

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES – 21 – 22 OCTOBER 2020

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date <i>or</i> Written
F001	Finance	2/2.1	Wong	Decision on full-cycle-docking	<p>Senator WONG: You said you'll make a decision when you have the requisite information. Can you tell us broadly what the requisite information is?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: No, because that goes to the deliberations of cabinet. But suffice it to say that we've been receiving advice from a range of relevant sources—Defence, Finance and ASC—and all of that is being carefully considered to ensure we make the best possible decision for the future of our nation.</p> <p>Senator WONG: So how many times has this been before the cabinet?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I'll have to take on notice whether I can assist you with that. There is the obvious issue of cabinet confidentiality.</p>	Proof Hansard, 21 October 2020, Page 12
F002	ASC Pty Ltd	General	Wong	Lead Time/Critical Path	<p>Senator WONG: ... Can we go to the six-year lead time. Mr Whiley, we had a discussion about lead time being a mitigating factor, in terms of mitigating the risk of such a move, and you said six years or thereabouts. What's the last point at which a decision could be made which, from your perspective, would enable FCD to commence in 2026 in a manner that did not compromise the nation's capability?</p> <p>Mr Whiley: I'm speculating in terms of data now: I don't think we're on the critical path for a decision at this point in time. As I indicate, there is some [inadequate] for delay. I think I'd have to take that question on notice to understand what the critical path was. It's going to have to be within the six-year period that we're going to have to move. The critical path will be driven through the establishment of facilities in Western Australia. I haven't got that to hand, so I'll take that question on notice.</p> <p>Senator WONG: You've previously given evidence—and the minister has agreed—that you're looking at about a six-year timeline. Obviously a 2026-27 start, which is the earliest that's being contemplated, according to the Prime Minister's press conference—we're past six years for a July 2026 start. If the lead time is a risk mitigation strategy, how long have we got before you believe the capability could be negatively affected?</p> <p>Mr Whiley: I honestly can't give you an answer to that. It is a complex scenario. There are a lot of moving parts. The schedule that would drive that is fairly complex. I don't believe we're on a critical path at the moment, so there is time for a decision. I think the path would go through the establishment and building of facilities, but I would have to take that question on notice to understand it and to provide a detailed answer.</p>	Proof Hansard, 21 October 2020, Page 14
F003	ASC Pty Ltd	General	Wong	Firefighting Degaussing Packages	<p>Senator WONG: You also told us that the firefighting degaussing packages are planned to commence concept design in the first quarter of 2021, and detailed schedules for these projects have not been commenced at this stage. Is the time line for the concept design on track and have detailed schedules been commenced?</p> <p>Mr Whiley: The four pieces of work that we're currently working on are hull, diesels, propulsion motors and static converters. I'm not sure specifically where we are with those two pieces of work. I'll take that question on notice.</p>	Proof Hansard, 21 October 2020, Pages 16, 17
F004	ASC Pty Ltd	General	Wong	ASC Workforce	<p>Senator WONG: I have some questions about workforce. What is the current number of Collins program employees in both core and critical categories in each of your groups? You previously provided an answer on notice which set that out in terms of groups—core, critical, and total. Are you able to update that?</p> <p>Mr Whiley: Sorry, we are currently going through a review of that structure, so I'll take that question on notice.</p>	Proof Hansard, 21 October 2020, Page 17
F005	ASC Pty Ltd	General	Wong	Current Attrition Rate	<p>Senator WONG: What is your current attrition rate? You told one of us last time that it was about 3½ to four per cent for trade staff and about 10 per cent for engineers. In answer to a question on notice in March 2020 you said that the rate had fallen. What is your current attrition rate for engineers in trade?</p> <p>Mr Whiley: Across the board it has fallen from 10.2 per cent in October 2019 to eight per cent at the moment.</p> <p>Senator WONG: And engineers?</p> <p>Mr Whiley: Again, we've seen a decreasing trend in engineering. As a percentage, I can't quote it, but it's a substantial decrease in the number of engineers lost.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Can you update, on notice, the attrition rates in more detail, please.</p> <p>Mr Whiley: Yes, no problem.</p> <p>Senator WONG: I'd like a disaggregation between trades and engineers, in particular, and core and critical, or whatever category you want to put into place.</p>	Proof Hansard, 21 October 2020, Page 17
F006	ASC Pty Ltd	General	Patrick	Submarine Enterprise Board Meeting	<p>Senator PATRICK: Can you provide on notice the dates on which the ASC have attended a submarine enterprise board meeting and the agenda of those meetings?</p> <p>Mr Whiley: Okay.</p>	Proof Hansard, 21 October 2020, Page 19

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F007	ASC Pty Ltd	General	Patrick	Personnel Movements	<p>Senator PATRICK: Are you losing personnel to BAE? And are you losing personnel to Naval Group? Mr Whiley: Certainly, we've lost people to both organisations, but that— Senator PATRICK: On notice, can you provide some details of that, just the numbers and types of people you are losing those two organisations? Mr Whiley: Yes.</p>	Proof Hansard, 21 October 2020, Page 20
F008	ASC Pty Ltd	General	Patrick	Collins Class Full Cycle Docking Locations Study	<p>Senator PATRICK: I want to confirm the study that you were referring to—that you said was, I think, completed in August 19—was the Collins class full cycle docking locations study. Is that correct? Mr Whiley: That's correct. Senator PATRICK: On notice, can you provide the committee with a copy? I note we were provided with a copy of a report—but maybe it was another report on FOIs. But can you provide that final report to the committee on notice, please? Mr Whiley: It wasn't our final report. It was a series of data and analysis that we provided that they ended up— Senator PATRICK: I understand that; I'm just asking you if you could provide that to the committee on notice. Mr Whiley: Okay.</p>	Proof Hansard, 21 October 2020, Page 22
F009	ANI Pty Ltd	General	Patrick	Osborne North Shipyard	<p>Senator PATRICK: The committee received—it was tabled in the committee before—a very detailed plan of the Osborne North shipyard. It was a plan that had the future submarine overriding or utilising where ASC submarines are at the moment. Is there now in existence a layout that doesn't cover off on or consume the current Collins submarine full-cycle docking facility at ASC North? Mr Seaton: The design of the submarine yard is progressing on a staged basis, based on works underway of the test facilities and phase 2 works for the main manufacturing production facilities. We have layouts for those facilities. The phase 2 works layout has not yet been finalised, but we are working on a number of options. Senator PATRICK: The last time I was provided with one very detailed option and there was one option that was drawn up almost in crayon. I'm wondering if you can provide to the committee on notice what the current layout plans look like for however many options that you have. Mr Seaton: Yes, we can do that.</p>	Proof Hansard, 21 October 2020, Page 23
F010	ANI Pty Ltd	General	Ayres	Handover from ANI to BAE	<p>Senator AYRES: Perhaps, on notice, would you outline the steps and key dates for the progressive handover from ANI to BAE and how they compare with the original target date? Mr Seaton: Most of that handover has already occurred. We can take that on notice.</p>	Proof Hansard, 21 October 2020, Page 25
F011	Future Fund	General	Ayres	Asset Class Costs	<p>Senator AYRES: Can you go through each investment class and outline the total investment fees, or the management expense ratio equivalent, for each asset class? Dr Arndt: We don't calculate them on that basis, because the way we approach building portfolios is to look at the whole portfolio and ensure all the different parts of the portfolio are working in concert. We don't think it assists our long-term objectives to look at asset classes in isolation. But, of course, the fees are higher in the asset classes where we're targeting manager skills, such as private equity and hedge funds, and lower—and we work very hard to get fees as low as possible—where we're targeting vanilla or beta market exposure such as equities. Senator AYRES: I understand you might not have made those available in your annual reports, but in this process we get to ask questions and, ideally, get answers to some of these questions, because they are quite different asset classes and they do bring a different cost and different returns. Senator AYRES: Are you able to provide, on notice, an outline of the management expense ratio for each of the asset classes? Dr Arndt: We don't apportion the centralised costs by asset class. For example, the management team's time and the technology investment and so on and so forth isn't proportioned in that way. But we can look at what the manager costs are on labours. Senator AYRES: Can you provide that to us on notice? I understand your point that there's a cost at the centre that you might disburse equivalently. I'd be interested in hearing more on notice about what the methodology is when you come up with these figures, but I'd anticipate that there would be a set of central expenses. Each of the asset classes will have quite a different management expense, and I would like to see those set out for the committee. Dr Arndt: We can do that. Senator AYRES: Good. What proportion of the funds' asset allocation is to unlisted assets? Dr Arndt: I might refer that question to my colleague Sue Brake, as she is running the investment program at the moment.</p>	Proof Hansard, 21 October 2020, Page 28

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F012	Future Fund	General	McKim	Japan, China and South Korea	<p>Senator McKIM: Alright. I look forward to that work being done and hopefully being publicly available. Australia's three biggest customers for thermal coal, Japan, China and South Korea, have all said publicly in the last month that they will be massively reducing their domestic coal consumption. Is the Future Fund exposed to those markets?</p> <p>Dr Arndt: We have investments in all of those countries. If the question is about the coal exposure—</p> <p>Senator McKIM: Yes.</p> <p>Dr Arndt: we do not, as I have just said, exclude companies just merely on the basis that they're in that industry. So I suspect we would have some exposure but I wouldn't expect it to be material.</p> <p>Senator McKIM: Would you be able to take on notice whether you can provide the committee with the level of exposure that the Future Fund has in relation to coal in those countries?</p> <p>Dr Arndt: I can take that on notice.</p>	Proof Hansard, 21 October 2020, Page 33
F013	Finance	2/2.3	Gallagher	Preliminary Comments on the Requirements of the Land Acquisition Act	<p>Mr Hunt: I think it reflected preliminary comments on the requirements of the Land Acquisition Act.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: In general?</p> <p>Mr Hunt: In general.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: So not necessarily around Leppington Triangle?</p> <p>Mr Hunt: I think we had been approached for early discussions about Leppington Triangle in general terms, but it wasn't until July 2016 that we received the draft strategy, and that was the point. From then on we were engaged on a compulsory acquisition.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Okay. So how were the preliminary comments provided to Infrastructure? Was that via email or a document?</p> <p>Mr Hunt: I'm not sure. We'd have to take that on notice. But they were quite preliminary discussions.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: How do you know they were preliminary if you don't know how they were made?</p> <p>Mr Hunt: Because we hadn't received the strategy. We received the draft strategy in July 2016, and we provided process and procedural comments, as the secretary said and as I think the report reflects, on that draft strategy.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: But, for your state of knowledge to come here today, has someone told you? Were you there at the time, Mr Hunt?</p> <p>Mr Hunt: I wasn't, so that's my broad understanding.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: So someone has advised you that they think it was preliminary comments?</p> <p>Mr Hunt: Preliminary discussions.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Preliminary discussions. So were there meetings? Is there any official record which would lead you to believe that that's what happened?</p> <p>Mr Hunt: I'd have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Okay. That's from late 2015, you believe.</p> <p>Mr Hunt: That's my understanding, Senator.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: And you'll take on notice how you understand that to have occurred.</p>	Proof Hansard, 21 October 2020, Page 40
F014	Finance	2/2.3	Gallagher	Finance Comments on the Strategy	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: We've got up to July 2016, when you've got the draft strategy and you provided advice back to Infrastructure saying that's consistent with the Land Acquisitions Act. The next involvement of Finance is as per the document tabled by Mr Atkinson, on 25 January 2018. So nothing happens in the department between July 2016 and January 2018 on the Leppington Triangle, is that correct?</p> <p>Mr Hunt: I think there was some discussion about the comments that Finance had provided on the strategy, but the detail of that I'd have to take notice. There were some exchanges clarifying our comments.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: On the strategy?</p> <p>Mr Hunt: That's right, on the strategy.</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: Just to be clear: we initially received a draft strategy. We provided some comments on that strategy. Later in 2016 we received a finalised strategy—and the strategy was compulsory acquisition.</p>	Proof Hansard, 21 October 2020, Page 41

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F015	Finance	2/2.3	Gallagher/ Ayres	Infrastructure Decision	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: Let's explore that a little bit. On 25 January, the pre-acquisition declaration was still, to Finance's understanding, a compulsory acquisition. Mr Hunt: I think the pre-acquisition declaration by then— Senator GALLAGHER: You're saying it had changed? Mr Hunt: They had advised that they had changed to a— Senator GALLAGHER: How did they advised that? Mr Hunt: This is outlined in the audit report in some detail. Senator GALLAGHER: But in terms of your records, in your area, did you get an email? How were you formally advised? Mr Hunt: I will have to take on notice how we were actually advised that the decision had been made to change that approach, but it was certainly clear to us when the draft pre-acquisition declaration was provided. Senator GALLAGHER: So you were aware by 25 January but you're not sure as to when you were advised? Some time between 2017— Ms Huxtable: I'd say it was toward the end of 2017, but we'll take on notice the exact day. Senator GALLAGHER: I must say I would've thought this would've been some routine estimates prep—to understand a timetable of what Finance's involvement in this was. If you're able to come back today, that would be useful. The other thing is: at the point that you were told the previously-agreed LPC land acquisition strategy was changed, what information did Infrastructure provide you with? Mr Hunt: We will check when we were advised that the decision of Infrastructure was to change approach and what was provided then. ... Senator AYRES: Can I just clarify one thing. Mr Hunt, you said you would take on notice Senator Gallagher's question going to when the department was advised by the department of infrastructure about that change of approach. Ms Huxtable, I think officers should have been in a position to answer that question today. I think it would help if we were provided an answer later in the day on when that information was provided by the department of infrastructure, how it was conveyed and who conveyed it. Ms Huxtable: We can take that on notice.</p>	Proof Hansard, 21 October 2020, Pages 48, 49, 57
F016	Finance	1/1.1	Gallagher	Finance Budget Resource Allocation	<p>Ms Huxtable: I think that pressure and how we work in the budget context is unlikely to diminish. This group, as the finance minister is aware and as previous finance ministers would be aware, works very hard; they're always on, in a sense. This gives us a little bit of money to put some more resources into looking at how we manage that function in a sustainable way, and looking at managing our workforce a little bit differently. Senator GALLAGHER: But you can't tell me if it's two-thirds here, one-third there? You haven't made that decision? Ms Huxtable: I can take that on notice. I'm sure there were some assumptions— Senator GALLAGHER: Didn't you have to provide that to the ERC? Ms Huxtable: Yes. I expect the relevant agency advice unit costed that in detail. There is a breakdown; I just don't have that breakdown with me. Senator GALLAGHER: You know how much you're getting, don't you! Mr Yannopoulos: Sure, but there's a colleague in the room as well! It's an internal resource allocation decision for the department.</p>	Proof Hansard, 21 October 2020, Page 60
F017	Finance	2/2.2	Gallagher	Grants Approvals	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: Can you perhaps just tell me what's happened in the last year? How many of those reports have you got? Dr Helgeby: I actually don't have those with me at the minute. I'll just check if we do. No? We haven't got them with us at the moment.</p>	Proof Hansard, 21 October 2020, Pages 73, 74

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F018	Finance	2/2.5	Gallagher	Publication Of Procurement Activities	<p>Mr Jagers: I think you're pulling out one element of the Commonwealth Procurement Rules, which is about the AusTender reporting— Senator GALLAGHER: I'm just focusing on the publication of procurement activities. Mr Jagers: Compliance with the Commonwealth Procurement Rules would have a number of other implications for those government businesses—not just the reporting obligations. We haven't taken that decision. We haven't provided advice to make any changes to the way that GBEs operate in their commercial arrangements. Senator GALLAGHER: But the recommendation from the Auditor doesn't say 'come under the Commonwealth Procurement Rules'. It says, 'use the AusTender website to publicise procurement activities and report on results'. Aren't we talking about two different things, then? You're saying you can't use AusTender unless you come under the procurement rules and I am saying, 'Why?' Why couldn't you just say, 'Guys, we want you to report.' It's public funds. There's a lot of it. Mr Jagers: It might be something I need to take on notice and I'll come back to you. It's not something I've come prepared to talk to. I might just take it on notice and come back.</p>	Proof Hansard, 21 October 2020, Pages 77-78
F019	Finance	General	Gallagher	Briefings In the Lead-Up to Budget	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: Okay. Were you provided with any briefings on these projects in the lead-up to the budget? Senator Cormann: I don't believe I was provided with any briefings in the lead-up to this budget. But, as I've indicated to you— Senator GALLAGHER: Do you want a copy of the list of the projects? Senator Cormann: That might be useful, but I might have to take that on notice. I would say in the broad that of course we engage with crossbench members of parliament and of course from time to time we put forward our proposals for their consideration and they put their proposals forward for our consideration. And after all the relevant processes have been followed we from time to time make the relevant decisions. But I have not been part of any discussion in this budget context along the lines you're suggesting. ... Senator GALLAGHER: Okay. Can you advise us of whether any of these proposals were being planned for funding by the government prior to Centre Alliance putting them forward? Senator Cormann: I'll have to take that on notice. Again, I don't want to take anything away from Centre Alliance. Centre Alliance, over a number of years, has advocated in relation to a number of projects. That's, obviously, not a recent thing. And I'm pleased to see that Centre Alliance is very happy that, in the 2020-21 budget, a number of projects that they strongly advocated for were, indeed, funded.</p>	Proof Hansard, 21 October 2020, Page 81
F020	Finance	General	Gallagher	Agreement Reached Between Parties	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: So, in terms of the negotiations that Ms Sharkie says formed part of this \$40 million outcome, did Centre Alliance promise anything in return? I'm not talking specifically about this budget. Was there any agreement reached between the parties on any level? Senator Cormann: I've got to take that on notice. In terms of these measures in this budget, there wasn't any specific agreement in the context of this budget in relation to any of these projects— Senator GALLAGHER: But not in relation to this context of the budget—more broadly. Senator Cormann: I'll have to go back and refresh my memory in which context these particular— Senator GALLAGHER: You'd know, though. Senator Cormann: I don't. I've got— Senator GALLAGHER: You'd know if you had an agreement with Centre Alliance. Senator Cormann: I've got to refresh my memory in which context these various projects were raised. ... Senator Cormann: I think what sorts of measures Centre Alliance has supported over the years is a matter of public record. I see Senator Waters here. I think that we've negotiated, at some point, with the Greens in relation</p>	Proof Hansard, 21 October 2020, Pages 81, 82

