GST <u>inclusive</u>) of subscriptions to print and online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals etc in calendar year 2016 for the Department? Please provide a complete list of each service to which the Department subscribed.</p> <p>2. What was the total cost (GST <u>inclusive</u>) of subscriptions to print and online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals etc in calendar year 2016 for Ministers in the portfolio? Please provide a complete list of each service to which ministerial offices subscribed.</p>	Written
78	Finance	General	Bilyk	Gifts	<p>1.a What was the total cost (GST <u>inclusive</u>) of all gifts purchased for use by departmental officials in calendar year 2016?</p> <p>1.b. Can an itemised list of gifts and costs thereof (GST <u>inclusive</u>) please be provided?</p> <p>1.c Who was the recipient of each gift?</p> <p>1.d For what purpose was each gift given?</p> <p>2.a What was the total cost (GST <u>inclusive</u>) of all gifts purchased for use by Ministers in the portfolio in calendar year 2016?</p> <p>2.b Can an itemised list of gifts and costs thereof (GST <u>inclusive</u>) please be provided?</p> <p>2.c Which Minister gave each gift?</p> <p>2.d Who was the recipient of each gift?</p> <p>2.e For what purpose was each gift given?</p>	Written
79	Finance	General	Bilyk	Water coolers	<p>1. What was the total cost (GST <u>inclusive</u>) of providing water coolers at departmental premises in calendar year 2016? Please provide a breakdown of costs for acquiring and maintaining/resupplying water coolers.</p> <p>2. What was the total cost (GST <u>inclusive</u>) of providing water coolers to ministerial offices in calendar year 2016? Please provide a breakdown of costs for acquiring and maintaining/resupplying water coolers.</p>	Written
80	Finance	General	Bilyk	Snacks	<p>1. What was the total cost (GST <u>inclusive</u>) of supplying fruit and other snacks at departmental premises in calendar year 2016?</p> <p>2. What was the total cost (GST <u>inclusive</u>) of supplying fruit and other snacks to ministerial offices in calendar year 2016? Please provide a breakdown of the costs for each separate ministerial office, covering both offices at Parliament House and elsewhere.</p>	Written
81	Finance	General	Bilyk	Coffee machines	Can an itemised list of coffee machines at departmental premises please be provided including (i) make and model; (ii) purchase or lease cost; (iii) ongoing maintenance costs; (iv) ongoing cost of supplying coffee and other consumables?	
82	Finance	General	Bilyk	Mobile devices	<p>1.a How many mobile telephones are currently on issue to departmental staff?</p> <p>1.b Can an itemised list showing make and model please be provided?</p> <p>1.c How many new mobile phones were purchased by the Department in calendar year 2016?</p> <p>1.d What was the total cost (GST <u>inclusive</u>) of purchasing mobile telephones for departmental staff in calendar year 2016?</p> <p>1.e How many mobile telephones had to be replaced due to damage in calendar year 2016? What was the cost of replacement (GST <u>inclusive</u>)?</p> <p>1.f How many mobile telephones were reported lost or stolen in calendar year 2016? What was the cost of replacement (GST <u>inclusive</u>)?</p> <p>2.a How many ipads/tablets are currently on issue to departmental staff?</p> <p>2.b Can an itemised list showing make and model please be provided?</p> <p>2.c How many new ipads/tablets were purchased by the Department in calendar year 2016?</p> <p>2.d What was the total cost (GST <u>inclusive</u>) of purchasing ipads/tablets for departmental staff in calendar year 2016?</p> <p>2.e How many ipads/tablets had to be replaced due to damage in calendar year 2016? What was the cost of replacement (GST <u>inclusive</u>)?</p> <p>2.f How many ipads/tablets were reported lost or stolen in calendar year 2016? What was the cost of replacement (GST <u>inclusive</u>)?</p>	
83	Finance	General	Bilyk	Stationery and paper	1. How much did the Department spend on stationary and office supplies (excluding paper) in calendar year 2016 (GST <u>inclusive</u>)?	Written

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					2. How much did the Department spend on paper in calendar year 2016 (GST <u>inclusive</u>)? 3. What brand of paper does the Department use? 4. Is this paper Australian made? 5. If no, why doesn't the Department buy Australian made paper?	
