

## **Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

The committee met on Monday, 24 February 2014 from 9.00 am to 10.50 pm.

The committee called the:

- Department of the Senate
- Parliamentary Budget Office
- Department of Parliamentary Services (DPS)
- department and agencies of the Prime Minister and Cabinet portfolio, including the Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General, the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO), the Australian Public Service Commission and the Office of the Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security.

Among other issues, the following matters were discussed:

- the impact of a proposed additional efficiency dividend on the Department of the Senate
- the Senate Occasional Lecture Series
- new protocols governing the engagement between Commonwealth bodies and the Parliamentary Budget Office
- the results of a trial relating to the attendance of Hansard reporters in the parliamentary chambers
- the use of Australian-made crockery in the parliamentary dining rooms
- recent maintenance and refurbishment work to Parliament House and its furniture
- practices surrounding official portraits of former prime ministers
- processes surrounding the award of the Victoria Cross for Australia and the Cross of Valour
- the forthcoming visit of members of the royal family
- the Governor-General's participation in the 2013 Boyer Lecture series
- the Royal Commission into the Home Insulation Program, including matters surrounding the issue of a summons to the Commonwealth for documents, potentially including Cabinet documents
- the review of the Renewable Energy Target
- the Government Staffing Committee, including the processes for the appointment of the former chief of staff to the Assistant Minister for Health
- the white paper on Northern Australia
- the performance audit of the CMAX Communications contract for the 2020 Summit
- administration of the Strengthening Basin Communities Program
- interim arrangements for Australian Public Service recruitment
- the raid conducted by the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation on the office of lawyer for East Timor, Mr Bernard Collaery.