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F021	Finance	General	Gallagher	Letters	<p>Senator Cormann: We certainly have an agreement that Centre Alliance would not be supporting Labor's attempts to disrupt the government's program; that is true.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Is that a written agreement?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We put some terms in writing to ensure that there was clarity in which circumstances Centre Alliance would be able to pursue certain measures.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Can you table those letters?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I'll have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Why?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I haven't got any documentation in front of me.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: But why would you need to take it on notice? You could say, 'Yes, I will table them later,' or 'No, I won't table them.'</p> <p>Senator Cormann: It's because I have to review whether that is appropriate or whether there is a public interest immunity that ought to be claimed.</p>	Proof Hansard, 21 October 2020, Page 83
F022	Finance	2/2.5	Waters	Conflicts Section of the Procurement Rules	<p>Senator WATERS: When was the last time the conflicts section of the procurement rules was reviewed?</p> <p>Mr Jagers: We update the Commonwealth Procurement Rules reasonably regularly. I'm not sure if there were any changes to sections 6.6 to 6.8 of the CPRs—</p> <p>Mr Danks: I don't believe that in the latest update we looked at that. I can take notice when the last time those clauses were considered—</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Thank you. That would be useful.</p>	Proof Hansard, 21 October 2020, Page 87
F023	Finance	1/1.1	Ayres	Infrastructure Funding Table	<p>Senator AYRES: And you'd be in a position to tell us on notice, out of the infrastructure funding, which is COVID related and which isn't?</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: With the table that you did in the QON, has that grown at all, with the new budget measures?</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: No—well, we'll need to now do a review of this. So this was all based on the July Economic and Fiscal Update, and the reference points refer to that document. We'd now, I think, sit down and look at this vis-a-vis the measures in the budget. There might be some things that don't require such active tracking because they're very well advanced, and there might be others that we'd want to bring onto that, but we just haven't gone through that process. We do this very much hand in hand with the partner agencies. We have to do it like that.</p> <p>Senator AYRES: The question that I was approaching asking is: so it's really a matter of updating that table, I suppose: adding new measures in, taking account for what's completed.</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: Yes. I think that's fair. This is the table as at the JEFU. I think we'll need to say post-budget, 'This is the table post-budget,' and we haven't done that yet.</p>	Proof Hansard, 21 October 2020, Page 98
F024	Finance	2/2.5	Ayres	Procurement Real World Examples	<p>Senator AYRES:... requirements to comply with regulations are necessary and appropriate, and do not add unnecessary burden to potential suppliers or discriminate against potential suppliers, particularly SMEs. Do you have any examples of such requirements that might be unnecessary or inappropriate that would add a burden to suppliers or discriminate against them?</p> <p>Mr Danks: Not off the top of my head, but I can take it on notice and provide some examples.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator AYRES: Entity procurement officials should: a. consider and identify if a standard is to be applied to the goods and/or services being procured ... And the dot point says: As part of planning, consideration should be given to whether the inclusion of standards is necessary to meet the requirements of the procurement, and whether this outweighs the additional burden imposed on suppliers. Do you have any examples of where officials should be waiving a requirement for suppliers to apply the appropriate standards?</p> <p>Mr Danks: We don't have any examples with us today. We can take that on notice.</p> <p>...</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Pages 7, 8, 9

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F025	Finance	1/1.1	Gallagher	Institution Funding	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: I'm trying to understand in a general sense. It doesn't say in the description 'to supplement or to offset some of the loss in revenue'. It just says so that these agencies 'continue to provide services to the public while experiencing a decline in revenue'. I'm trying to understand—</p> <p>Senator Cormann: The important point here is on what the position is in relation to those specific agencies in this context. These questions are best directed to those agencies.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Mr Yannopoulos said that it was to provide some supplementation, so you must have known. What level is it? Twenty per cent of it?</p> <p>Mr Yannopoulos: I'm happy to take it on notice. It will depend on each institution, where they are located and what the impacts of COVID related restrictions are.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Page 17
F026	Finance	1/1.1	Ayres	Jobseeker payments	<p>Senator AYRES: There's an increase in the JobSeeker payment of \$19.7 billion in the budget, which the paper says reflects an increase in the forecast recipient numbers. We know what the forecast unemployment rates are. Are you able to provide the numbers of JobSeeker recipients that sit behind the \$19.7 billion figure?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We may need to take that on notice. We can provide that, but it would be best to take that on notice.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Page 21
F027	Finance	1/1.1	Ayres	NDIS	<p>Senator AYRES: NDIS payments are expected to increase by \$3.9 billion. Describe what's driving those higher costs.</p> <p>...</p> <p>How much of the \$2.66 billion is going to the job agencies?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: These are questions for a different portfolio, but I'm happy to take them on notice and provide the answers.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Page 22
F028	Finance	1/1.1	Ayres	Services Australia Funding	<p>Senator AYRES: Services Australia departmental funding is expected to increase by \$1.1 billion. How much of that is for extra staff and how much is for labour hire and contractors?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We'll take that on notice.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Page 22
F029	Finance	1/1.1	Ayres	Childcare Subsidy	<p>Senator AYRES: Thank you. The childcare subsidy payments are expected to increase by \$860.1 million. Does increased support for families mean more families accessing the childcare subsidy?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Child care is a demand-driven program, so the level of demand does drive the level of expenditure. In this financial year, we are expecting to spend about \$9 billion on providing childcare subsidy support, which is a record, but, in terms of the specific numbers on the line, it's either for Education or I can take it on notice for you.</p> <p>Senator AYRES: Can you take it on notice for me and explain what the numbers are behind that and the demographic changes that are anticipated? There is also a \$777.5 million increase in workforce support payments, which reflects an increase in entitlements anticipated under the Fair Entitlements Guarantee program. How many employees are expected to receive their entitlements through this program? Presumably, it means that there are anticipated liquidations or bankruptcies of employers?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: There are assumptions underpinning this which belong to a different portfolio, but, in an abundance of helpfulness, if you want me to take it on notice, I'm happy to do so.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Page 22
F030	Finance	1/1.1	Ayres	Military Rehabilitation Compensation Payments	<p>Senator AYRES: That would be helpful. Similarly, payments related to military rehabilitation compensation are expected to increase by \$640 million. What's driving that? Is that a policy change or an expected—</p> <p>Senator Cormann: It says there: 'largely reflecting the increase in the number of claims being processed from members of the Australian Defence Force and veterans'. If you want me to take on notice specific assumptions, I can do that.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Page 22
F031	Finance	1/1.1	Ayres	Income Support for Seniors Payment	<p>Senator AYRES: Finally, does the description of income support for seniors payments, where indexation is largely causing a decrease in payments of \$4.8 billion, but \$5 billion is provided through the various one-off payments. Does that mean that, in net terms, income support for seniors is decreasing by \$200 million over the forward estimates?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: There has obviously been a spike in terms of the temporary support, which is not ongoing.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Page 22

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					<p>It says: ... largely reflecting a lower than projected rate of indexation due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the economy. As part of the COVID-19 Response Package, the Government has provided \$5.0 billion in additional support to senior Australians through the provision of two separate \$250 economic support payments to eligible pensioners as part of the Budget measure COVID-19 Response— Of course, we also provided previously two \$750 economic support payments, which were outlined in the July update. But these are specific one-off payments; they're not ongoing; they're not increasing the spending trajectory moving forward. Senator AYRES: But the net effect of that over the forwards is a \$200 million gap? Senator CORMANN: I'm going to have to give— Mr Yannopoulos: I think it's the other way; I think it's \$200 million up. Senator Cormann: We can unpack that for you on notice.</p>	
F032	Finance	General	Gallagher	Public Interest Disclosure Dates	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: So someone has reported some concerns to you. You've decided that it should be treated as a public interest disclosure, affording appropriate protections. Ms Huxtable: That's right. Senator GALLAGHER: Can you tell me when that was? Ms Huxtable: We might have to take on notice the exact dates. It took a period of time for us to undertake the investigations related to that, and that culminated in the July 2019 referral to the AFP. But we can take the exact dates on notice. Senator GALLAGHER: You've got the date? I don't actually need the exact date, just a ballpark date. Mr Scott: Senator, there was— Ms Huxtable: To be honest, I'm a little bit concerned about how much information we can provide about PIDs. In part, that's why I want to take it on notice, because there have to be safeguards in respect of persons who have put forward the PIDs. Can we just consider what we can provide? I just don't want to go off-the-cuff on that without having properly thought it through, but I can certainly tell you it was in advance of— Senator GALLAGHER: July. Ms Huxtable: that period, and it takes time to do the investigation following a PID.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Page 23
F033	Finance	General	Gallagher	PwC and EY Contracts	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: Okay. Ms Huxtable, you said that there are two pieces of work: procurement assurance, which was led by PwC—is that right? Ms Huxtable: Yes, that's right. Senator GALLAGHER: Was there a value for that contract, or a contract number? Ms Huxtable: I don't think that I have that on me. We could take it on notice, unless one of the officers could help. Senator GALLAGHER: I presume it's on AusTender. Ms Huxtable: I'm just not sure if we've quite finalised that now. I know we're very close to finalising those reports, but whether we've actually signed off and acquitted the final amounts I'm not sure. Ms Walsh: We'd be happy to take that on notice and provide you with that. Senator GALLAGHER: Okay. And the second piece I think had more a bit of a culture-and-people kind of focus. But that was external too, was it? Ms Huxtable: Yes. That was done by EY. Senator GALLAGHER: EY. Could you give me whatever that— Ms Huxtable: We'll take that on notice as well.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Page 25
F034	Finance	1/1.1	Gallagher	Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission ASL	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: As part of the COVID committee, we had the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission appear. Twenty-seven per cent of their workforce is labour hire or contractors. One of the reasons given, in direct answer to a question from me, was that the staffing cap is the reason why they have to hire in labour hire staff. ... Senator Cormann: Every agency or every portfolio that has a need for additional ASL is able to ask for additional ASL. It always has been thus. But it's good housekeeping, good management and good financial control to ask agencies to be able to confirm, before asking for additional ASL, that they have made an effort to look at their existing resources to see whether all of the things that were done in the past are still priorities at present or whether there is a capacity to reprioritise within existing resources. ... There has always been a process available to all portfolios to come forward with requests for additional ASL. Many have come forward with requests for additional ASL. There is a capacity to obtain exemptions from the</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Pages 32, 33

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					<p>offset rule, and there always has been. But as part of the budget repair, of course, in first six years of our period in government we did need to ensure that, among other things, we brought down the cost of government administration as a proportion of overall government expenditure, and we have done that.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: So are you suggesting that the evidence that we got around the inaction between the staffing cap and labour hire in the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission, that evidence was incorrect?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I haven't seen the evidence and I'm not going to provide commentary on you relating something in your words of what was said. I am happy to review what was said and provide you my assessment of that on notice.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: These are the assessors that assess whether or not aged-care facilities meet the standards. That's the job of these people. It doesn't seem to me that it's really a temporary kind of employment arrangement. Yet 27 per cent of the workforce is employed on labour hire. Does that fit your understanding of specialised or temporary workforce? Surely you want those people—</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I am happy to look at the evidence that was given in your COVID committee and see whether I can provide any additional information.</p>	
F035	Finance	2/2.5	Gallagher	Procurement Single Topic Issues	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: Does that reference group meet?</p> <p>Mr Danks: It meets normally quarterly. It hasn't during COVID because of obvious restrictions, but we are looking at having some intensive weekly meetings in November on single-topic issues remotely, so via—</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: What single-topic issues?</p> <p>Mr Danks: They are single-topic issues that have come up during COVID.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: What are they?</p> <p>Mr Danks: I thought you would ask that. I will have to take it on notice. I don't have that information in front of me.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: But could it be something like limited tenders?</p> <p>Mr Danks: It could be, but I will have to take it on notice exactly what the agendas are.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Page 35
F036	Finance	2/2.5	Gallagher	Contract Amendment Statistics	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: Do you monitor the contract amendments that seem to be pretty widely used, where the original contract is let but then there are amendments to amendments to amendments, sometimes going to double the value of the original contract? Do you have reports on that?</p> <p>Mr Danks: It is published in AusTender, but I do not have any reports or statistics with me today.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: So it's not something you necessarily monitor? I think you said earlier that you do monitor the use of limited tender, but you don't have a similar role on the use of amendments to inflate or to add onto contracts?</p> <p>Mr Danks: Not with me today, but I can take it on notice to see if we report on that internally.</p> <p>....</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Okay. The ANAO's report on procurement contracting, which we were talking about yesterday in relation to transparency, identified thousands of contracts that had been amended, sometimes increasing in value by over 200 per cent. In some instances, it had taken a contract from below the \$80,000 threshold to above the threshold as part of doing that. Is there any discussion about the use of amendments with this procurement group? Might that be a single topic that you'd be looking at?</p> <p>Mr Danks: I've taken it on notice, Senator. I'll have to get back to you to see whether that's a topic we discussed.</p> <p>....</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Yes, but you can run reports, can't you?</p> <p>Mr Jagers: Well, there is additional reporting that we've added to the system. I think Mr Danks has taken on notice exactly how we're reporting on changes to contracts that have been awarded and if we have any set of data. So we will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Okay. I put this to you: can you have a look at the way amendments are being used across the Public Service, whether it's through this procurement roundtable group or whatever. It seems to me the audit has picked it up as a bit of an issue. I've had a quick look at a number of contracts. It seems to be happening more than it's happened in the past, and I think it's worth having a look at from a good governance point of view. But I'll leave that there and—</p> <p>Mr Jagers: Thanks, we're happy to look at it.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Pages 36, 37

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F037	Finance	2/2.3	Gallagher	LAA Flowcharts	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: Can I confirm, though, that under the Lands Acquisition Act approval has to be provided through Finance before land can be purchased?</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: There's a pre-acquisition declaration. That's on that timetable.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: That's right.</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: The penultimate step was the pre-acquisition declaration.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: But I'm not just talking about the Leppington Triangle.</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: There's a different set of processes when it's through a compulsory acquisition than when it's a—I think we actually have some flowcharts in the discussion paper on the LAA review. There are some flowcharts that we could provide on notice which set out compulsory versus by agreement.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Pages 39, 40
F038	Finance	2/2.3	Gallagher	Circumstances Outside LAA Acquisition	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: I'm just trying to understand. No department can go around and buy land without you providing some declaration under the Lands Acquisition Act; correct?</p> <p>Mr Jagers: There is a process—</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: I understand the process.</p> <p>Mr Jagers: to confirm that that purchase meets the requirements of the LAA.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: So that has to happen. They can't transact a sale without that happening?</p> <p>Mr Hunt: I think the evidence we gave yesterday was clear that that can't happen without us confirming that the requirements of the LAA have been met.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: That's right.</p> <p>Mr Hunt: So for an acquisition by agreement, which is what the Leppington acquisition was, the decision-maker, as is made clear in the ANAO report, is the agency. But the Finance delegate confirms that the requirements of the LAA have been met.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: I'm not trying to be tricky and make any allegation that you were the decision maker; I'm just trying to understand that no agency can go around shopping for land and transacting and settling that deal without having authorisation under the Lands Acquisition Act from the Department of Finance.</p> <p>Mr Hunt: I think the specific question you're asking goes to every acquisition of any piece of land. I'd have to take on notice whether there are circumstances that go outside the LAA.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: You're not aware of any?</p> <p>Mr Hunt: I'm not aware of any since I've been doing this role since August. I would have to take the specific question you've asked—are there any circumstances that go beyond the Lands Acquisition Act?—on notice.</p> <p>Senator AYRES: But, consistent with the Lands Acquisition Act, there are two propositions—compulsory and by agreement. Senator Gallagher's question is within that framework. You can answer that now, can't you?</p> <p>Mr Hunt: I can; that's right.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: So, by agreement or by compulsory acquisition, that has to come—the minister's word is 'operationalise'; I think the legal term under the act is 'authorise'—from the Department of Finance, for those two pathways?</p> <p>Mr Hunt: For those two pathways; that's right. The report draws out the distinction between the two pathways.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Page 40
F039	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell	Investigator Interviewing of Staff	<p>Senator FARRELL: Was any other member of Mr Sukkar's staff or Mr Andrews's staff interviewed, either by the department or by the investigator?</p> <p>Ms Walsh: As I said, the department didn't. We talked about those two stages. So the department did not—</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: No, the department did not. And what about the investigator? Did they speak to anybody from Mr Sukkar's staff or Mr Andrews's staff in relation to this matter?</p> <p>Mr De Silva: I think, again, we're getting into the specifics of a process, of how a review was conducted. So it might be better if we take that on notice.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Page 48
F040	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell	Discussion with PMO	<p>Senator FARRELL: Right, but you didn't advise the Prime Minister's office.</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: No, we advised our minister's office.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: But, given that you'd had the courtesy to let them know about the receipt of the request from Mr Sukkar and Mr Andrews, you didn't follow up at the end of the process?</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: I don't believe so. We can take it on notice, but I don't believe we had any further discussions with them, and clearly we put a statement up on our website. It was publicly available for all to see.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Page 50
F041	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell / Waters	Engagement of Ashurst	<p>Senator FARRELL: Well, if it came out that way, that wasn't what I was intending to say. What I was clearly saying was: the department chose Ashurst, which was the law firm that the minister was engaged and employed by prior to coming into parliament. My very simple question—and it should be able to be answered with a yes or no answer—was: did the department know that Ashurst was the law firm that Mr Sukkar had worked in prior</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Page 52, 53, 56