84	Finance	General	Bilyk	Executive office upgrades	Have the furniture, fixtures or fittings of the Secretary's office, or the offices of any Deputy Secretaries, been upgraded since 1 October 2016? If so, can an itemised list of costs please be provided (GST <u>inclusive</u>)?	Written
85	Finance	General	Bilyk	Facilities upgrades	Have the facilities of any of the Department's premises been upgraded since 1 October 2016, for example, staff room refurbishments, kitchen refurbishments, bathroom refurbishments, the purchase of any new fridges, coffee machines, or other kitchen equipment? If so, can a detailed description of the relevant facilities upgrade please be provided together with an itemised list of costs (GST <u>inclusive</u>)? Can any photographs of the upgraded facilities please be provided?	Written
86	Finance	General	Bilyk	Vacancies	Please provide a list of all statutory, board and legislated office vacancies and other significant appointments vacancies within the portfolio, including length of time vacant and current acting arrangements.	Written
87	Finance	General	Bilyk	Media and public relations	1.a How much has the Department spent on media monitoring since 1 October 2016 (GST <u>inclusive</u>)? 1.b Can a list of all Contract Notice IDs for the Austender website in relation to media monitoring contracts please be provided? 2.a How many media or public relations advisers are employed in the Department? 2.b At what APS level (eg EL2, APS5) is each staff member employed? 2.c Can an organisational chart for the relevant area of the Department please be provided? 2.d What was the total cost of employing relevant staff in calendar year 2016 (please provide a global figure)?	Written
88	Finance	General	Bilyk	Advertising and information campaigns	1.a How much has the Department spent on advertising and information campaigns since 1 October 2016 (GST <u>inclusive</u>)? 1.b Can a list of all Contract Notice IDs for the Austender website in relation to advertising and information campaign contracts please be provided? 1.c How much did the Department spend on Facebook advertising or sponsored Facebook posts in calendar year 2016 (GST <u>inclusive</u>)? 1.d How much did the Department spend on Google adwords advertising in calendar year 2016 (GST <u>inclusive</u>)?	Written
89	Finance	General	Bilyk	Market research	1. How much did the Department spend on market research in calendar year 2016 (GST <u>inclusive</u>)? 2. Can a list of all market research contracts entered into please be provided, together with the Austender Contract Notice number? 3. What was the purpose of this market research? 4. Did it relate to an advertising or information campaign? If so, which campaign?	Written
90	Finance	General	Bilyk	Legal costs	1. What was the Department's total spend on external legal services (including services provided by the Australian Government Solicitor) (GST <u>inclusive</u>) for calendar year 2016? 2. Can an itemised list of costs of each legal matter (GST <u>inclusive</u>) please be provided? 3. Can a list of relevant Contract Notices published on Austender please be provided?	Written
91	Finance	General	Bilyk	Consultancies	Please provide an itemised list of costs (GST <u>inclusive</u>) for spending in calendar year 2016 on external consultants/service providers in the following categories please be provided: (i) social media; (ii) photography; (iii) graphic design; (iv) web design (v) electronic communications (vi) acting or public speaking training; (vii) ergonomics.	Written
92	Finance	General	Bilyk	Redundancies	1. How many staff were made redundant in calendar year 2016 2. How many were voluntary redundancies? 3. How many were forced redundancies? 4. What was the total cost of all redundancies (expressed as a single global figure)? 5. Have any staff made redundant in calendar year 2016 subsequently carried out work for the Department as a contractor? If so, please provide an itemised list of relevant contracts and related Austender Contract Notice numbers.	Written
93	Finance	General	Bilyk	iTunes/Android	1.a Does the Department have an iTunes account? If so, what was the total expenditure on iTunes in calendar year 2016 (GST <u>inclusive</u>)? What applications/subscriptions/services purchased through iTunes in calendar year 2016?	Written

