Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

The committee met on Thursday 20 November 2014 from 9 am until 9.39pm.

The committee called the Department and agencies of the Finance portfolio, including ASC Pty Ltd, the Future Fund Management Agency (FFMA), ComSuper, Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation, Medibank Private and the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC).

Among other issues, the following matters were discussed:

- the future Defence submarine program and costings and workforce capability for submarines built in Australia
- the involvement of Australian companies in maintenance of Collins submarines
- the visit to ASC by a Japanese delegation
- the FFMA's investment mandate for new funds announced in the Budget
- the use by FFMA of local hedge fund managers
- FFMA investments in fossil fuel companies
- ethical investment policy and emerging market strategies
- FFMA remuneration policy and processes
- the progress of the merger between Comsuper and Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation
- the Medibank private share offer process
- the role of the Department of Finance in the McClure Review and the Forrest Review
- progress on the Commission of Audit recommendations
- the Final Budget Outcome
- the review of Commonwealth Grants Guidelines
- the redevelopment of the central budget management system
- the departmental response to the judgment in the second Williams case
- Open Government Partnership
- Policy changes on access to the electoral roll
- AEC investigations into enrolments in the seat of Indi and referral to the Australian Federal Police
- the appointment processes for senior positions at the AEC, including for the position of Electoral Commissioner
- the review process for associated entities, and
- processes for amended returns.