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					<p>to coming into parliament? It's not a hard question. The answer may be no or the answer may be yes, but it's a simple, straightforward question.</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: I think the difficulty is to answer that question on behalf of the department. I think it would be better to take that on notice and review who may have been aware of that.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Mr de Silva, when you made the decision to engage Ashurst did you know that Mr Sukkar had worked for that firm before he entered parliament?</p> <p>Mr de Silva: I think I'll repeat what I said prior: I'll have to take it on notice and review any notes et cetera.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: I can probably only go back to the evidence we've already provided. I can take on notice what knowledge we had about Mr Sukkar previously being employed with Blake Dawson Waldron.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: So you'll take that on notice. When did anyone in the department become aware that Mr Sukkar had previously been employed by the firm that renamed itself Ashurst?</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: That would be part of what I've already taken on notice, I believe.</p>	
F042	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell	Legal Services Panel Firms	<p>Senator FARRELL: No, I'm not asking you about their qualifications. How many law firms are on the list that you have an opportunity to pick from? Is there only one law firm that you can pick from, or are there 10 or are there 100?</p> <p>Mr De Silva: I'd have to take on notice the number of firms that are on the panel, but I assume that it would be a number.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Do you know how many law firms are on this list?</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: No, I don't. We'd have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Ms Walsh: The panel that we use is one run by the—</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: It's the legal services panel.</p> <p>Ms Walsh: Yes, exactly.</p> <p>Mr de Silva: It's the Attorney-General's Department.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Yes, but they must have a list somewhere.</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: We can take on notice exactly how many there are, noting that not all law firms do this kind of work. We are looking for some specific skills in this regard.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Page 52, 53
F043	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell	Ashurst Engagement Process	<p>Mr de Silva: There was a discussion within Finance, as I said, between MaPS and their Legal and Assurance Branch, regarding potential firms. That was done over a number of days and based on the various people's views on who had experience, who had done work for us in the past and who had the skills to do this and also was available to undertake this work. That's how Ashurst was picked.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Yes, but you made that decision, in conjunction with the other department.</p> <p>Mr de Silva: The other branch.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Yes, the other branch. You were directly involved in that.</p> <p>Mr de Silva: In terms of the actual process, it might be better for us to take on notice what the various steps were and who was consulted and so on—</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: It might be better—</p> <p>Mr de Silva: because we're getting into specifics about how a firm is actually chosen.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Well, why shouldn't we be told about that? What is there to hide about how that process takes place?</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: I think I've already gone through that.</p> <p>Ms Walsh: I don't think we're hiding anything. It's a—</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Well, you are hiding something, because I've asked a very simple question.</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: And I took it on notice</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Page 53
F044	Finance	3/3.1	Waters	Email Information to Independent Reviewer	<p>Senator WATERS: Did you convey to the independent investigator that a staff member had sought your advice on how to provide information on the matter—that exchange you had before where the MaPS email was provided, but then you didn't receive any correspondence to that email address and you understood that the investigator didn't receive it either? My question is: did you let the independent investigator know that that staff person had reached out, seeking information?</p> <p>Mr De Silva: I'll take on notice what information about that was shared with the independent reviewer. But, as we said to Senator Farrell, there was an email that was sent in to the Department of Finance. We had responded to that person, saying, 'If there is any information regarding any alleged misuse of work expenses, they could</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Pages 58 and 60

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					<p>provide it to this email address.' We sent them that email address, and no information was provided to that email address.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: I understand that.</p> <p>Mr De Silva: There was nothing to pass on, because nothing came in.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Yes, but what I'm asking is: did you pass on to the investigator that that person had sought direction on where to provide information, even though they didn't ultimately provide it? Did you convey to the investigator that a staff member had—</p> <p>Mr De Silva: I'll need to take on notice whether we passed on to the independent reviewer that there was an email that came in, but I do note that given that no information was passed to us there was nothing to pass on.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Yes, I understand, but it's the expression of interest that I am interested in. Did the investigator know that there'd been an expression of interest?</p> <p>Mr De Silva: As I said, I'll take on notice as to whether they were advised of that.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator WATERS: ... You didn't check whether or not they proactively sought information from staff—</p> <p>Ms Walsh: Can I just—</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: We took that on notice, Senator. They conducted the review, not us, and we took on notice their engagement with staff.</p>	
F045	Finance	3/3.1	Waters	Method of Provision of Information to Interviewer	<p>Senator WATERS: Given the limited powers that you've got, are you aware whether the independent investigator proactively asked staff of the two MPs?</p> <p>Mr De Silva: I think we've answered a similar question from Senator Farrell before in terms of we'll take on notice any of the specifics regarding how the review process was conducted.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Alright. You really can't remember?</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: Sorry, Mr De Silva—also it may have been before you came into the room Senator Waters, but—</p> <p>Senator WATERS: I was listening.</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: I did say that relevant material was sought and was provided, but we can take on notice—</p> <p>Senator WATERS: 'Through the MPs,' you said. I wrote down your words, although by all means clarify them if I jotted them down wrong. You said 'through the MPs the information was provided.'</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: I'd want to go back and just remind myself exactly.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Page 58, 59
F046	Finance	3/3.1	Waters	Date of Phone Call	<p>Senator WATERS: Thank you, I've got one follow-up, and then one final question. What was the date of that phone call?</p> <p>Mr De Silva: I need to take on notice when that was, but I believe it was probably about a week after.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: A week after the issuing of the report?</p> <p>Mr De Silva: I'll just need to double-check</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Page 60
F047	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell	Staff Working on PEMS	<p>Senator FARRELL: My question was: were any of these three staff working on PEMS?</p> <p>Ms Walsh: And this is where the line is that I want to draw in terms of an active investigation and court proceedings.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: You're talking about what you believe to be the security of the system. I'm talking about whether any of these staff were working on the PEM system. Are you saying you can't answer that question?</p> <p>Ms Walsh: If it was getting that specific, I would want to take it on notice and ask for further advice to ensure that I wasn't going anywhere near the investigation boundaries that we're talking about.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: We were told there were two contractors, whose contract was terminated as a result of this fraud inquiry. Were these contractors working on the system and the two-factor authentication? Was that part of their job?</p> <p>Ms Walsh: I think that would be within the scope of the questions you've asked that we will take on notice.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Pages 64, 67
F048	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell	Access to Parliamentarians Details	<p>Senator FARRELL: These staff have been charged with fraud. Do they have access to the personal details of parliamentarians, their staff and parliamentarians' families?</p> <p>Ms Walsh: Again, I'm not going to answer that question, but I'm happy to take it on notice.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: What access did these employees have to the personal information of parliamentarians and staff that is contained in PEMS?</p> <p>Ms Walsh: I think we might have answered that question previously with Mr Sheridan's general comments. Our commitment is to take the question on notice.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Pages 65, 67

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F049	Finance	2/2.1	Ayres	Treasury Campaign Spend Proposal	<p>Senator AYRES: So what was the number?</p> <p>Dr Helgeby: I don't have that number.</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: I think he took it on notice already.</p> <p>Senator AYRES: I don't think we got to put it on notice.</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: Okay. Maybe he has taken it on notice now.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: I think he referred us to another committee.</p> <p>Senator AYRES: He told us to go and talk to somebody else about the budget—to be fair to Dr Helgeby. We are talking about two different things then. These numbers may be exactly the same at the end of the day, but how big the spend is that the department is proposing is a slightly different question to how much is budgeted for the campaign. I get that. You got to see the number but you can't remember what it is. You'll provide it to us on notice, is that—</p> <p>Dr Helgeby: I'll take that on notice.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Page 75
F050	Finance	2/2.1	Ayres	Research Sighted by Assistant Minister for Finance	<p>Senator AYRES: We learnt yesterday, through an answer to a question on notice from I think the COVID committee, that Mr Reed's research for Prime Minister and Cabinet had been shared with Mr Morrison's office. The day before, I asked whether that was the case, and I was assured that it wasn't. Have you seen Mr Reed's research? Do you know Mr Reed, Minister?</p> <p>Senator Seselja: I don't think so. I'd have to check. It doesn't particularly ring a bell.</p> <p>Senator AYRES: You haven't seen the research?</p> <p>Senator Seselja: I don't believe so, no. When did you say the research was prepared?</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: I think it was commissioned in the last six months or so.</p> <p>Senator Seselja: I don't think so. But, just to be 100 per cent clear, I'll take that on notice and come back to you if I have anything to add.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Page 78
F051	Finance	2/2.4	Gallagher	2014-15 Claims	<p>Mr Danks: I think some of these are quite cyclical in nature. If we go back to 2014-15, that was quite a large year as well. There is no time limit for act of grace payments. So people can put in a claim; there's no statute of limitations. We haven't seen anything that's irregular, apart from this year, as you can see. If you look at 2017-18, they had 438 claims, which were worth more than the 1,475 claims the year after. I'm not sure you can draw too many findings from where the numbers are going.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Really? Have you tracked it back further than 2015-16? I think if you plotted that on a graph, you would not get a stable picture.</p> <p>Mr Danks: I could take on notice what 2014-15 looked like, but, from my recollection, it was significantly more than the \$1.97 million in 2015-16. So, again, this is more of the cyclical nature of these claims. There's no kind of pattern that's emerging from our analysis. Again, if you take the \$14.682 billion out, as well as the housing loans and the waiver powers under COVID-19 for this year, that number gets closer to \$60 million from last year.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: If you take out all the money waived!</p> <p>Mr Danks: Well, the irregular claims.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Yes. I agree; it's lumpy. So the \$157 million clearly features in the 2019-20 year.</p> <p>Mr Danks: That's correct.</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: Yes. We've just tried to draw out in the notes what's in the public domain, where we can provide more clarity. But, as we've talked about before, there's some sensitivity; sometimes these things are public, and we can draw those out. On notice, Mr Danks can seek to do that with respect to those previous years. At other times, they're subject to privacy and confidentiality requirements.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Page 84
F052	Finance	2/2.4	Gallagher	COVID-19 Impact on Claim	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: So this has impacted COVID in the \$45 million.</p> <p>Mr Danks: That's correct. There are 1,259 claims on the reimbursement of fees and charges for education and training providers and 362 claims on reimbursement of fees paid by commercial fishers for Commonwealth fishing levies.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Okay. Once you take those two out, you're left with a much smaller number—a couple of hundred.</p> <p>Mr Danks: That's correct.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Are you able to advise how much of that \$45 million is related to the COVID waiving?</p> <p>Mr Danks: I'll have to take that notice.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Page 84 and Page 85

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F053	Finance	2/2.4	Gallagher	Housing Debt Waiver - General Details	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: Okay. In terms of the housing debt, has that request come across your desk at all? Minister, I asked you this last time as well. Treasury told me that they have six or seven applications from states and territories to seek a similar waiver to the one that was given to the Tasmanian government. Has that been referred to you? I think last time we spoke it hadn't been referred to you—</p> <p>Senator Seselja: Yes.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: it remained with the Prime Minister or the Treasurer.</p> <p>Senator Seselja: That hasn't changed; it still hasn't come across my desk.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: If the Prime Minister or the Treasurer agreed to a waiver would that then come to you to formalise under your powers? Or are they able to do that?</p> <p>Senator Seselja: It would depend. If I look in terms of some of those other ones: obviously, the larger ones will be handled by Minister Cormann in many cases. As I understand it, and the officials might correct me, the powers—</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: He signed off the Tasmanian one, didn't he?</p> <p>Senator Seselja: He signed off on the Tasmanian housing. It sits in this portfolio. Obviously, it's delegated to me, but the senior minister can of course take those. So, yes, the housing debt was one that was signed off by Minister Cormann, I think in September 2019.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: So that matter hasn't come to you officially? I'll ask that in Treasury next week, if that's where it still remains. But thank you for that report—love it, the transparency. It's good. And if there's anything more that you can tell me in a general sense can you take all that on notice?</p> <p>Mr Danks: Okay, yes.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Page 85
F054	Finance	2/2.3	Gallagher	Property Divestment Details	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: So it is a little bit updated from the annual report—\$265.5. Not much, but—</p> <p>Mr Hunt: Yes, I think there have been a couple of modest properties sold since then.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Just timing. Yes. Okay.</p> <p>Mr Hunt: But there is nowhere that you report, 'This is what we have sold for this price'?</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Is there anywhere that I can have a look at that or is that information available?</p> <p>Mr Hunt: I would have to take that on notice. I know that you can see in our financial statements the income from those divestments; I think it is in the cash-flow statement.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Yes. But not necessarily the individual—</p> <p>Mr Hunt: Disaggregated by property, no.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Mr Jagers: Quite often when a large sale happens, there will be an announcement by the government, by a minister. There are a number of very small parcels of land that we sell on this divestment strategy. I think there are a further 25 properties on the divestment list at the moment, and some of those are quite small and so you wouldn't expect any significant media announcement about those. But we will take on notice where the details of those sale prices are recorded, if they are made public, and how.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Page 87
F055	Finance	2/2.3	Ayres	Rent Relief to Finance Occupants	<p>Senator AYRES: Are you able to provide on notice a list of those—</p> <p>Mr Hunt: The 11 Finance properties?</p> <p>Senator AYRES: There are 11 rent relief properties: 85 that had rent reduced to zero and 345 that had some additional support, I think—that's right, isn't it?</p> <p>Mr Hunt: Where are you reading that from, Senator?</p> <p>Senator AYRES: It is in the annual report—on page 35, I think.</p> <p>Mr Hunt: Certainly we can take on notice the 11 occupants. They're in Finance-owned—</p> <p>Senator AYRES: They're in your buildings, yes.</p> <p>Mr Hunt: Yes. So, we have those. On the broader, other non-corporate entities, I think they've advised us that they've provided rent relief to ex-organisations, but not necessarily—</p> <p>Senator AYRES: But not who they are.</p> <p>Mr Hunt: Not all of the detail.</p> <p>Senator AYRES: Okay. Well, perhaps you can provide us on notice who the 11 Finance occupants are.</p> <p>Mr Hunt: Certainly.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Page 91

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F056	Finance	2/2.1	Brown	Tasmanian Vessel Replacement Task Force	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When was the Department first approached about joining the task force? 2. When were its terms of reference finalised? 3. How many times has it met? 4. Is the role of the Commonwealth to provide technical advice, or financial support for the project, or both? 5. Has the Department and/or the task force sought any input from the Department of Infrastructure? If so, when? 6. When do you expect the task force to complete its work? 7. Has the task force provided any preliminary advice to the Commonwealth or Tasmanian Governments? If so, when? 8. Has the task force engaged any external consultants? If so, can you provide a list of the consultants, the cost of each and details of who engaged them and which agency is paying for them? 9. Has the task force conducted any site visits to shipyards in Tasmania, South Australia or Western Australia? If yes, please provide the dates of the visits, who attended on behalf of the task force and who the representatives met with. 10. Was there any federal government or agency input into the decision by the Tasmanian Government to scrap plans to build the vessels that will replace the Spirit of Tasmania in Finland? If so, when was that provided? 	Written
F057	Finance	2/2.1	Thorpe	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land and Sea Future Fund	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does the Commonwealth contribute to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land and Sea Future Fund Special Account? 2. If so, how much did the Commonwealth contribute to the fund in the 2019-2020 Budget, and how much did it contribute in the 2020-2021 Budget? 3. If the Commonwealth contribution is less in 2020-2021 what is the rationale for the reduced contribution? 	Written 27 Oct
F058	AEC	General	Ayres	Future election cost	<p>Senator AYRES: Would you be able to provide me, on notice, with as much precision as is available at the moment, what an election in 2021 and 2022 would cost? I'd just like to see if there's a difference between those two propositions.</p> <p>Mr Rogers: Sure. To be fair, pandemic-related costs would be the big issue between those two things.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, page 95
F059	AEC	General	Ayres	Eden-Monaro by-election spam emails	<p>Senator AYRES: I have a few more questions about the Eden-Monaro by-election. On what date did the AEC first become aware of the series of false and malicious spam emails that were circulating relating to the Labor candidate?</p> <p>Mr Johnson: What we rely very much on with those spam emails are complaints to the AEC. I would have to look up the precise date, but it was probably on or around the issue of the writ for Eden-Monaro, which was at the end of May.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator AYRES: Who took the decision to refer it to the Electoral Integrity Assurance Taskforce?</p> <p>Mr Johnson: That was my decision.</p> <p>Senator AYRES: What date did you refer it?</p> <p>Mr Johnson: I'll have to take the actual date on notice. It depends on when we received it, but it was around the end of May or the start of June when we started receiving the complaints.</p> <p>Senator AYRES: I think I have a statement from the AEC that says that you initially referred the matter to the Electoral Integrity Assurance Taskforce for consideration on 10 June.</p> <p>Mr Johnson: That sounds about right.</p> <p>Senator AYRES: So you'll come back to me about the date the complaint was received?</p> <p>Mr Johnson: Yes, we can take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator AYRES: There's a gap there of a week to a fortnight. What accounts for that?</p> <p>Mr Johnson: We'll take on notice when the first complaint was received.</p> <p>Senator AYRES: Sure. When you provide us on notice with the dates then we'll know what the gap was. What I'm asking is: what was the AEC doing during that period?</p> <p>Ms White: We did not take a week to refer this, so we'll come back with confirmed dates.</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I'll be highly surprised if that's the case. We were very alert to that issue. If there was any form of gap—24 hours or something—it simply would have been that we were looking at the issue to make sure it was an issue worthy of being referred and that there was no—</p> <p>Senator AYRES: So you think it's in the order of 24 hours. You'll come back to us about that?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: Yes.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, pages 97-98