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					<p>1.b Does the Department have an Android account? If so, what was the total expenditure on Android in calendar year 2016 (GST <u>inclusive</u>)? What applications/subscriptions/services purchased through Android in calendar year 2016?</p> <p>2.a Do any ministerial offices in the portfolio have an iTunes account? If so, what was the total expenditure on iTunes in calendar year 2016 (GST <u>inclusive</u>)? Please provide separate figures for each Minister. What applications/subscriptions/services purchased through iTunes in calendar year 2016?</p> <p>2.b Do any ministerial offices have an Android account? If so, what was the total expenditure on Android in calendar year 2016 (GST <u>inclusive</u>)? Please provide separate figures for each Minister. What applications/subscriptions/services purchased through Android in calendar year 2016?</p>	
94	Finance	General	Bilyk	Websites	<p>1. What were the top 20 most utilised (by data sent and received) unique domain names accessed by departmental staff in calendar year 2016?</p> <p>2. What were the top 20 most accessed (by number of times accessed) unique domain names accessed by departmental staff in calendar year 2016?</p>	Written
95	Finance	General	Bilyk	Flights	As the agency responsible for Whole of Australian Government flight arrangements, please advise the cost of flights for the entire Australian Government for calendar year 2016 (GST <u>inclusive</u>)?	Written
96	Finance	General	Bilyk	Ground transport	What was the Department's total expenditure on the following categories of ground transport in calendar year 2016 (GST <u>inclusive</u>): (i) Taxi hire; (ii) Limousine hire; (iii) Private hire car; and (iv) Ridesharing services.	Written
97	Future Fund	General	Bilyk	Functions	<p>In relation to expenditure on any Agency functions or official receptions etc since 1 October 2016, can the following please be provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of functions; • List of attendees; • Function venue; • Itemised list of costs (GST <u>inclusive</u>); • Details of any food served; • Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage; and • Details of any entertainment provided. 	Written
98	Future Fund	General	Bilyk	Plants and gardens	<p>1. What was the total cost (GST <u>inclusive</u>) of acquiring and maintaining indoor plants for all Agency premises in calendar year 2016?</p> <p>2. What was the total cost (GST <u>inclusive</u>) of external gardens and landscaping for all Agency premises in calendar year 2016?</p>	Written
99	Future Fund	General	Bilyk	Subscriptions	What was the total cost (GST <u>inclusive</u>) of subscriptions to print and online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals etc in calendar year 2016 for the Agency? Please provide a complete list of each service to which the Agency subscribed.	Written
100	Future Fund	General	Bilyk	Water coolers	What was the total cost (GST <u>inclusive</u>) of providing water coolers at Agency premises in calendar year 2016? Please provide a breakdown of costs for acquiring and maintaining/resupplying water coolers.	Written
101	Future Fund	General	Bilyk	Snacks	What was the total cost (GST <u>inclusive</u>) of supplying fruit and other snacks at Agency premises in calendar year 2016?	Written
102	Future Fund	General	Bilyk	Coffee machines	Can an itemised list of coffee machines at Agency premises please be provided including (i) make and model; (ii) purchase or lease cost; (iii) ongoing maintenance costs; (iv) ongoing cost of supplying coffee and other consumables?	Written
103	Future Fund	General	Bilyk	Mobile devices	<p>1.a How many mobile telephones are currently on issue to Agency staff?</p> <p>1.b Can an itemised list showing make and model please be provided?</p> <p>1.c How many new mobile phones were purchased by the Agency in calendar year 2016?</p> <p>1.d What was the total cost (GST <u>inclusive</u>) of purchasing mobile telephones for Agency staff in calendar year 2016?</p> <p>1.e How many mobile telephones had to be replaced due to damage in calendar year 2016? What was the cost of replacement (GST <u>inclusive</u>)?</p> <p>1.g How many mobile telephones were reported lost or stolen in calendar year 2016? What was the cost of replacement (GST <u>inclusive</u>)?</p>	Written

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					2.a How many ipads/tablets are currently on issue to Agency staff? 2.b Can an itemised list showing make and model please be provided? 2.c How many new ipads/tablets were purchased by the Agency in calendar year 2016? 2.d What was the total cost (GST <u>inclusive</u>) of purchasing ipads/tablets for Agency staff in calendar year 2016? 2.e How many ipads/tablets had to be replaced due to damage in calendar year 2016? What was the cost of replacement (GST <u>inclusive</u>)? 2.f How many ipads/tablets were reported lost or stolen in calendar year 2016? What was the cost of replacement (GST <u>inclusive</u>)?	
