

Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

The committee met on Thursday, 29 May 2014 from 9 am to 11.00 pm.

The committee called the Department of Finance and agencies in the Finance portfolio, including Medibank Private and the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC).

Among other issues, the following issues were discussed:

- the sale of Medibank Private including its timing, contracts entered into, staff and resources allocated to the sale, possible impact on premiums and products offered, and use of the sale proceeds
- benefits leakage and the maximum excess limit of \$500 for health insurance policies
- the sale of Commonwealth assets and Smaller Government
- approval processes for government campaign advertising and role of the interim guidelines administered by the Special Minister of State
- refurbishments and repair of The Lodge and the John Gorton Building
- the division of responsibility between the Department of Finance and the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet in relation to Official Establishments
- various public works, including the construction of the ASIO building, the Point Peron marina development and the status of remediation work on Malabar Headland
- structural problems at Australia Post
- the superannuation claims of former ABC and public service employees seeking liability and act of grace payments
- the provision of WiFi and telepresence at Commonwealth Parliamentary Offices
- compliance with the Statement of Ministerial Standards in relation to former ministerial staffer members
- Senator Sinodinos' entitlements after stepping aside as Assistant Treasurer and Minister Joyce's office relocation
- an update to the Opposition Office Holders' Entitlements Handbook
- the resourcing of the Coalition Advisory Service
- multiple voting at recent elections
- enrolment processes, including online and direct enrolment
- engagement/monitoring of ICAC investigations by the AEC
- amended returns and reporting gifts in kind.