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					<p>Senator AYRES: I'm not trying to make that hard for you. But what I would like to know is, if there was a gap longer than that—</p> <p>Mr Rogers: Why there was that gap.</p> <p>Senator AYRES: I'd be interested to know why that gap was there. Was there a process that you were engaged in? It doesn't sound like it. Did you advise the candidates? Who became aware of the fact that it had been referred?</p> <p>Mr Johnson: No, we didn't advise the candidates. It was just referred to the task force.</p> <p>Senator AYRES: When did you become aware that the AFP was investigating? Was that as a consequence of you referring it to the task force?</p> <p>Mr Johnson: Yes, that's right.</p> <p>Senator AYRES: When did you first issue a public statement? I've got the material here. It says it was on 3 July. Are you going to tell me you'll come back to me on notice about that too?</p> <p>Mr Johnson: The AFP statement was 3 July, when they identified and charged someone for sending spam emails.</p> <p>Senator AYRES: This is updated on 3 July, I think. How many voters had cast their vote by that date, when there was a public announcement about the emails?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: We'd certainly have to take that on notice.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator AYRES: Can you tell us when the man accused of distributing these appeared in court?</p> <p>Mr Johnson: Again, I'd have to take that on notice. There was a hearing in early September and it was adjourned to November, it might be. I'll take that on notice and let you know.</p>	
F060	AEC	General	Abetz	GetUp correspondence	<p>Senator ABETZ: Are you able to make that letter available to the committee?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I think so. I can't see why that wouldn't be the case. I might just, if you don't mind—</p> <p>Senator ABETZ: Take that on notice, and let me know.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator ABETZ: Without divulging the detail, how long is the letter—one page, two page?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: It is a very brief letter, from memory. I don't have a copy here. I have an extract of effectively what it says.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ: Are you able to share that or would you rather take that on notice? I don't want to get you into trouble.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator ABETZ: In that letter, have they offered an apology to the AEC? Take that on notice, if you like.</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ: In that letter, have they offered to correct the public record? Take that on notice as well. And have GetUp offered to communicate with all their so-called members, which they spammed out to them all asserting things about the AEC, that that was incorrect?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I might wrap that up on notice.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, pages 101-102
F061	AEC	General	Abetz	Climate 200 Pty Ltd	<p>Senator ABETZ: Now, moving on, if I may, is the AEC aware of a company called Climate 200 Pty Ltd?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I might be aware of that.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ: We have two people aware of it, including Ms White, so that is good. I believe it backed 12 Independent and crossbench candidates in the May election, reportedly donating a total of \$305,000. Are you able to confirm that?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I would have to take that level of detail on notice.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ: Alright, take that on notice.</p> <p>Mr Rogers: We are aware of the reports that came out.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ: Climate's 200's donor return to the AEC details three donations totalling \$195,000, received between 26 April and 8 May from another company, Climate Outcome Foundation Pty Ltd. Are you aware of that?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I am just seeing whether I am aware of that.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ: Without delaying the committee too much, feel free to take that on notice.</p> <p>Mr Rogers: If that is on their donor return, I'm therefore formally aware of that.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ: This company was created only two weeks before its first donation to Climate 200 and only five weeks before the 2019 election. Are you aware of that?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I won't necessarily be aware of that but if I could take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ: Could you please verify that for us on notice?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: Yes.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, page 102-104

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					<p>...</p> <p>Senator ABETZ: That was my concern, because it seems that this might be a methodology for laundering money to independents. You just simply set up two entities, get everybody to donate to the first, which then donates to Climate 200, and then nobody knows who is behind the show. Is that correct?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: That could be correct. There is—</p> <p>Senator ABETZ: Will you take it on notice?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I was going to say, if you allow us to look at it in detail.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ: Yes, in detail.</p> <p>Mr Rogers: As you know, funding and disclosure is the most complex area of the Electoral Act. I would hate to give you the wrong information, so I will take it on notice and have a look through that and come back to you with an opinion on it.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ: Climate Outcome Pty Ltd's sole director is Mr Hopwood, who is also the managing director of the company which provides 'liquidity to holders of concentrated equity positions and cryptocurrencies, just out of interest. So theoretically, would an arrangement whereby an entity is created or exists to channel funds to another be picked up by the Electoral Act's anti-avoidance provisions as a potential conduit for foreign donations?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: That's an interesting question.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ: It is a further development.</p> <p>Mr Rogers: Yes, we might take that on notice.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator ABETZ: The difficulty here is that you could have a 'naïve' donor donating to this climate company, the Climate Outcome Foundation, because they are concerned about the climate—a wonderful and honourable cause—and they just happen to donate to Climate 200, which then funds all these so-called independent campaigns. Can you take it on notice as to whether that is allowed under the act.</p>	
F062	AEC	General	Fierravanti-Wells	Multiple voting	<p>Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS: I think this has been canvassed before, but there is a process that triggers when the vote is so close—</p> <p>Mr Rogers: Yes.</p> <p>Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS: and that's when you go through the process and you see whether there's been multiple voting. At the last federal election, was the trend greater or lower? Are we seeing more of it? Perhaps you want to take it on notice. You did your analysis of the different seats. Are we seeing, increasingly, more multiple voting—</p> <p>Mr Rogers: Than we have previously?</p> <p>Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS: Yes.</p> <p>Mr Rogers: The broad answer, I think, is no, but I will confirm that for you. There are a couple of things that are common with multiple voting across elections, though, and it might be useful to talk very briefly about that.</p> <p>Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS: Certainly.</p> <p>Mr Rogers: Again, I'll also clean up the statistics I'm about to give you, because I'm coming from memory. I think over 80 per cent of multiple voters, traditionally, are over the age of 80. There are some common themes with multiple voting. Quite often multiple voters are people who have English as a second language and people who are over the age of 80 who may not understand the process. They're the vast majority of people.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, page 105
F063	AEC	General	O'Sullivan	Redistribution timing	<p>Senator O'SULLIVAN: I have questions on redistribution. I'm from Western Australia, so I'm particularly interested in the timing of the process of what's happening from here.</p> <p>Mr Rogers: There has been a fair bit of interest in redistributions this time around. We've started the process. It's open for comments. I think we've said publicly—I think it's on the website—that we would like to have the redistributions that are currently running in Victoria and Western Australia finished by mid-year next year. As you know, there are a number of steps in that process. The first step is that we open for comments. The second step is that we publish those suggestions. We then take comments on the suggestions. Then the redistribution committee meets and takes all that information to hand. As you know, Western Australia are, sadly, losing a seat. The committee will determine, based on a whole range of factors, as you're aware, what the new proposal might look like. We have a draft solution, which we then publish. People then comment on that, and traditionally we've then had public hearings. If it looks like there's been an interest in that—if people are particularly agitated—we'll have a public hearing, and then the augmented redistribution committee will make a final decision on that.</p> <p>Senator O'SULLIVAN: Do you have an expectation, any guidance you can give us, on the timing of each of those stages?</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, page 106

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					<p>Mr Rogers: I do have some rough timings, but I might take that on notice, if you don't mind, so I can provide you that in detail.</p>	
F064	AEC	General	Farrell	Funding allocation 2021-22	<p>Senator FARRELL: Alright. Page 80 of the portfolio budget statement shows a payment measure of \$96.4 million over the next three years, yet last year's portfolio budget statement showed a cut in the 2021-22 year of \$11.2 million. Can you explain why there was a cut budgeted for in 2021-22? Do you agree that those are the figures?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: They are the figures. I think they're to do with our investment in electronic certified lists. I'm pretty sure that's what it is. I might take that on notice, if you don't mind.</p> <p>Mr Ryan: So it wasn't a cut.</p> <p>Mr Rogers: No, I don't think there was a cut, though.</p> <p>Mr Ryan: It was actually an allocation of funding—</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: I suppose my point is, if the figures show a cut in 2021-22, isn't at least part of this \$96.4 million simply making up for that cut?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: No. I think—and that's why I'd just like to reflect—it was an investment for us to do a further pilot on the development of electronic certified lists, which I mentioned before, with a view, ultimately, to see whether we could roll them out more broadly and whether or not there was a better piece of technology than the technology we're currently using. So it wasn't a cut; it was certainly an investment. I'm not quite sure how that would be coming across as a cut.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Alright. I'm happy to get anything from you on that.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, page 109-110
F065	AEC	General	Farrell	Groom by-election contracts	<p>Senator FARRELL: Can I ask some questions about the Groom by-election contracts. On 8 October the Speaker set 28 November as the date for the Groom by-election. Before that date was even set, two contracts were awarded for services for the Groom by-election—one for public relations services, worth about \$15,000, and one for creative advertising, worth about \$85,000. How many tenders were received for each of those contracts?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I'm sorry, we'll have to take that on notice. I might just say, though, that we follow a normal procurement process with that.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: What criteria were used to select the successful applicants?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: The normal procurement criteria.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: The successful tenderer for the PR contractor was a company called Horizon Communication Group and the successful tenderer for the advertising contract was a company called BMF Advertising. Both of these companies are Sydney based. I imagine there would be a lot of regional journalists who are out of work and would be well qualified to do some of the PR work for the by-election. Did you give any thought to using local Queensland businesses?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: That's a good question. I think what we did was follow the standard procurement process. We are fairly bound by that procurement process. I would also point out that the time frame for these things for a by-election is always tight. It doesn't often give us an opportunity to be creative. I absolutely take your point that there would be a number of not just journalists but public relations specialists out of work in the entire region. Possibly, as things pop up in the future, we might be able to do that. But certainly for the by-election, without even having the detail in front of me, I would guarantee you that we followed a standard process. We may have even accessed a pre-existing panel, and we have to access and select from those panels.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Does that mean you couldn't—if there was an out-of-work journalist in Queensland—</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I might come back to you with the detail. If we accessed a panel—and we had to access that panel—</p> <p>Ms White: That's right. It would be those that are on the panel that we would have—</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: In that case, you wouldn't be able to go to somebody who is in Toowoomba—</p> <p>Mr Rogers: Potentially not—unless they were on that panel.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Okay. That's fair enough. The AEC is listed on the websites of both companies as a client. How often would you use these particular companies? Again, you can take that on notice if you need to.</p> <p>Ms White: We can take that on notice.</p> <p>Mr Rogers: We've certainly used Horizon before; I know that for a fact. And I think we have used BMF as well.</p> <p>Ms White: Yes, we have. We'll have to come back to you.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: How would you change the guidelines to open it up a bit to some of these local companies?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I might take that on notice as well, because it's a fairly complex area.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, page 114-115

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					Ms White: It is a whole-of-government procurement that we sit under, so it would be wider than the AEC's control.	
F066	AEC	General	Farrell	Public relations services and advertising	Senator FARRELL: Again, you might want to take this on notice: how much has the AEC spent on outsourced PR services and advertising in the last financial year?	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, page 116
F067	AEC	General	Farrell	Groom Out-posted Centre	<p>Senator FARRELL: I note three other contracts have been awarded so far for the Groom by-election: one to source and secure suitable accommodation for the OPC, which I understand is the outposted centre, for nearly \$13,000; one for the property management service of \$29,547; and one for nearly \$172,000 for the lease of the OPC. The \$13,000 is a finder's fee and the \$172,000 is for a three-month lease. That seems to be a bit on the high side. Is there a reason for that?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: As you know, Senator, we are hostage to what's available in the area when an election occurs. We use property companies—I think that's the finder's fee that you mentioned—to help us source—</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Of \$13,000.</p> <p>Mr Rogers: It has to meet a whole range of requirements, from occupational health and safety through to size, scale, security and a range of other issues. It's complex. Sometimes there may only be one or two places that meet all of those criteria, and, if that's the case, rents can be high. Sometimes that's just the way it is.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: It does seem to be a very high amount of money for just a three-month—</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I can check the detail. I don't know what lease costs are in that area.</p> <p>Ms White: The commissioner is correct: sometimes we are held hostage to prices and there is finite time to have these things, and we need to take into consideration the health advice around the space allowed in the current situation.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Who signs off on the contract? Is that you, Commissioner, or is it one of your officers?</p> <p>Ms White: The state manager.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: The state manager in Queensland?</p> <p>Ms White: Yes.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Again, you might want to take this on notice: The \$29,500 contract for property management service—what was that for?</p> <p>Ms White: That would be to cover the cleaning. We have to also do deep cleaning now as part of the health process that we have.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: With COVID?</p> <p>Ms White: With COVID, not just for the outposted centre but for our polling places in general. We can provide the extra detail to you.</p> <p>Mr Rogers: For example, with Eden-Monaro, wrote to the secretary of the Department of Education in New South Wales, given we are in a pandemic, about whether they would allow us to use the schools. From memory, he wrote back and said, 'Absolutely, but we will require you to do a deep clean and deep sanitising of the facilities before they are handed back.' The cost of cleaning increases as a result.</p> <p>Ms White: We do that for every polling place.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: On those points, I will ask a few questions, if you could follow up. What is the OPC used for? How much space is there and where is it? How big do the premises need to be for a by-election? Were tenders awarded on price? What were the losing tenders? I mentioned the \$172,000. And did you seek any assistance from the Queensland Electoral Commission about suitable premises they might already have used?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: We'll take those on notice. We can answer one of those questions: the purpose of the outposted centre. That's where the count occurs. That's where all the votes eventually go back to and where they are counted.</p> <p>Ms White: Return of materials.</p> <p>Mr Rogers: And return of materials.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, page 116-117
F068	AEC	General	Farrell	Mediator tender	<p>Senator FARRELL: I have a question about the AEC mediator tender. There was a contract for \$40,000 for human resource services awarded to a company called Worklogic. The description of the service is 'mediator'. What is that contract for?</p> <p>Ms White: That contract is to allow some leadership and mediation with some of our leadership team in New South Wales.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Mediation?</p> <p>Ms White: Correct.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: That suggests conflict?</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, page 117

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					<p>Ms White: It suggests that in any organisation we're always dealing with a number of issues, and this is one issue that we're currently managing, and this is a way of us doing that.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: So this is in relation to a particular issue where—</p> <p>Ms White: I cannot go into details—</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: I'm not asking for details.</p> <p>Mr Rogers: It's in response to something.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: This is a human resources issue?</p> <p>Ms White: Correct.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: How long does the contract run for?</p> <p>Ms White: It's a short-term contract. I will have to come back to you on that.</p>	
F069	AEC	General	Farrell	Dean method's harmonic mean	<p>Senator FARRELL: Have you looked at Antony Green's proposition, which was also endorsed by the National Party, that the Dean method's harmonic mean be used to determine entitlement? I understand this would mean that the point at which you round up or down to determine the number of seats would change. What effect would this method have on the states and territories? If you want to go away and think about that, or if you—</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I think I do. I have the utmost respect for Antony Green. I do know when that was proposed. The reason I want to come back to you is—I might be wrong here—I think there was some thought that that method might not end up permanently fixing the issue. I just want to check that.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: I think you're correct there, Commissioner; I think it only fixes it for one election.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, page 118-119
F070	AEC	General	McKenzie	Electoral redistributions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can the Commission please outline how the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on enrolment projections and demographic trends, such as international and internal migration, and fertility rates, is accounted for in the process of electoral redistributions? 2. Does the AEC regularly review calculations to ensure their currency and accuracy? 3. Is there flexibility within AEC systems to re-calculate algorithms that use population or enrolment projections when external factors, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, impact these calculations? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. (If yes) When is this undertaken? b. (continued) How is this undertaken? c. (If no) Why does this flexibility not exist? Should it be allowed for given the change to zero net international migration, and internal migration given border closures by some states? 4. What effects will the COVID-19 pandemic have on electoral divisions, particularly in states where redistributions are currently being considered, if calculations pre-COVID-19 are utilised? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Will the AEC be taking any steps, cognisant of the effects of COVID-19, while staying within the bounds of the redistribution process? For example, will the AEC be actively aware of metropolitan growth being stunted by closed international borders, and will the AEC ensure that regional areas are not unduly disadvantaged by data that does not reflect this reality? 5. Will future re-distribution committees that are relying on data that was calculated prior to the COVID-19 pandemic be able to access revised data, especially considering some data may need to be adjusted based on whether it adequately reflects data from Census 2016? 6. Can the AEC explain why the “net overseas migration – persons” population component doubles from 2022 to 2023? 7. Does the AEC use data from sources other than the ABS, such as Government Departments or utility companies, to monitor internal migration patterns particularly given we are seeing a large number of people move from cities to rural and regional Australia? 8. Are there models of enrolment projections and demographic trends used in other countries that would improve the way these projections are calculated in Australia? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. (if yes) Why are we not using these in Australia? <p>(if no) What about reviews of calculations by these countries? Are they more frequent than what is undertaken in Australia and if so, do they better account for changes in population trends and demographics?</p>	Written
F071	Finance	1/1.1	Ayres	Fair Entitlements Guarantee	<p>Senator AYRES:... There is also a \$777.5 million increase in workforce support payments, which reflects an increase in entitlements anticipated under the Fair Entitlements Guarantee program. How many employees are expected to receive their entitlements through this program? Presumably, it means that there are anticipated liquidations or bankruptcies of employers?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: There are assumptions underpinning this which belong to a different portfolio, but, in an abundance of helpfulness, if you want me to take it on notice, I'm happy to do so.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Page 22