104	Future Fund	General	Bilyk	Stationery and paper	1. How much did the Agency spend on stationary and office supplies (excluding paper) in calendar year 2016 (GST <u>inclusive</u>)? 2. How much did the Agency spend on paper in calendar year 2016 (GST <u>inclusive</u>)? 3. What brand of paper does the Agency use? 4. Is this paper Australian made? 5. If no, why doesn't the Agency buy Australian made paper?	Written
105	Future Fund	General	Bilyk	Executive office upgrades	Have the furniture, fixtures or fittings of the Chairman's office, or the offices of any other Executives, been upgraded since 1 October 2016? If so, can an itemised list of costs please be provided (GST <u>inclusive</u>)?	Written
106	Future Fund	General	Bilyk	Facilities upgrades	Have the facilities of any of the Agency's premises been upgraded since 1 October 2016, for example, staff room refurbishments, kitchen refurbishments, bathroom refurbishments, the purchase of any new fridges, coffee machines, or other kitchen equipment? If so, can a detailed description of the relevant facilities upgrade please be provided together with an itemised list of costs (GST <u>inclusive</u>)? Can any photographs of the upgraded facilities please be provided?	Written
107	Future Fund	General	Bilyk	Vacancies	Please provide a list of all statutory, board and legislated office vacancies and other significant appointments vacancies within the Agency, including length of time vacant and current acting arrangements.	Written
108	Future Fund	General	Bilyk	Media and public relations	1.a How much has the Agency spent on media monitoring since 1 October 2016 (GST <u>inclusive</u>)? 1.b Can a list of all Contract Notice IDs for the Austender website in relation to media monitoring contracts please be provided? 2.a How many media or public relations advisers are employed in the Agency? 2.b At what APS level (eg EL2, APS5) is each staff member employed? 2.c Can an organisational chart for the relevant area of the Agency please be provided? 2.d What was the total cost of employing relevant staff in calendar year 2016 (please provide a global figure)?	Written
109	Future Fund	General	Bilyk	Advertising and information campaigns	1. How much has the Agency spent on advertising and information campaigns since 1 October 2016 (GST <u>inclusive</u>)? 2. Can a list of all Contract Notice IDs for the Austender website in relation to advertising and information campaign contracts please be provided? 3. How much did the Agency spend on Facebook advertising or sponsored Facebook posts in calendar year 2016 (GST <u>inclusive</u>)? 4. How much did the Agency spend on Google adwords advertising in calendar year 2016 (GST <u>inclusive</u>)?	Written
110	Future Fund	General	Bilyk	Market research	1. How much did the Agency spent on market research in calendar year 2016 (GST <u>inclusive</u>)? 2. Can a list of all market research contracts entered into please be provided, together with the Austender Contract Notice number? 3. What was the purpose of this market research? 4. Did it relate to an advertising or information campaign? If so, which campaign?	Written
111	Future Fund	General	Bilyk	Legal costs	1. What was the Agency's total spend on external legal services (including services provided by the Australian Government Solicitor) (GST <u>inclusive</u>) for calendar year 2016? 2. Can an itemised list of costs of each legal matter (GST <u>inclusive</u>) please be provided? 3. Can a list of relevant Contract Notices published on Austender please be provided?	Written
112	Future Fund	General	Bilyk	Consultancies	Please provide an itemised list of costs (GST <u>inclusive</u>) for spending in calendar year 2016 on external consultants/service providers in the following categories please be provided: (i) social media; (ii) photography; (iii) graphic design; (iv) web design (v) electronic communications (vi) acting or public speaking training; (vii) ergonomics.	Written
113	Future Fund	General	Bilyk	Redundancies	1. How many staff were made redundant in calendar year 2016? 2. How many were voluntary redundancies?	Written

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					3. How many were forced redundancies? 4. What was the total cost of all redundancies (expressed as a single global figure)? 5. Have any staff made redundant in calendar year 2016 subsequently carried out work for the Agency as a contractor? If so, please provide an itemised list of relevant contracts and related Austender Contract Notice numbers.	
