



Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
Budget Estimates 2017-18
Wednesday, 24 May 2017
Daily summary

Here is a summary of today's proceedings for the Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee considering Budget Estimates 2017-18.

The committee met from 9.00am to 9.29pm.

The committee called the department and following agencies of the **Finance Portfolio** (some areas of interest by the committee are listed):

- **ASC Pty Ltd** (ASC shipbuilding workforce and job losses; capital budget measures: Naval Shipbuilding Plan; local build content for the future submarine program; offshore patrol vessel build status; Air Warfare Destroyer program update; Australian Naval Infrastructure Pty Ltd - progress on establishment and operation).
- **Future Fund Management Agency** (Reduction to the investment mandate,; Chairman's remuneration; office's hospitality budget; arrangements for interactions between Chair, CEO and government; arrangements for communication between the agency and contracted fund managers).
- **Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation** (Update of schemes in regard to membership numbers and values; legislative changes to payment of invalidity benefits from military superannuation savings; delayed superannuation contribution payments to PSSap members in March and April 2017 due to the transition to a new platform).
- **Department of Finance**
 - **General** – Organisational structure; 2017-18 Corporate Plan; new measures which may impact on Finance staffing allocation; staff moved to Digital Transformation Agency and Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority ; use of labour hire companies.
 - **Outcome 1** –Government fiscal strategy; projection to return to surpluses of more than 1 per cent of GDP; Finance attendance at the Joint Economic Forecasting Group; NDIS funding ; impact on the Budget of decisions taken but not yet announced; net debt; decentralisation program; savings from functional and efficiency reviews; size of Australian Public Service; costing processes for new policy proposals and input from Finance; excess hours staff work in the lead up to the budget; update on progress of the new central budget management system.

The committee will resume examination of Outcome 1 of the Department of Finance on Thursday 25 May in Committee Room 2S1.