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F072	Finance	1/1.1	Ayres	Employment Services Payments	<p>Senator AYRES: ... Similarly, employment service payments are meant to increase by \$2.6 billion due to an increase in Jobactive expenditure. How much of the \$2.66 billion is going to the job agencies?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: These are questions for a different portfolio, but I'm happy to take them on notice and provide the answers.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Page 22
F073	Finance	1/1.1	Ayres	Cashflow Boost for Employers	<p>Senator AYRES: Economic response to the coronavirus payments—expected to increase by \$4.1 billion because of the increase in businesses receiving the cash flow boost for employers. It will be a similar answer, won't it?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I will tell you why they are measures in different portfolios. We are happy to be helpful, but, if you want to ask those questions here, we will take them on notice and provide you the answers on notice.</p> <p>Senator AYRES: Provide the number of businesses that sit behind the \$4.1 billion figure on notice?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Yes.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, Page 21
F074	Finance Portfolio	General	McKenzie	Work from Home Statistics	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the number of public servants working from home for each month from the Department? 2. How has the Department measured increased, static or declining productivity and what are the conclusions from that measure? 3. What is the number of sick days from the Department with a work-from-home workforce for each month of the lockdown and the corresponding sick days for the corresponding months in 2019? 	Written
F075	Finance	2/2.1	Rennick	Defined Benefit Scheme Liability	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Could the Defined Benefit Scheme Liability of \$430 billion be broken out by military, non-military and judicial sectors including amounts and numbers per sector? 2. For the non-military and judicial categories, could a sensitivity analysis be provided showing estimated annual payments from the current year until the scheme is estimated to be paid out? 3. For the non-military and judicial categories could a sensitivity analysis be provided showing the number of annual payments in bands of \$25,000. i.e. \$0-\$25,000, \$25,001 to \$50,000, \$50,001 to \$75,000, \$75,001 to \$100,00 and over \$100,000? 	Written
F076	Finance	General	McMahon	Brett Cattle Update	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can you please provide an update on the status of the proceeding, Brett Cattle Company Pty Ltd v Minister for Agriculture [2020] FCA 732? 2. What is the expected timeline for the case to be resolved? 3. Can you update on the status of cost negotiations and a timeline for when these will be concluded? 4. Has the Attorney General's Department contacted the Brett Cattle Company to inform them of the progress of the proceedings? 	Written
F077	Finance	2/2.3	Gallagher	Performance Audit	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: I understand that. We just had previous evidence that you were aware in November 2019 that there was a performance audit being undertaken?</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: Well, they sought information from us—</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Did you know that [inaudible]</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: To be honest—</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Or did you think that was just happening at your level?</p> <p>Mr Hunt: I don't think that came to the secretary. That came to—</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: There were times when the Auditor-General will write to me specifically. I don't recall him writing to me on this matter until I received the section 19 report in September 2020, but I can check and take that on notice to see if I had any communication with him.</p>	Proof Hansard, 21 October 2020, pages 43, 44
F078	Finance	2/2.5	Patrick	Commonwealth Procurement and Infrastructure Projects	<p>Senator PATRICK: ... Just to describe the circumstances: the government has announced in the budget an extra \$10 billion in infrastructure projects; that's on top of the long-running \$100 billion program. In the construction industry there are what are classified as tier 1 and tier 2 construction companies.</p> <p>...</p> <p>During the COVID committee, the department undertook to meet with the Australian owned contractors, and I understand that's occurred, but I'd like to get to the bottom of what the real situation is. What fetters these Australian companies from being able to take on the role as a prime in these major infrastructure programs?</p> <p>Mr Jagers: There is certainly nothing in the Commonwealth Procurement Rules that discriminates on the basis of tier 1, tier 2, or tier 3 firms bidding for work. You're right in saying that since the COVID hearing in September we did organise to meet with the Australian-owned contractors. We had a couple of conversations and then organised a workshop.</p>	Proof Hansard, 21 October 2020, pages 60, 61, 62, 63

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					<p>... We had a discussion where they were able to talk to us about their concerns in terms of contracting arrangements within Australia and the structure of the industry.</p> <p>... We also talked about next steps and how we might continue to work with them. In particular, that we would work with the department of infrastructure in relation to a piece of work they're doing around tier 2 and 3 contractors in Australia. We talked about engaging with the department of industry as well. Some of the issues they raised were around structuring within the economy. We thought that we could link them up to conversations that might be of interest to them but also ensure that their concerns were understood. I might check if Mr Danks wants to add anything in terms of the workshop and next steps.</p> <p>Mr Danks: I think, as Mr Jagers said, the workshop was very productive. The Australian owned constructors flagged that they didn't seem to have too many concerns with the CPRs. They actually applauded the economic benefit guidance that we delivered in August as giving those constructors the ability to put forward their credentials for Australian owned businesses. As Mr Jagers said, we're going to set up some further workshops and discussions with them in the coming weeks and months. We're always keen to talk to industry players and industry organisations to get a better understanding of what the industry is doing, what they're feeling in relation to procurement and how we can help and assist going forward.</p> <p>... Senator PATRICK: What about changes to the grant guidelines? Is that a possibility, to perhaps be a bit more coercive in trying to affect some change, if you get to some point of agreeing that at least some things need to be changed? Things like 'what drives the financial security requirement?' It has been put to me that sometimes these financial securities are somewhat obscure in the way in which they're arranged—whether or not the Commonwealth could eventually get their hands on the securities. That may not be the case, but where there might be remedies to address those legal and security requirements, even if that involves some form of government assistance to remedy those sorts of issues where we've found ourselves in a position [inaudible] Australian companies to compete.</p> <p>Mr Jagers: Certainly we're not at the point of having device solutions at this point. We're still working through the issues. We're either in the process of or have reached out to those partner agencies to set up the next set of discussions. We haven't really got to the point of thinking about what changes might need to be effected. We are also conscious that we haven't yet engaged with ministers on these issues. We're at the start of the process. What those right solutions look like needs to take into account a range of things, from our free trade obligations to our partnership agreements with states and territories. There's a bit of a complex process we need to work through, but we're willing to do that. Then we might be able to talk to you a bit more next time about where we've got to in that space.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: Okay. Can I just, perhaps as a question or notice, ask you to help me prepare for my next estimates by indicating what you think is a reasonable expectation for you to have at least advanced by next estimates? I might find ways to ask further questions in between, but, just in reverse, can you help me prepare for my next estimates by laying out what your objectives are between now and then so I can then tick off and see whether you achieve them?</p> <p>Mr Jagers: Thanks, Senator.</p>	
F079	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell	Investigation – documents requested for review	<p>Senator FARRELL: Okay. But I am asking you if you requested this document in your part 1 of the investigation, and, secondly, did the investigator request this document in part 2 of the investigation?</p> <p>Ms Walsh: Again, in both parts, both Minister Sukkar and Mr Andrews were asked whether they had any information that was relevant to the inquiry. They participated fully. If you don't mind giving me a couple of minutes to check that reference that you provided me.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Sure.</p> <p>Ms Walsh: But we are going into a level of detail that I just need to check my notes on, if you wouldn't mind.</p> <p>... Senator FARRELL: I am happy to wait if you want to have a quick check. That request was in a letter I sent to Ms Huxtable, so—</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: I have that letter here somewhere. I think we would need to take on notice this level of detail. I can assure you that we did a thorough review of our records. We engaged with the two members of parliament and they provided additional information. It looks like he might be coming back into the room now. We also engaged an independent investigator, who had further engagement with the two members in that regard. But, as to the details of the documents that may or may not have been provided, to be honest I don't have knowledge or awareness of that.</p>	Proof Hansard, 22 October 2020, page 44

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F080	Future Fund	General	Ayres	Management Expense Ratio	<p>Senator AYRES: And you don't have that management expense ratio for the last five years in the front of your mind or available to you now?</p> <p>Dr Arndt: I have the last three years.</p> <p>Senator AYRES: Could you take us through the last three years, and perhaps provide the details for the other two on notice?</p> <p>Dr Arndt: Sure, absolutely.</p>	Proof Hansard, 21 October 2020, page 27
F081	Finance	2/2.5	Farrell	Government Advertising	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What was the total government expenditure on campaign and non-campaign advertising in the 2019/20 financial year? 2. What is the total government expenditure on campaign and non-campaign advertising in the current financial year to date? 3. Can an itemised list of all government campaign advertising for the 2019/20 financial year, and expenditure on each campaign, please be provided? 4. Can an itemised list of all government campaign advertising for the current financial year, and expenditure on each campaign, please be provided? 5. How many campaigns were reviewed by the Independent Communications Committee in the 2019/20 financial year? 6. Were any campaigns rejected by the ICC in 2019/20 as not meeting the Government Guidelines on Information and Advertising Campaigns? 7. How many campaigns have been reviewed by the Independent Communications Committee in the current financial year to date? 8. Have any campaigns in the current financial year been rejected by the ICC as not meeting the Government Guidelines on Information and Advertising Campaigns? 9. Please detail the advertising and information campaigns across government which are planned for the remainder of the 2020/21 year, including the content of those campaigns, estimated expenditure and detail on ad-buys and placements? 10. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all government advertising and information campaign contracts in the current financial year please be provided? 	Written
F082	Finance	2/2.5	Carr	Paper Procurement	<p>For each Australian Government Department and agency, can the Department provide a breakdown of the origins of copy paper, including the percentage of Australian-made copy paper, purchased by that department or agency</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the 2018-19 financial year? • In the 2019-20 financial year? • In the 2020-21 financial year to date? <p>For each financial year, could you include details of volumes, countries of origin, suppliers, and the percentage of recycled content.</p> <p>Has paper purchased through the Whole of Australia Government Stationery and Office Supplies arrangement ever been subject to Anti-Dumping Measures or investigations by the Anti-Dumping Commission?</p>	Written
F083	Finance	General	Farrell	PEMS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the usage statistics for the Parliamentary Expenses Management System (PEMS) for each month since 1 March 2020? Please include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. the number of individual claims lodged in each month b. the number of staff who have lodged claims in each month c. the number of parliamentarians who have lodged claims in each month d. the number of offices which have lodged claims in each month e. the percentage of office expense claims which were lodged via PEMS in each month f. the percentage of travel expense claims which were lodged via PEMS in each month 2. How many offices have lodged claims via PEMS in each and every month (i.e. how many offices are regular users of PEMS) since 1 March 2020? 3. On what date is the incorporation of human resources and payroll functionality scheduled to be incorporated into PEMS? 4. On what date will full implementation of PEMS be complete? 5. The 2017/18 MYEFO papers state that \$38.1 million will be allocated for: 	Written

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					<p><i>an integrated ICT solution to manage and report the expenses of current and former parliamentarians and their staff, support human resources administration and to replace the current COMCAR management system with a commercial, off-the-shelf, cloud-based solution.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. How much of the \$38.1 million was budgeted for PEMS? b. How much of the \$38.1 million was budgeted for the new payroll and HR system? c. How much of the \$38.1 million was budgeted for Comcar’s online booking system, CARS? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Has additional funding for PEMS than was initially budgeted been provided? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If yes, how much additional funding has been provided? 7. What is the total spend on PEMS as at 31 October 2020? 8. What is the total spend on the new payroll and HR system as at 31 October 2020? 9. What is the total spend on the Comcar CARS system as at 31 October 2020? 10. Was the purchase of the SAP two-factor authentication app made through a separate contract from the purchase of the PEMS software program? 11. What was the total cost of the SAP two-factor authentication app? 12. Did the change from the SAP two-factor authentication app to SMS two-factor authentication result in any contract break costs? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If yes, what were the contract break costs? 13. What is the total cost of implementing SMS two-factor authentication? 	
F084	Finance	General	Farrell	Members of Parliament Staff Payroll System	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When will full implementation of the new payroll and HR system for Members of Parliament Staff be complete? 2. When the project commenced, what was the scheduled completion date of the new payroll and HR system? 3. Has the new payroll and HR system been designed for incorporation into the Parliamentary Expenses Management System? 4. What has been the total cost of the new payroll and HR system to date? 5. What was the budgeted cost of the new payroll and HR system? 6. How many individuals are on the Members of Parliament Staff Payroll System? 7. For each month from 1 January 2020 to 31 October 2020 how many staff payments were not paid by the relevant pay day when forms were submitted by the pay cut-off date? 	Written
F085	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell	Ministerial & Parliamentary Services Staffing Profile	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. By FTE and headcount, what is the total number of staff who work in Ministerial & Parliamentary Services? 2. By FTE and headcount, please provide the number of staff allocated to each section or division of M&PS as at 31 October 2020. 3. Please provide a breakdown of staff as at 31 October 2020 as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. How many full-time staff are employed in each section or division? b. How many part-time staff are employed in each section or division? c. How many casual staff are employed in each section or division? d. How many ongoing staff are employed in each section or division? e. How many non-ongoing staff are employed in each section or division? 4. Of the staff employed in the Advice & Support Branch, how many staff (by FTE and headcount) are employed on the help desk? 5. Please provide a breakdown of staff within each section of the Advice and Support Branch. 6. Please provide a breakdown of APS salary bands within Ministerial & Parliamentary Services and the number employed under each band. 7. As at 30 June 2020, how many staff (by FTE and headcount) worked in each of the state and territory offices of Ministerial & Parliamentary Services? 	Spoken

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					8. As at 31 October 2020, how many staff (by FTE and headcount) worked in each of the state and territory offices of Ministerial & Parliamentary Services?	
F086	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell	Response Rate to Enquiries	<p>1. How many enquiries were sent to mpshelp@finance.gov.au each month between 1 March 2020 and 31 October 2020?</p> <p>a. How many of these enquiries were resolved within:</p> <p>i. 24 hours</p> <p>ii. 48 hours</p> <p>iii. 7 days</p> <p>iv. 14 days</p> <p>v. 28 days</p> <p>b. How many of these enquiries were not resolved within 28 days?</p> <p>2. How many telephone call enquiries were received by the Parliamentarians' helpdesk each month between 1 March 2020 and 31 October 2020?</p> <p>a. How many of these enquiries were resolved within 24 hours?</p> <p>b. How many of these enquiries were resolved within 48 hours?</p> <p>c. How many of these enquiries were resolved within 7 days?</p> <p>d. How many of these enquiries were resolved within 14 days?</p> <p>e. How many of these enquiries were resolved within 28 days?</p> <p>f. How many of these enquiries were not resolved within 28 days?</p> <p>3. How many telephone call enquiries were received by the Staff helpdesk between 1 March 2020 and 31 October 2020?</p> <p>a. How many of these enquiries were resolved within 24 hours?</p> <p>b. How many of these enquiries were resolved within 48 hours?</p> <p>c. How many of these enquiries were resolved within 7 days?</p> <p>d. How many of these enquiries were resolved within 14 days?</p> <p>e. How many of these enquiries were resolved within 28 days?</p> <p>f. How many of these enquiries were not resolved within 28 days?</p> <p>4. What percentage of enquiries received for each month during 2019/20 related to the Parliamentary Expenses Management System (PEMS)?</p> <p>5. What percentage of enquiries received in each month since 1 July 2020 have related to PEMS?</p>	Spoken
F087	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell	Claims Processing Times	<p>1. How many expense claims (requests for payment and reimbursement) by parliamentarians and staff were received each month between 1 March 2020 and 31 October 2020? Please include claims which were submitted via email either to the mpsservicecentre@finance.gov.au email address, or to the various State M&PS offices, and claims submitted via PEMS.</p> <p>a. How many of these claims were processed within 7 days?</p> <p>b. How many of these claims were processed within 14 days?</p> <p>c. How many of these claims were processed within 21 days?</p> <p>d. How many of these claims were processed within 28 days?</p> <p>e. How many of these claims were not processed within 30 days?</p> <p>2. For the 6 month period to 30 June 2020 what percentage of claims were processed within M&PS' processing target timeframes of 30 days?</p>	Spoken
F088	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell	Annual M&PS Survey	<p>1. How many responses to the Annual M&PS Survey launched on 22 July 2020 have been received?</p> <p>2. What percentage of Parliamentarians and Staff responded to the survey?</p>	Spoken

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					<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. What percentage of respondents were generally satisfied with services provided by Ministerial and Parliamentary Services? 4. What percentage of respondents were generally dissatisfied with services provided by Ministerial and Parliamentary Services? 5. What were the categories of services identified as having the highest levels of satisfaction? 6. What were the categories of services identified as having the lowest levels of satisfaction? 7. What changes to the services provided by M&PS are being implemented as a result of survey feedback? 8. Will a report on the survey results be published? 	
F089	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell	Ministerial & Parliamentary Services Website Redevelopment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the planned commencement date for the new website? 2. When the project commenced, what was the planned commencement date for the new website? 3. As at 31 October 2020 what is total cost expended on the website redevelopment? 4. What was the budgeted cost for the website redevelopment? 5. How many MOP(S) Act staff and parliamentarians have provided input into the new website? 6. What percentage of MOP(S) Act staff and parliamentarians have provided input into the new website? 7. How many MOP(S) Act staff and parliamentarians have participated in face to face interviews about the new website? 8. How many MOP(S) Act staff and parliamentarians have provided feedback about the new website by email, survey feedback or other means? 	Spoken
F090	IPEA	General	Farrell	Parliamentarians' Outstanding Debts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I refer to IPEA's FOI Disclosure Log of 5 June 2020 which states that Craig Kelly MP had two outstanding debts, one for \$116.00 which was raised on 11 July 2019 and one for \$29.00 which was raised on 25 July 2019. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What were the debts for? b. When were the debts paid? c. What action did IPEA take to recover the debts? d. What responses were received from Mr Kelly to attempts to recover the debts? e. What costs were incurred by IPEA in pursuing those outstanding debts? 2. I refer to IPEA's FOI Disclosure Log of 5 June 2020 which states that former parliamentarian David Leyonhjelm has an outstanding debt of \$252.29 raised on 19 August 2019. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What is the debt for? b. Has the debt been paid? c. What action has IPEA taken to try to recover the debt? d. What responses have been received from Mr Leyonhjelm to attempts to recover the debts? 	Written
F091	IPEA	General	Farrell	Staffing Levels	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As at 31 October 2020, how many staff (by headcount and FTE) work in the Authority? 2. How many of the Authority's staff headcount are full time? 3. How many of the Authority's staff headcount are part time? 	Written