114	Future Fund	General	Bilyk	iTunes/Android	1.a Does the Agency have an iTunes account? If so, what was the total expenditure on iTunes in calendar year 2016 (GST <u>inclusive</u>)? 1.b What applications/subscriptions/services purchased through iTunes in calendar year 2016? 2.a Does the Agency have an Android account? If so, what was the total expenditure on Android in calendar year 2016 (GST <u>inclusive</u>)? 2.b What applications/subscriptions/services purchased through Android in calendar year 2016?	Written
115	Future Fund	General	Bilyk	Websites	1. What were the top 20 most utilised (by data sent and received) unique domain names accessed by Agency staff in calendar year 2016? 2. What were the top 20 most accessed (by number of times accessed) unique domain names accessed by Agency staff in calendar year 2016?	Written
116	Future Fund	General	Bilyk	Flights	What was the Agency's total expenditure on flights for Agency staff in calendar year 2016 (GST <u>inclusive</u>)?	Written
117	Future Fund	General	Bilyk	Ground transport	What was the Agency's total expenditure on the following categories of ground transport in calendar year 2016 (GST <u>inclusive</u>): (i) Taxi hire; (ii) Limousine hire; (iii) Private hire car; and (iv) Ridesharing services.	Written
118	Finance	3/3.1	Xenophon	Flights	For each Member/Senator of 45 th Parliament, please provide the number of taxpayer funded business class flights they have taken that had a scheduled flying time of two hours or less?	Written
119	ASC Pty Ltd	General	Xenophon	Air Warfare Destroyer	Over the past few estimates we have been discussing Air Warfare Destroyer build efficiency – where ship two and three were substantially more efficient than ship one. 1. Please update these figures? 2. In this attributable to continuous shipbuilding across the three ships? 3. In the context of “lessons learned”, how much extra cost on the AWD project does ASC attribute to the cold start nature of the AWD program? 4. Is the failure to get another project into Techport in time to illuminate experience losses cause by retrenchments likely to add cost to the OPV and Future Frigate Program? And what would the cost quantum be?	Written
120	ASC Pty Ltd	General	Xenophon	Naval Shipbuilding Plan	In respect of the Naval Shipbuilding Plan 1. What input has ASC provided to that plan?	
121	ASC Pty Ltd	General	Xenophon	Offshore Patrol Vessel Program	With respect to the Offshore Patrol Vessel program: 1. What additional infrastructure is being procured (or planned for)? 2. What has/will this infrastructure cost? 3. How is ASC positioning itself for this task?	Written
122	AEC		Rhiannon	2016 Central Senate Scrutiny of ballots	1. Please supply a full break down of what ballots were in which queues for Central Senate Scrutiny 2016 for each state and territory? 2. As outlined in sections 264 (1) and (2) of the Electoral Act candidates may appoint one scrutineer per AEC officer conducting scrutiny. At previous counts, this has not been an issue as the only staff conducting scrutiny activities were AEC staff. However, at this count the engagement of sub-contractors meant that this rule, if strictly applied, could unfairly limit the number of scrutineers who could be appointed, and make a practical scrutiny of the count virtually impossible: a) In light of these changes is the AEC reassessing how scrutineer numbers are determined? b) If so what decisions have been arrived at? c) If not why is this not being reassessed?	Written
123	Finance	3/3.1	Rhiannon	New computer system & MPs' allowances	1. Please provide an update on the Finance Department work on a new computer system to manage MPs' allowances? 2. How much of the \$500,000 allocated in the last budget for this project has been spent and what has it been spent on? 3. Is this new computer system operating? If not when will it be? 4. Was the full \$500,000 spent on scoping the new computer system? 5. How much will the new computer system cost?	Written

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					6. Will this new computer system provide for near real time disclosure of MPs use of allowances? If so please specify what it will display in terms of MPs allowances and how user friendly it will be?	
124	Finance	2/2.5	Rhiannon	Procurement	<p>1. Please set out the procurement process that is activated when the Department of Finance is responsible for a large scale project?</p> <p>a. Is there a template that includes economic criteria and weightings? Does it vary from project to project in terms of the application or inclusion of general economic criteria?</p> <p>2. Is the overarching aim of the procurement process to obtain the best possible price? If so how do you define “best possible price”? Do you take into account:</p> <p>a. Only economic impact through direct cost of procurement</p> <p>b. Environmental impacts</p> <p>c. Taxes that will be raised for the government</p> <p>d. Impacts on human health</p> <p>e. Other factors – if so please details</p> <p>3. How are the above factors quantified and weighted in the procurement process?</p> <p>4. If the project being tendered for involves large quantities of steel how is the tendering process conducted and how are standards determined, applied and verified/certified ?</p> <p>5. Is the government aware of comments by BlueScope CEO Paul O’Malley reported in the Illawarra Mercury on 21 February 2017: “In relation to the procurement policy, what we’ve argued is if a government makes a decision to import and it’s purely done on price, then they should reflect the price of the domestic product and reduce it by the contribution domestic industry and its employees make in form of taxes, rates, payroll tax, that type of thing. If they’re all ignored they’re effectively importing steel and not comparing apples with apples and disadvantaging the local industry” ?</p> <p>a. With regard to these comments does the government’s procurement policy allow for the price of the domestic product to take into account that employees pay taxes and rates?</p>	Written