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					<p>4. How many of the Authority’s staff headcount are casual?</p> <p>5. Using FTEs, please provide the number of staff allocated to each section, division or branch in the Authority.</p> <p>6. Please provide a breakdown of staff as follows:</p> <p>a. How many full-time staff are employed in each section, division or branch?</p> <p>b. How many part-time staff are employed in each section, division or branch?</p> <p>c. How many casual staff are employed in each section, division or branch?</p> <p>d. How many ongoing staff are employed in each section, division or branch?</p> <p>e. How many non-ongoing staff are employed in each section, division or branch?</p> <p>7. Please provide a breakdown of APS salary bands and the number of staff employed under each band.</p> <p>8. How many of the Authority’s staff have been redeployed to other agencies during the pandemic?</p> <p>9. Since its inception, how many of the Authority’s staff have been made redundant?</p> <p>10. How many of the Authority’s staff were made redundant between 1 July 2019 and 30 June 2020?</p> <p>11. How many of the Authority’s staff have been made redundant since 1 July 2020?</p> <p>12. Since its inception, how many of the Authority’s staff have been redeployed to other departments or agencies?</p> <p>13. How many of the Authority’s staff were redeployed between 1 July 2019 and 30 June 2020?</p> <p>14. How many of the Authority’s staff have been redeployed since 1 July 2020?</p>	
F092	IPEA	General	Farrell	Enquiries and Payments	<p>1. How many enquiries in each month did the Authority receive during 2019/20?</p> <p>2. How many enquiries in each month has the Authority received since 1 July 2020?</p> <p>3. How many payments in each month did the Authority process during 2019/20?</p> <p>4. How many payments in each month has the Authority processed since 1 July 2020?</p> <p>5. What percentage of enquiries received for each month during 2019/20 related to the Parliamentary Expenses Management System (PEMS)?</p> <p>6. What percentage of enquiries received in each month since 1 July 2020 have related to PEMS?</p>	Written
F093	IPEA	General	Farrell	Client Satisfaction Survey	<p>1. How many responses to both the 2019 and 2020 IPEA Client Satisfaction Survey were received?</p> <p>2. For each year, what percentage of Parliamentarians and Staff responded to the surveys?</p> <p>3. For each year, what percentage of respondents were generally satisfied with services provided by IPEA?</p> <p>4. For each year, what percentage of respondents were generally dissatisfied with services provided by IPEA?</p> <p>5. For each year, what were the categories of services identified as having the highest levels of satisfaction?</p>	Written

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					<p>6. For each year, what were the categories of services identified as having the lowest levels of satisfaction?</p> <p>7. What changes to the services provided by IPEA are being implemented as a result of survey feedback?</p> <p>8. Will a report on the survey results be published?</p>	
F094	AEC	General	Farrell	Staffing Numbers	<p>1. As at 30 June 2020 how many FTE staff worked in:</p> <p>a. the national office</p> <p>b. each state and territory office</p> <p>c. each divisional office?</p> <p>2. As at 31 October 2020 how many FTE staff worked in:</p> <p>a. the national office</p> <p>b. each state and territory office</p> <p>c. each divisional office?</p> <p>3. For the national office, each state and territory office, and each divisional office, please provide a breakdown of APS salary bands and the number of staff employed under each band.</p>	Written
F095	AEC	General	Farrell	Indigenous Electoral Participation Program	<p>1. How many community visits took place under the Indigenous Electoral Participation Program (IEPP) during 2019/20?</p> <p>2. What were the locations of the IEPP community visits which took place in 2019/20?</p> <p>3. How many community visits have taken place under the IEPP since 1 July 2020?</p> <p>4. What were the locations of the IEPP community visits since 1 July 2020?</p> <p>5. For 2019/20 and 2020/21 please list the partnerships with local and other bodies which are used to improve electoral participation by Indigenous Australians.</p>	Written
F096	AEC	General	Farrell	Executive Placement Services	<p>1. What were the services contracted under limited tender contract CN3725658 for \$29,700 described as ‘Executive placement services’?</p> <p>2. How many positions was the agency asked to recruit?</p> <p>3. What level were the positions that the agency was asked to recruit?</p> <p>4. Why was limited tender chosen as the procurement method?</p>	Written
F097	Finance	2/2.7	Ayres	Former Parliamentary Pension Scheme	Has the Department or the Minister sought advice regarding the legality of Mr Tony Abbott utilising an Australian former parliamentary pension scheme at the same time he is acting for another country?	Written
F098	Finance	3/3.1	Ayres	Former Prime Minister Entitlements	Has the Department or the Minister sought advice regarding the legality of Mr Tony Abbott utilising entitlements under the auspices of being a former Prime Minister at the same time he is acting for another country?	Written
F099	IPEA	General	Ayres	Travel Expenses	Is Mr Abbott accessing Australian taxpayer funded flights and staff while he is acting on behalf of the UK?	Written
F100	Finance	2/2.5	Gallagher	Whole of Government Travel	Further to the answer provided to F067 from the 2019-20 Additional Budget Estimates, provide an update for the 2019-20 financial year, and the 2020 calendar year and the 2020-21 financial year to date for Department travel across all Australian Government departments, agencies and offices. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals).	Written
F101	Finance	1/1.1	Gallagher	Unlegislated expenditure savings measures	Further to the answer provided to F069 from the 2019-20 Additional Budget Estimates, provide a list of all currently unlegislated expenditure savings measures, including financial implications profile over the forward estimates, in underlying cash balance terms.	Written
F102	Finance	General	Gallagher	Number of Staff	Further to the answer provided to F070 from the 2019-20 Additional Budget Estimates, provide the numbers of staff in each of the branches (or if there are no branches, whatever identified group) that are identified in the Finance organisational chart.	Written
F103	Finance	2/2.1	Gallagher	Commonwealth Grant Rules and	For grants awarded in the 2020 calendar year to date, how many times have Ministers had to report to the Finance Minister as per the requirements of paragraph 4.12 of the Commonwealth Grant Rules and Guidelines. Which Ministers were they?	Written

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				Guidelines – para 4.12 requirements		
F104	Finance	2/2.1	Gallagher	Exemptions from executive remuneration – corporate Commonwealth entities	In relation to exemptions from the requirements of sections 17CA to 17CC of the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Rule 2014 under section 17CE of the same rule: 1. How many entities have received an exemption? 2. What entities were they? 3. What were the reasons provided to the Minister seeking an exemption? 4. Which elements of sections 17CA, 17CB and 17CC did each exemption apply to?	Written
F105	Finance	2/2.1	Gallagher	Exemptions from executive remuneration - companies	In relation to exemptions from the requirements of section 28EA of the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Rule 2014 under section 28EC of the same rule: 1. How many companies have received an exemption? 2. What companies were they? 3. What were the reasons provided to the Minister seeking an exemption? 4. Which elements of section 28EA did each exemption apply to?	Written
F106	Finance	2/2.1	Gallagher	Remuneration information of other highly paid staff	What is the reason for having a requirement to have information for other highly paid staff as per section 17CC of the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Rule 2014 for Corporate Commonwealth Entities, but not having the same requirement for Commonwealth companies?	Written
F107	Finance Portfolio	General	Gallagher	Contractor and labour hire expenditure	Provide figures for: 1. Expenditure on all contractors for 2019-20 2. Expenditure on all contracts with labour hire firms for 2019-20 3. Headcount of staff engaged through labour hire arrangements as at 30 June 2020 a. In total b. As a percentage of total staff headcount 4. As a percentage mark-up on the cost of the contractor, the maximum and minimum fees paid to labour hire firms in 2019-20	Written
F108	Finance Portfolio	General	Gallagher	Cost of engaging contractors versus employees	Has the agency performed any analysis on whether it costs more to engage staff as contractors compared with hiring staff as employees? If yes, please provide this analysis.	Written
F109	Finance Portfolio	General	Gallagher	Market research contracts	1. In relation to contracts for market research: a. How much has been spent to date since 1 January 2020? b. How much has been spent since 24 August 2018? c. Please provide a table with all contracts entered into since 1 January 2020 along with the following information: i. Total contract value ii. Supplier iii. If it was approved by the Service Delivery and Coordination Committee	Written
F110	No question assigned to this number					
F111	Finance	1/1.1	Gallagher	Tables in Statement 6, 2020-21 Budget, Budget paper one	1. Is Finance responsible for the tables in Statement 6 of Budget paper one? 2. Why is Table 16.2, which relates to the major components of the other economic affairs nec sub-function expenses replicated in Table 17, as the summary of expenses -other purposes, in the hard copy of the 2020-21 Budget: Budget paper one? 3. Did the electronic copy of Budget paper one for the 2020-21 Budget that was available in the budget lock-up, and originally placed on the budget.gov.au website, have the replication of Table 16.2? 4. When was this replication discovered? 5. When was Table 17 changed online? 6. Who made this change? 7. Was the Minister's office informed?	Written

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F112	Finance	2/2.1	Gallagher	Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines and new grants or funds in the 2020 Budget	<p>Do the Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines apply to the following items in the 2020-21 Budget, and if so:</p> <p>a) do they require grant guidelines and</p> <p>b) will the ultimate decision-maker be a Minister or a Departmental Official:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Murray-Darling Communities Investment Package -Community-driven grants for on-ground projects to improve rivers and wetlands health • COVID-19 Response Package – Relief and Recovery Fund – additional projects: Supporting organisers of agricultural field days that cancelled their events in 2020 due to COVID-19 • COVID-19 Response Package – Relief and Recovery Fund – additional projects: Supporting businesses to meet the costs of participating in business events and trade shows • Supporting Regional Australia - Funding to assist regions heavily reliant on international tourism • Employment Services – Local Jobs Program: Local Recovery Fund • JobMaker Plan – Research Package: Strategic University Reform Fund • Students Support Package - fund to enable the Government to respond flexibly and quickly to emerging priorities and educational challenges presented by COVID-19 • National Action Plan to Combat Modern Slavery 2020-25 -grants to deliver community-based projects to prevent modern slavery • JobMaker Plan – investment in new energy technologies: Co-investment fund to support industrial, freight and agricultural businesses to identify and adopt technologies to reduce emissions and increase productivity • JobMaker Plan – investment in new energy technologies: Future Fuels Fund • JobMaker Plan – investment in new energy technologies: Commonwealth Carbon Capture Use and Storage Development Fund • JobMaker Plan – Modern Manufacturing Strategy: Modern Manufacturing Initiative • JobMaker Plan – Modern Manufacturing Strategy: Supply Chain Resilience Initiative • JobMaker Plan – securing Australia’s liquid fuel stocks: Competitive grants program to support the construction of new diesel fuel storage • JobMaker Plan – National Water Grid – investing in a long-term approach to water infrastructure: National Water Infrastructure Development Fund • Media Reforms Package – screen sector support: Screen Writing and Script Development Fund • Implementation of the 2019 Monsoon Trough: A Strategy for Long-Term Recovery: Grants to support locally-led solutions that improve access to reliable and affordable telecommunications and energy • Implementation of the 2019 Monsoon Trough: A Strategy for Long-Term Recovery: Grants to improve disaster risk management planning and mitigation activities in the 14 most flood affected local government areas • Implementation of the 2019 Monsoon Trough: A Strategy for Long-Term Recovery: Grants for economic diversification to support emergency industries, expansion of small scale industries or value adding of existing industry. 	Written
F113	Finance	2/2.1	Gallagher	Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines and funding for existing grants or funds in the 2020 Budget	<p>Do the Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines apply to the following programs, and if so: a) have the relevant grant guidelines been updated (and if not, why not, and when will they be) and b) is the ultimate decision-maker the relevant Minister or a Departmental Official:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Murray-Darling Basin Economic Development Program • Women’s Leadership and Development Program • Boosting Female Founders Initiative • Women in STEM Entrepreneurship Grants Program • Building Better Regions Fund • Regional Connectivity Program • Defence innovation, industry and skilling grants • Business Improvement Fund • Safer Communities Fund • Regional and Remote Communities Reliability Fund 	Written

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manufacturing Modernisation Fund • Community Development Grants • Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program 	
F114	Finance	2/2.1	Gallagher	Data on work points used by contractors	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does Finance have any figures or analysis on the number of contractors in each agency which require a work point? If yes, please provide these figures. 2. Have these figures increased in the last seven years? Please provide any available trend data 3. Has the Department examined the cost of agencies keeping vacant workspaces available for contractors and consultants who work based out of an agency? 	Written
F115	Finance	2/2.3	Gallagher	Budget measure: A new management advisory services panel for government	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In bringing forward this budget proposal, did the department conduct any analysis on the expenditure of contractors and consultants across government? 2. If no, on what basis does Finance believe this measure to be necessary? 3. If yes, what did the analysis find in relation to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Total expenditure b. Trends in expenditure over time 	Written
F116	Finance	2/2.1	Gallagher	Underpayment of superannuation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Which agencies have made payouts to current or former APS employees as a result of the miscalculation of rent-free accommodation for the purposes of superannuation? 2. On how many occasions have these payouts occurred? 3. Are agencies expected to absorb the cost of these payouts, or are there other arrangements in place to cover the cost of any liabilities which may arise from these payouts? 	Written
F117	Finance	1/1.1	Gallagher	Fiscal strategy – budget balance over the economic cycle	The medium-term fiscal strategy states that a budget balance will be targeted, on average, over the course of the economic cycle, that is consistent with the debt objective. What time period is the ‘economic cycle’?	Written
F118	Finance	2/2.1	Gallagher	NBN Corporate Plan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why was information on the expected cash flow not included in this year’s corporate plan, when it has been in previous corporate plans? 2. Who made the decision to remove these information points? 3. How does the absence of the expected cash flow meet the requirements of section 27A(3) of the PGPA Rule 2014? 	Written
F119	Finance	General	Gallagher	2019-20 Annual Report – Greenhouse emissions attributed to non-office energy use	What was the reason for the increase in greenhouse emissions attributed to non-office energy use between 2018-19 and 2019-20?	Written
F120	Finance	General	Gallagher	2019-20 Annual Report – Potable Water Consumption	What was the reason for potable water consumption in Finance Owned Estate increasing between 2018-19 and 2019-20?	Written
F121	ANI	General	Patrick	Osborne Naval Shipyards	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does ANI now have a complete layout for the Osborne Naval Shipyards, that is one that covers both Osborne North and South? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, can a copy of the layout be provided? b. If not: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. When will the layout be finalised? ii. Please explain how ANI is preparing cost estimates without such a layout? c. Please provide a copy of the shipyard layouts that ANI is currently working against? 2. ANI has previously advised that there will be an assortment of Common User Infrastructure (CUI) being constructed or installed at the Osborne shipyards, which comprised “<i>a fleet of self propelled modular transporters, hardstand areas, wharf facilities and associated utilities and services</i>”. 	Written

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					<p>a. Has there been any changes to the list of CUI?</p> <p>i. If so, what are the changes?</p> <p>b. How will the CUI be managed and maintained?</p> <p>3. ANI has previously advised they are “seeking to avoid duplication”, will there be any duplication of facilities across the Osborne North and Osborne South shipyards?</p> <p>a. What facilities will be duplicated?</p> <p>4. Does the Master Plan prepared by Renewal SA have any impact in regards to altering or expanding the shipbuilding precinct?</p>	
F122	ANI	General	Patrick	Osborne South Development	<p>A very top level milestone schedule for the Main Works Elements was provided in response to a previous QON (<i>Budget Estimates 2019-20, F003</i>).</p> <p>1. Have these main works now been completed?</p> <p>a. If not,</p> <p>i. when is the project to complete?</p> <p>ii. please provide an updated milestone plan?</p> <p>iii. What are the cost impacts?</p> <p>2. Have these now been handed to the Future Frigate Program (FFP)/ASC Shipbuilding?</p> <p>3. What was the final cost of the Phase 1 works?</p> <p>4. Please provide a Milestone plan for completion of all contracted and planned work on the at the Osborne South shipyard?</p>	Written
F123	ANI	General	Patrick	Osborne North Development	<p>1. Please provide a detailed Milestone plan to complete all contracted and planned work for the Osborne North shipyard?</p>	Written
F124	ANI	General	Patrick	Sustainment model	<p>1. Has defence provided ANI with guidance or advice on the model or concept for sustaining the Navy’s seagoing platforms from now into the future?</p> <p>a. If so, please provide a copy?</p> <p>b. If not, what information is ANI using as the basis for planning the infrastructure required in the future to sustain the Naval fleet?</p> <p>i. Has ANI requested Defence provide the required guidance?</p> <p>c. How is ANI preparing cost information to enable government to make informed decisions about future funding demands?</p>	Written
F125	ANI	General	Patrick	SIRT (Submarine Infrastructure Review Team)	<p>1. Is ANI a member of the Submarine Infrastructure Review Team?</p> <p>a. Who are the other members?</p> <p>2. What tasking has been placed on the SIRT?</p> <p>3. Who does the SIRT report to?</p> <p>4. How often does it meet?</p>	Written
F126	ASC	General	Patrick	ASC staffing	<p>1. How many FTE staff does ASC currently have?</p> <p>2. In May 2020 in response to a QON (Question F001) ASC provided a table outlining the breakdown of staff associated with Collins Class sustainment. Have there been any changes to this staff breakdown?</p> <p>a. If so, please provide details?</p> <p>ASC has previously advised, in a response to Senator Kitching (<i>Additional Estimates 2019-20, QoN F103</i>), that the company conducts engagement with staff (opinion surveys, focus groups, etc) to assess their state of mind and any concerns.</p> <p>3. Has there been changes in staff concerns about the future of ASC?</p> <p>4. If so, what is the basis of the concern/s?</p>	Written
F127	ASC	General	Patrick	Collins LOTE	<p>1. Is ASC currently under contract to conduct activities/work for the Collins LOTE program?</p> <p>a. If so, what is the value, scope and duration of that contract?</p> <p>b. What are the LOTE projects phases?</p> <p>c. What are the future contracting stages?</p>	Written

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F128	ASC	General	Ayres	LOTE FCD	At the Estimates Hearing on 21 October 2020, Mr Whiley said, “I’m actually more comfortable that we’re doing a LOTE FCD in Western Australia first, rather than doing a standard FCD and then moving to a LOTE.” What is the evidence or data that Mr Whiley has relied on to form this conclusion?	Written
F129	ASC	General	Ayres	FCD location study	Mr Whiley also said, “Believe it or not, I think the risk is maybe lessened by moving it potentially to Western Australia, because you don’t have any baggage of the old way of working if you’re going to do that.” How does the organisation reconcile this with ASC’s own Collins Class FCD Location Study Interim Report from February 2019 which identifies the risk of delay in the first and subsequent FCDs should they move to Western Australia and how that would in turn reduce the availability of our submarines?	Written
F130	ASC	General	Ayres	Location of FCD work	What preparation has ASC undertaken between March 2020 and now for an announcement regarding the future location of FCD work? For example, have there been media releases drafted?	Written
F131	ASC	General	Ayres	CASG contract	At the Estimates Hearing on 21 October 2020, when asked whether ASC had any contractual arrangements with the Government in relation to LOTE, Mr Whiley said, “We’ve had some follow-on tasking from CASG to undertake system design work to keep us progressing in accordance with the schedule. That system design funding comes to an end at the end of this month. We have another survey and quote tasking in with CASG, which will get approved at the end of this month and will then take us into April next year.” What is the value of this contract and when was it signed?	Written
F132	ASC	General	Ayres	CASG contract – location work	Does the contract referred to in the previous question specify the location of LOTE work? If not, how was that addressed in the contract as ASC’s costs surely differ depending on where the work occurs as there would be additional start-up costs if FCDs were to move to Western Australia?	Written
F133	ASC	General	Ayres	Life-of-type extension work	At the Estimates Hearing on 21 October 2020, when asked whether ASC was under contract for life-of-type extension work, Mr Whiley said, “We are under contract for support of the critical work that supports the life-of-type extension work. The problem is that the project is not yet formally approved, so this is all bridging funding, to help us get to the point of approval process.” When does ASC expect the project to be formally approved?	Written
F134	ASC	General	Ayres	Feasibility proposal	In response to QoN F112 from the last round of Estimates in March 2020, ASC advised that a feasibility proposal in relation to LOTE capability upgrades for the Main Propulsion Motor, Diesels and Power Conversion and Distribution packages of work had been delivered to Defence. What is the current status of this feasibility proposal and what are the next steps and timeframes?	Written
F135	ASC	General	Ayres	Concept design timeline	In relation to the feasibility proposal on the degaussing and firefighting work packages, in response to QoN F113 from the last round of Estimates in March 2020, ASC advised that “The degaussing and firefighting packages are planned to commence concept design in calendar year Q1 2021. Detailed schedules for these projects have not been commenced at this stage.” Is the timeline for the concept design on track and have detailed schedules been commenced?	Written
F136	ASC	General	Ayres	Re-phasing of work	Is there any update as to whether the re-phasing of the degaussing and firefighting work packages that Mr Whiley referred to in October 2019 round of Estimates, will result in a delay to the: a. commencement of the detailed design phase? b. commencement of the implementation phase? c. overall LOTE program?	Written
F137	ASC	General	Ayres	Core Projects concept design	In response to QoN F115 from the last round of Estimates about the LOTE concept development phase, ASC said that: “Core Projects concept design is being delivered as planned, Part A Projects concept design is currently expected to be completed in Q2 2022, and Part B Projects concept design is currently expected to be completed in Q2 2024.” Please provide an update in relation to these timeframes and an explanation as to what comprises each of Parts A and B? Are there any other Parts?	Written

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F138	ASC	General	Ayres	LOTE implementation phase	In response to QoN F118 from the last round of Estimates in March 2020, ASC advised that: “ASC will review the implementation phase in detail, during the next phase of the LOTE program, the system design phase. As a result, ASC is not in a position to provide details regarding the implementation phase, which is expected to commence in May 2026.” Is the implementation phase still expected to commence in May 2026?	Written
F139	ASC	General	Ayres	Collins class submarine timing	Based on ASC’s current planning assumptions, when will LOTE work commence and be completed for each Collins class submarine?	Written
F140	ASC	General	Ayres	LOTE team staffing	In response to QoN F116 from the last round of Estimates in March 2020, ASC advised that as at 24 March 2020, there were 39 full time equivalent positions (FTEs) in the LOTE team. a. What is the current number? b. Do your current projections for staffing levels accord with ASC’s response to QoN F117 from the last round of Estimates, which stated that: “The workforce requirement to support the LOTE program is expected to ramp-up from the current 39 FTEs, to approximately 70 FTEs, between Q1 and Q3, 2021. This resource growth will be mainly supported by the current ASC workforce, with limited external support.” c. What external support will you be utilising?	Written
F141	ASC	General	Ayres	Detailed assessment of workforce requirements	At Estimates in October 2019, when asked about ASC’s understanding of the workforce requirements for the implementation phase, including for additional staff, Mr Whiley responded: “... Yes, we do have a better understanding. That’s part of the costed proposal we’re going to put in in March.” But when asked in QoN F118 from Estimates in March 2020 whether ASC had any concerns around getting these additional skilled staff for the implementation stage, ASC responded: “Detailed assessment is expected to be undertaken in the system design phase.” a. Was an assessment of the number of additional skilled staff required for the implementation phase conducted as part of the costed proposal that Mr Whiley said would be submitted in March? If not, what changed since Mr Whiley’s evidence in October 2019? b. Does ASC have any concerns around getting these numbers? c. Where will ASC Pty Ltd recruit the additional skilled staff from? d. What is ASC’s current estimate of the additional staff and labour costs?	Written
F142	ASC	General	Ayres	Staff attrition	Given the rate of staff attrition within ASC and the resultant diminution in skills and capability, what is ASC’s current assessment of the risk that ASC will not have the people it needs to conduct the LOTE work?	Written
F143	ASC	General	Ayres	Workforce breakdown	What is the current workforce (broken down by permanent and labour hire employees) for each of the major constituent parts of ASC Pty Ltd –submarines, corporate, Maritime Services Group, and working on shipbuilding?	Written
F144	ASC	General	Ayres	SA functional breakdown	What is the functional breakdown (blue collar vs white collar) of the Collins sustainment workforce in South Australia and the number of workers in each group?	Written
F145	ASC	General	Ayres	WA functional breakdown	What is the functional breakdown (blue collar vs white collar) of the Collins sustainment workforce in Western Australia and the number of workers in each group?	Written
F146	ASC	General	Ayres	Collins LOTE extension functional breakdown	What is the functional breakdown (blue collar vs white collar) of the Collins LOTE extension and upgrades workforce and the number of workers in each group? Are you able to provide a similar breakdown for the Future Submarines workforce?	Written
F147	ASC	General	Ayres	ASC Group employee numbers	What are the current numbers of Collins program employees in both ‘core’ and ‘critical’ categories in each of ASC’s Groups (i.e. Operations; Engineering; Supply Chain; Program Management; Support)?	Written
F148	ASC	General	Ayres	Collins personnel	In response to a Question on Notice from Estimates in October 2019, ASC advised that since April 2019 there had been 20 employees depart from the “core” group of Collins personnel. a. How many have now departed from this group since April 2019? b. Have there been any new hirings in these positions and how has the Collins program work been affected by these staff changes?	Written

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					<p>c. In relation to the ‘critical’ cohort, have any of those 297 workers departed ASC since October 2019?</p> <p>d. Over the past 12 months, how many workers from each of the ‘critical’ and ‘core’ cohorts have left ASC and how many have been replaced?</p> <p>e. Could you please provide a breakdown of the workforce levels for each of these cohorts over the past two years since mid-2018 in a similar format to the table you provided in response to Question on Notice F001 from Senate Budget Estimates in October 2019</p>	
F149	ASC	General	Ayres	Core and Critical model review	<p>In response to Question on Notice F002 from Senate Estimates in March 2020, ASC advised that it is “currently reviewing the Core and Critical model as part of its annual workforce planning process”.</p> <p>a. What is the status of that review?</p> <p>b. Why is the existing model being reviewed after only 2 years?</p> <p>c. Will ASC be utilising a new model to categorise its workforce?</p> <p>i. If yes, what is it and why is it the preferred model?</p>	Written
F150	ASC	General	Ayres	Engineering workforce	<p>At Senate Budget Estimates in March 2020, Mr Whiley stated that ASC had: “... lost 45 engineers since 2018 and, on average, we have about 10.4 years of experience per employee, so that would be probably about 500 years of experience”.</p> <p>What is the update as to how many engineers have left the organisation since January 2018 and how many valuable years of experience have been lost as a result?</p>	Written
F151	ASC	General	Ayres	Engineering workforce numbers	Has the overall workforce number increased or decreased since mid-2018?	Written
F152	ASC	General	Ayres	Submarine workforce numbers	In April 2019, Mr Whiley said ASC was planning to keep “1355 or 1356” employees in the submarine program over the next few years based on ASC’s understanding of the workload. Is that still the case?	Written
F153	ASC	General	Ayres	Recruitment	<p>At the March 2020 Estimates when asked whether there were any issues in recruiting skilled employees to replace those who have left, ASC ‘s response in QoN F100 was that: “High demand in the defence industry, and limited availability of skilled and experience personnel, has increased competitiveness in recruitment”.</p> <p>a. Is this still the case and has that competitiveness increased or decreased since then?</p> <p>b. What proportion of ‘core’ ASC staff leaving the organisation are finding employment in the Defence industry and what proportion are finding employment in other industries such as the mining industry?</p>	Written
F154	ASC	General	Ayres	Vacancy filling time	At the March 2020 Estimates when asked about the average time taken to fill a vacancy for engineers and for other workers, ASC ‘s response in QoN F100 was “Engineers: approximately 90 days; other workers: approximately 70 days”. Is this still the case?	Written
F155	ASC	General	Ayres	Staff replacement costs	Please provide a breakdown of the costs to ASC of finding replacement staff. What is the annual cost to ASC of vacancies for ‘core’ engineers and what has been the impact of these vacancies on ASC operations?	Written
F156	ASC	General	Ayres	Staff retention program	Please provide an update on the staff retention program and how successful it has been in retaining core ASC employees.	Written
F157	ASC	General	Ayres	Workforce planning assumptions	<p>At Estimates in April 2019, Mr Whiley said the planning assumptions for the workforce figures in the financial statements were based on an assumed attrition rate of “about eight or nine percent”.</p> <p>a. What is the assumed rate currently for planning assumptions for the workforce figures in the financial statements?</p> <p>b. Is management working towards a targeted rate of attrition?</p>	Written
F158	ASC	General	Ayres	Redundancies	How many employees were made redundant in the last financial year? How many do you anticipate will be made redundant by the close of FY2020-21?	Written
F159	ASC	General	Ayres	Skills retention	What policies and procedures does ASC adhere to in relation to the performance of work to ensure maximum skills retention?	Written
F160	ASC	General	Ayres	Cost of redundancies	What is the estimated cost to the organisation as a result of redundancies in the 2019-20 Financial Year? Does any cost estimate include costs associated with training and/or retraining of redundant workers?	Written

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F161	ASC	General	Ayres	Overseas recruitment	At the Estimates Hearing on 21 October 2020, Mr Whiley advised that ASC is not planning any overseas recruitment at the moment. a. What impact has the delay in this recruitment initiative had on the organisation? b. How is ASC meeting its skill needs without being able to recruit internationally?	Written
F162	ASC	General	Ayres	Working visas	How many of ASC's current workers are on working visas?	Written
F163	ASC	General	Ayres	Labour hire workers	At Estimates in March 2020, Mr Whiley advised that 103 labour hire workers were utilised in the Collins program. What is the policy framework that applies to the decision-making process to use labour hire workers rather than the ASC Shipbuilding workforce on the submarine full cycle docking program at ASC Pty Ltd?	Written
F164	ASC	General	Ayres	Contract workforce	Why is ASC Pty Ltd utilising a high level of contract labour both in respect to its workforce at the submarine site and the shipbuilding site when ASC Shipbuilding workers are being made redundant?	Written
F165	ASC	General	Ayres	Shipbuilding jobs	What process is being employed to ensure there is consideration given to mitigating the loss of jobs on the shipbuilding site by ASC Pty Ltd?	Written
F166	ASC	General	Ayres	Workforce consultation	What consultation and with whom is ASC Pty Ltd consulting with when introducing contract workers into the shipbuilding site?	Written
F167	ASC	General	Ayres	Shipbuilding workforce	Is ASC Pty Ltd aware that the introduction of contractors onto the shipbuilding site is having a significant effect on the job security of the permanent shipbuilding workforce and no consultation is occurring on this issue leading to industrial disputation on site?	Written
F168	ASC	General	Ayres	Full cycle docking workforce	How many contractors are currently working on the Collins class full cycle docking program?	Written
F169	ASC	General	Ayres	Workforce investment and training	In terms of investment and training in people at ASC across the organisation, how much did ASC spend in 2019-20 and so far in 2020-21? Can you break those figures down across the component parts of the organisation?	Written
F170	ASC	General	Ayres	Offshore Patrol Vessels staffing	In relation to the ongoing build of the Offshore Patrol Vessels (OPVs), will the permanent staff from ASC Pty Ltd currently working on this build remain engaged during the WA build?	Written
F171	ASC	General	Ayres	Indigenous design and assurance capability	What indigenous design and assurance capability does ASC have with respect to the design and construction of submarines, including major and complex modifications? Please provide specific examples where available.	Written
F172	ASC	General	Ayres	Indigenous designs	What indigenous designs has ASC produced and then executed for the construction of, or major and complex modification to, major surface and sub-surface combatant platforms over the past 20 years? Please provide specific examples where available.	Written
F173	ASC	General	Ayres	ASC cyber resilience	On Friday 19th June 2020 the Prime Minister held a press conference to tell the nation that a “sophisticated state-based cyber actor” was “targeting Australian organisations across a range of sectors including all levels of government, industry, political organisations, education, health, essential service providers and operators of other critical infrastructure.” He further indicated that the purpose of this press conference was to “raise awareness of these specific risks and targeted activities and tell you how you can take action to protect yourself... It is vital that Australian organisations are alert to this threat and take steps to enhance the resilience of their networks.” a. What steps did the ASC Pty Ltd take “to enhance the resilience of their networks” after the Prime Minister’s warning? b. The Prime Minister’s media release about this state sponsored campaign encouraged organisations to “take expert advice, and implement technical defences to thwart this malicious cyber activity.” Were any additional technical defences implemented within ASC Pty Ltd to enhance the resilience of its networks in the face of the specific threat identified by the Prime Minister? c. Were any additional controls or mitigations implemented within ASC Pty Ltd to enhance the resilience of its networks in the face of the specific threat identified by the Prime Minister?	Written

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					<p>d. Was any new staff training initiated to enhance resilience against any phishing attacks targeting staff that may accompany this state sponsored campaign? If so, please provide details to the committee.</p> <p>e. Were any internal communications prepared for staff about the threat of the state sponsored campaign identified by the Prime Minister in his 19 June 2020 press conference and what staff could do to maximise the cyber resilience of ASC Pty Ltd’s networks? If so, please provide these communications to the committee.</p> <p>f. Was any additional funding allocated to support additional technical defences, controls, mitigations or training within ASC Pty Ltd in response to the Prime Minister’s press conference?</p> <p>g. Was advice sought from the Australian Signals Directorate about the cyber resilience of ASC Pty Ltd’s networks in the face of the state sponsored campaign identified by the Prime Minister in his June 19th 2020 press conference?</p> <p>h. Was the Minister briefed on the cyber resilience of ASC Pty Ltd’s networks in the face of the state sponsored campaign identified by the Prime Minister in his June 19th 2020 press conference?</p> <p>i. Was the Minister briefed on any additional steps to enhance the resilience of ASC Pty Ltd’s networks needed in the face of the state sponsored campaign identified by the Prime Minister in his June 19th 2020 press conference?</p>	
F174	ASC	General	Ayres	ASC - Compliance with ASD Top Four	Is ASC Pty Ltd compliant with the Australian Signals Directorate’s ‘Top Four’ mitigations as mandated under the Protective Security Policy Framework?	Written
F175	ASC	General	Ayres	ASC - Compliance with ASD Essential Eight	Is ASC Pty Ltd compliant with the Australian Signals Directorate’s ‘Essential Eight’ mitigations as recommended under the Protective Security Policy Framework?	Written
F176	ASC	General	Ayres	ASC - Cyber security costs	What was ASC Pty Ltd’s total spend on the cyber security of its networks during the 2019-20 financial year?	Written
F177	ASC	General	Ayres	ASC - Cyber security spend to IT spend	What is the cyber security spend as a proportion of ASC Pty Ltd’s total IT spend?	Written
F178	ASC	General	Ayres	ASC - Forecast cyber spend	What is ASC Pty Ltd’s forecast total spend on the cyber security of its networks during the 2020-21 financial year?	Written
F179	ASC	General	Ayres	ASC - Proportionate spend on cyber	Has ASC Pty Ltd’s total spend on cyber security increased proportionately to the increased threat identified in the Prime Minister’s press conference?	Written
F180	ASC	General	Ayres	ASC - 10 year investment in cyber security	On Tuesday 30 June 2020, the Government announced a \$1.35 billion 10-year investment in cyber security. Was any of this funding allocated to ASC Pty Ltd in order to take steps to enhance the cyber resilience of its own networks in the face of the specific threats identified by the Prime Minister in his press conference on 19 June 2020?	Written
F181	ASC	General	Ayres	ASC - DMARC implementation	Has ASC Pty Ltd fully implemented Domain-based Message Authentication, Reporting and Conformance (DMARC) on its email domains?	Written
F182	ASC	General	Ayres	ASC - Email domain mitigation	Does the full implementation of Domain-based Message Authentication, Reporting and Conformance (DMARC) provide the most effective email domain mitigation against the threat of phishing emails?	Written
F183	ASC	General	Ayres	ASC - Work with ACSC	Has ASC Pty Ltd worked with the Australian Cyber Security Centre to progress its implementation of DMARC?	Written
F184	ASC	General	Ayres	ASC - Funding for DMARC implementation	Has ASC Pty Ltd received an appropriation for the implementation of DMARC?	Written
F185	ASC	General	Ayres	ASC - ISM guidance	Does the Information Security Manual guidance for email gateways and servers recommend “DMARC records are configured for all domains such that emails are rejected if they fail SPF or DKIM checks”?	Written