125	Finance	2/2.5	Carr	Paper Procurement	<p>1. For each Australian Government Department and/or government agency, can the Department of Finance please provide an updated breakdown of the percentage of Australian made copy paper purchased by the Department in the 2015-16 financial year, as well as the total percentage of Australian made copy paper purchased by the Australian Government in the 2015-16 financial year. In the Department’s response, please include information on volumes, a breakdown by country of origin, the supplier and the percentage of recycled content.</p> <p><i>(Note to the Department: this question is an update to question on notice number F55 from Supplementary Estimates 2016-17. If there have been no changes to the previous figures provided in F55, suggest you could refer to the previous answer and advise that there has been no change. Thank you).</i></p> <p>2. For each Australian Government Department and/or government agency, can the Department of Finance please provide a breakdown of the percentage of Australian made copy paper purchased by the Department in the 2016-17 financial year to date, as well as the total percentage of Australian made copy paper purchased by the Australian Government in the 2016-17 financial year to date. In the Department’s response, please include information on volumes, a breakdown by country of origin, the supplier and the percentage of recycled content.</p> <p>3. Please provide an update on how the new requirements under the Commonwealth Procurement Rules (CPRS) will be implemented in the whole-of-government Stationary and Office Supplies (SOS) contract, including timeframes and a detailed implementation plan.</p> <p>4. According to the Anti-Dumping Commission’s website, the Department of Finance met with the Anti-Dumping Commission on 20 February 2017 to discuss the Commonwealth’s procurement of A4 copy paper. Can the Department please provide an update on that meeting, including whether there are any policies or practices being put in place in relation to government procurement of products where the Anti-Dumping Commission has found evidence of dumping.</p> <p><i>(Note to the Department: the link to the Anti-Dumping Commission’s reference to the meeting with the Department is available at: http://www.adcommission.gov.au/cases/EPR%20301%20%20350/EPR%20341/212-%20File%20note%20-%20ADC%20meeting%20with%20the%20Department%20of%20Finance.pdf)</i></p>	Written
126	Finance	3/3.1	Carr	Travel (Minister for Immigration and Border	Please provide a list of trips (within the last 12 months) that the Minister (for Immigration and Border Protection) and his office have been on, including dates, itineraries and costs (broken down by accommodation, flight, entertainment and ground transport).	Written (transferred from Immigration and Border)

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127	ASC Pty Ltd	General	Xenophon	Skill sets lost through job losses	Senator XENOPHON: I would like to follow up on some of the questions that Senator Gallacher raised, and if they have already been traversed please stop me. I just want to go through that. You may want to take some of these on notice in that they are somewhat technical in nature. I want to get a breakdown from you from of the skill sets lost from the organisation through the job losses in the last 12 months. That would be useful. That is in terms of numbers, and we have an idea of the 1,231 employees and apprentices and the 338 subcontractors and contractors. Can you give me an idea of how long it takes to train and provide shipbuilding experience to each of those skill sets?	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 9, 28 February 2017
128	Finance	2/2.2	Xenophon	Government waste	Given that government and opposition politicians have all raised concerns over time and had policies on government waste: 1. Is there a central government authority responsible for the elimination of waste? 2. If so a. Is there a government wide definition on the meaning of ‘waste’, and if so, what is that definition? b. How does this central government authority monitor and manage waste within the Department? c. Is there a central government mechanism (e.g. phone number, email address, web site) for public servants or contractors to report Departmental waste? d. How much Departmental waste was identified by the central government authority in FY 13/14, FY 14/15 and FY 15/16?	Written
129	Finance	3/3.1	Dastyari	Allocation of staff to crossbench members and senators	Senator DASTYARI: ...As I understand it, at the start of this parliament—again I do not think that this was in improper; I think it was actually quite appropriate—because of the nature of the crossbench and the sheer size of it and, perhaps it is fair to say, lessons learnt from the previous parliament regarding the enormity of legislation that the crossbenchers need to be across, a decision was made that three extra staff would be applied My understanding of the last parliament—and Ms Huxtable may correct me on this—was that two additional staff were provided. Is that correct? Ms McGregor: We can take that on notice. Senator DASTYARI: You can take that on notice	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 110, 28 February 2017