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F186	ASC	General	Ayres	ASC - Phishing campaign vulnerability	The ACSC's " Malicious Email Mitigation Strategies " provides that " <i>Socially engineered emails containing malicious attachments and embedded links are routinely used in targeted cyber intrusions against organisations.</i> " Is ASC Pty Ltd concerned that the low levels of DMARC implementation within Commonwealth government departments revealed by Proofpoint leaves Australians unnecessarily vulnerable to phishing campaigns spoofing Commonwealth government agency domains?	Written
F187	ASC	General	Ayres	ASC - Cyber security training	Have staff in ASC Pty Ltd received cyber security training? How many staff in ASC Pty Ltd have attended in person cyber security training sessions? Who administers and conducts this training?	Written
F188	ASC	General	Ayres	ASC - Target for cyber security training	Does ASC Pty Ltd have a target for the proportion of active users of ASC Pty Ltd's network that have completed in-person cyber security training sessions?	Written
F189	ASC	General	Ayres	ASC - Mandatory cyber security training	Has consideration been given to making cyber security training mandatory for users of ASC Pty Ltd's Network? If so, what was the outcome of those considerations?	Written
F190	ASC	General	Ayres	ASC - Cyber security training - other	What other forms of cyber security training does ASC Pty Ltd provide?	Written
F191	ANI	General	Ayres	Osborne South – PM press release	On 26 September the Prime Minister announced that the Osborne South shipyard was complete and ready for handover. The media release stated that ASC Shipbuilding would take control of the shipyard and start training their shipbuilders "over the next four months". a. Can you please outline the steps and key dates for this progressive handover from ANI to BAE? b. How do these compare with the original target dates? c. Does this mean that some elements of the shipyard will still be in the process of handover when BAE starts prototyping work in December this year? d. What lessons has ANI learnt from the Osborne South project and how will that inform work at Osborne North?	Written
F192	ANI	General	Ayres	CS PIF completion	In response to Question on Notice F128 from the last round of Estimates, ANI advised that it still considered target completion for the construction of the Combat System Physical Integration Facility (CS-PIF) in calendar Q3 2021 achievable, but that this was subject to any supply chain impacts arising from the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic . a. Is targeted completion for the CS-PIF still on track for July 2021? b. If not, how has this been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and what other factors have contributed to the delay? And what is the new target date for completion?	Written
F193	ANI	General	Ayres	Platform Land Based Test Facility	In response to Question F129 from the last round of estimates , ANI advised in relation to the Platform Land-Based Test Facility that: " <i>... the Future Submarine Program is currently considering some changes to the functional requirements that have occurred as the submarine design has matured. This is expected to result in some further design effort. The target delivery schedule and target completion date will be finalised and agreed with the Future Submarine Program to support the construction of the submarine in line with Future Submarine Program schedule requirements.</i> " Have any design changes been made and, if so, what are they and how will this affect the project delivery timeline and budget?	Written
F194	ANI	General	Ayres	Site works for the land based test facilities	At the Senate Economic References Committee inquiry hearing in August into Australia's sovereign naval shipbuilding capability, Mr Cornish noted that site works for the land based test facilities commenced in late 2019 and are currently progressing with a target completion date of Q3 2021. a. Does ANI still remain on track to meet this deadline and, if not, what has been the cause of the delays? b. Have there been any issues or changes in plans from Naval Group or Lockheed Martin in terms of their requirements and timelines for these facilities? c. Have there been any subsequent delays to the facilities you are building at Osborne North? d. If not, can ANI confirm that there have not been any subsequent extensions to these completion dates	Written

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					– are they still what was originally planned?	
F195	ANI	General	Ayres	Osborne North – next phases	In response to Additional Estimates Question on Notice F131, ANI advised that the next phases of infrastructure work at Osborne North “ <i>encompasses work elements on the western side of Mersey Road to house key production and support facilities for the new submarine yard</i> ”. a. Is this still the case? b. Is it also still the case that, per ANI’s previous evidence, “ <i>the target is for the design to substantially progress to 90% by Q4 2020?</i> ”	Written
F196	ANI	General	Ayres	Project delivery of the Osborne North project	In response to Question on Notice F132 from the March 2020 Additional Estimates, ANI noted that a schedule for project delivery of the Osborne North project – that is, construction – will be developed once the design has achieved the 90% design stage. a. What is the current status of the design of the Osborne North project? b. When is the planning and design stage expected to conclude and when is construction of Phase 2 due to commence? c. Does the plan and design incorporate provisions for full cycle docking maintenance to continue to occur at Osborne after completion of the works?	Written
F197	ANI	General	Ayres	ANI cyber resilience	On Friday 19 th June 2020 the Prime Minister held a press conference to tell the nation that a “ <i>sophisticated state-based cyber actor</i> ” was “ <i>targeting Australian organisations across a range of sectors including all levels of government, industry, political organisations, education, health, essential service providers and operators of other critical infrastructure.</i> ” He further indicated that the purpose of this press conference was to “ <i>raise awareness of these specific risks and targeted activities and tell you how you can take action to protect yourself... It is vital that Australian organisations are alert to this threat and take steps to enhance the resilience of their networks.</i> ” a. What steps did the Australian Naval Infrastructure Pty Ltd take “to enhance the resilience of their networks” after the Prime Minister’s warning? b. The Prime Minister’s media release about this state sponsored campaign encouraged organisations to “take expert advice, and implement technical defences to thwart this malicious cyber activity.” Were any additional technical defences implemented within the Australian Naval Infrastructure Pty Ltd to enhance the resilience of its networks in the face of the specific threat identified by the Prime Minister? c. Were any additional controls or mitigations implemented within the Australian Naval Infrastructure Pty Ltd to enhance the resilience of its networks in the face of the specific threat identified by the Prime Minister? d. Was any new staff training initiated to enhance resilience against any phishing attacks targeting staff that may accompany this state sponsored campaign? If so, please provide details to the committee. e. Were any internal communications prepared for staff about the threat of the state sponsored campaign identified by the Prime Minister in his June 19 th 2020 press conference and what staff could do to maximise the cyber resilience of the Australian Naval Infrastructure Pty Ltd’s networks? If so, please provide them to the committee. f. Was any additional funding allocated to support additional technical defences, controls, mitigations or training within the Australian Naval Infrastructure Pty Ltd in response to the Prime Minister’s press conference? g. Was advice sought from the Australian Signals Directorate about the cyber resilience of the Australian Naval Infrastructure Pty Ltd’s networks in the face of the state sponsored campaign identified by the Prime Minister in his June 19 th 2020 press conference? h. Was the Minister briefed on the cyber resilience of the Australian Naval Infrastructure Pty Ltd’s networks in the face of the state sponsored campaign identified by the Prime Minister in his June 19 th 2020 press conference? i. Was the Minister briefed on any additional steps to enhance the resilience of the Australian Naval Infrastructure Pty Ltd’s networks needed in the face of the state sponsored campaign identified by the Prime Minister in his June 19 th 2020 press conference?	Written
F198	ANI	General	Ayres	ANI - Compliance with ASD Top Four	Is the Australian Naval Infrastructure Pty Ltd compliant with the Australian Signals Directorate’s ‘Top Four’ mitigations as mandated under the Protective Security Policy Framework?	Written

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F199	ANI	General	Ayres	ANI - Compliance with ASD Essential Eight	Is the Australian Naval Infrastructure Pty Ltd compliant with the Australian Signals Directorate's 'Essential Eight' mitigations as recommended under the Protective Security Policy Framework?	Written
F200	ANI	General	Ayres	ANI - Cyber security costs	What was the Australian Naval Infrastructure Pty Ltd's total spend on the cyber security of its networks during the 2019-2020 financial year?	Written
F201	ANI	General	Ayres	ANI -Cyber security spend to IT spend	What is the cyber security spend as a proportion of the Australian Naval Infrastructure Pty Ltd's total IT spend?	Written
F202	ANI	General	Ayres	ANI - Forecast cyber spend	What is the Australian Naval Infrastructure Pty Ltd's forecast total spend on the cyber security of its networks during the 2020-2021 financial year?	Written
F203	ANI	General	Ayres	ANI - Proportionate spend on cyber	Has the Australian Naval Infrastructure Pty Ltd 's total spend on cyber security increased proportionately to the increased threat identified in the Prime Minister's press conference?	Written
F204	ANI	General	Ayres	ANI - 10 year investment in cyber security	On Tuesday 30th June 2020, the Government announced a \$1.35 billion 10-year investment in cyber security. Was any of this funding allocated to the Australian Naval Infrastructure Pty Ltd in order to take steps to enhance the cyber resilience of its own networks in the face of the specific threats identified by the Prime Minister in his press conference on 19 June 2020?	Written
F205	ANI	General	Ayres	ANI - DMARC implementation	Has the Australian Naval Infrastructure Pty Ltd fully implemented Domain-based Message Authentication, Reporting and Conformance (DMARC) on its email domains?	Written
F206	ANI	General	Ayres	ANI - Email domain mitigation	Does the full implementation of Domain-based Message Authentication, Reporting and Conformance (DMARC) provide the most effective email domain mitigation against the threat of phishing emails?	Written
F207	ANI	General	Ayres	ANI - Work with ACSC	Has the Australian Naval Infrastructure Pty Ltd worked with the Australian Cyber Security Centre to progress its implementation of DMARC?	Written
F208	ANI	General	Ayres	ANI - Funding for DMARC implementation	Has the Australian Naval Infrastructure Pty Ltd received an appropriation for the implementation of DMARC?	Written
F209	ANI	General	Ayres	ANI - ISM guidance	Does the Information Security Manual guidance for email gateways and servers recommend "DMARC records are configured for all domains such that emails are rejected if they fail SPF or DKIM checks"?	Written
F210	ANI	General	Ayres	ANI - Phishing campaign vulnerability	The ACSC's " Malicious Email Mitigation Strategies " provides that "Socially engineered emails containing malicious attachments and embedded links are routinely used in targeted cyber intrusions against organisations." Is the Australian Naval Infrastructure Pty Ltd concerned that the low levels of DMARC implementation within Commonwealth government departments revealed by Proofpoint leaves Australians unnecessarily vulnerable to phishing campaigns spoofing Commonwealth government agency domains?	Written
F211	ANI	General	Ayres	ANI - Cyber security training	Have staff in the Australian Naval Infrastructure Pty Ltd received cyber security training? How many staff in the Australian Naval Infrastructure Pty Ltd have attended in person cyber security training sessions? Who administers and conducts this training?	Written
F212	ANI	General	Ayres	ANI - Target for cyber security training	Does the Australian Naval Infrastructure Pty Ltd have a target for the proportion of active users of the Australian Naval Infrastructure Pty Ltd's Network that have completed in-person cyber security training sessions?	Written
F213	ANI	General	Ayres	ANI - Mandatory cyber security training	Has consideration been given to making cyber security training mandatory for users of the Australian Naval Infrastructure Pty Ltd's Network? If so, what was the outcome of those considerations?	Written

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F214	ANI	General	Ayres	ANI - Cyber security training - other	What other forms of cyber security training does the Australian Naval Infrastructure Pty Ltd provide?	Written
F215	No question assigned to this number					
F216	Finance	2/2.1	Ayres	ASC Shipbuilding – separation and transfer	<p>In its submission to the Senate Economics References Committee Inquiry into Australia’s sovereign naval shipbuilding capability, Finance noted that the separation and transfer of ASC Shipbuilding to BAE Systems Australia is central to the Government’s plan to secure Australia’s naval shipbuilding sovereignty. As part of the transfer, the Commonwealth retained a sovereign share that gives certain rights during the build period in relation to any decisions or actions that have national security or other relevant strategic implications.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What IP or other skills/capability transfer will occur through this and how is it retained by ASC upon transfer of ASC shipbuilding back to the Commonwealth? b. Is this a labour hire situation where these workers will just leave at the end of the project, and if so, what has ASC actually gained? 	Written
F217	Finance Portfolio	General	Ayres	Warning of Sophisticated State Based Campaign of Cyber Attacks	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. On Friday 19th June 2020 the Prime Minister held a press conference to tell the nation that a “sophisticated state-based cyber actor” was “targeting Australian organisations across a range of sectors including all levels of government, industry, political organisations, education, health, essential service providers and operators of other critical infrastructure.” He further indicated that the purpose of this press conference was to “raise awareness of these specific risks and targeted activities and tell you how you can take action to protect yourself.. It is vital that Australian organisations are alert to this threat and take steps to enhance the resilience of their networks.” What steps did the Department/Commonwealth Entity take “to enhance the resilience of their networks” after the Prime Minister’s warning? 2. The Prime Minister’s media release about this state sponsored campaign encouraged organisations to “take expert advice, and implement technical defences to thwart this malicious cyber activity.” Were any additional technical defences implemented within the Department/Commonwealth Entity to enhance the resilience of its networks in the face of the specific threat identified by the Prime Minister? 3. Were any additional controls or mitigations implemented within the Department/Commonwealth Entity to enhance the resilience of its networks in the face of the specific threat identified by the Prime Minister? 4. Was any new staff training initiated to enhance resilience against any phishing attacks targeting staff that may accompany this state sponsored campaign? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, please provide them to the committee. 5. Were any internal communications prepared for staff about the threat of the state sponsored campaign identified by the Prime Minister in his June 19th 2020 press conference and what staff could do to maximise the cyber resilience of the Department/Commonwealth Entity’s networks? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, please provide them to the committee. 6. Was any additional funding allocated to support additional technical defences, controls, mitigations or training within the Department/Commonwealth Entity in response to the Prime Minister’s press conference? 7. Was advice sought from the Australian Signals Directorate about the cyber resilience of the Department/Commonwealth Entity’s networks in the face of the state sponsored campaign identified by the Prime Minister in his June 19th 2020 press conference? 8. Was the Minister briefed on the cyber resilience of the Department/Commonwealth Entity’s networks in the face of the state sponsored campaign identified by the Prime Minister in his June 19th 2020 press conference? 	Written

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					<p>9. Was the Minister briefed on any additional steps to enhance the resilience of the Department/Commonwealth Entity’s networks needed in the face of the state sponsored campaign identified by the Prime Minister in his June 19th 2020 press conference?</p> <p>10. Is the Department/Commonwealth Entity compliant with the Australian Signals Directorate’s ‘Top Four’ mitigations as mandated under the Protective Security Policy Framework?</p> <p>11. Is the Department/Commonwealth Entity compliant with the Australian Signals Directorate’s ‘Essential Eight’ mitigations as recommended under the Protective Security Policy Framework?</p> <p>12. What was the Department/Commonwealth Entity’s total spend on the cyber security of its networks during the 2019-2020 financial year?</p> <p>13. What is the cyber security spend as a proportion of the Department/Commonwealth Entity’s total IT spend?</p> <p>14. What is the Department/Commonwealth Entity’s forecast total spend on the cyber security of its networks during the 2020-2021 financial year?</p> <p>15. Has the Department/Commonwealth Entity’s total spend on cyber security increased proportionately to the increased threat identified in the Prime Minister’s press conference?</p> <p>16. On Tuesday 30th June 2020, the Government announced a \$1.35 billion 10-year investment in cyber security. Was any of this funding allocated to the Department/Commonwealth Entity in order to take steps to enhance the cyber resilience of its own networks in the face of the specific threats identified by the Prime Minister in his press conference on 19 June 2020?</p>	
F218	Finance Portfolio	General	Ayres	DMARC Implementation in Commonwealth Government Entities	<p>1. Has the Department/Commonwealth Entity fully implemented Domain-based Message Authentication, Reporting and Conformance (DMARC) on its email domains?</p> <p>2. Does the full implementation of Domain-based Message Authentication, Reporting and Conformance (DMARC) provide the most effective email domain mitigation against the threat of phishing emails?</p> <p>3. Has the Department/Commonwealth Entity worked with the Australian Cyber Security Centre to progress its implementation of DMARC?</p> <p>4. Has the Department/Commonwealth Entity received an appropriation for the implementation of DMARC?</p> <p>5. Does the Information Security Manual guidance for email gateways and servers recommend “DMARC records are configured for all domains such that emails are rejected if they fail SPF or DKIM checks”?</p> <p>6. The ACSC’s “Malicious Email Mitigation Strategies” provides that “Socially engineered emails containing malicious attachments and embedded links are routinely used in targeted cyber intrusions against organisations.” Is the Department/Commonwealth Entity concerned that the low levels of DMARC implementation within Commonwealth government departments revealed by Proofpoint leaves Australians unnecessarily vulnerable to phishing campaigns spoofing Commonwealth government agency domains?</p>	Written
F219	Finance Portfolio	General	Ayres	APS Staff Cyber Security Training	<p>1. Have APS staff in the Department/Commonwealth Entity received cyber security training?</p> <p>2. How many APS staff in the Department/Commonwealth Entity have attended in person cyber security training sessions?</p> <p>3. Who administers and conducts this training?</p>	Written

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					<p>4. Does the Department/Commonwealth Entity have a target for the proportion of active users of the Department/ Commonwealth Entity’s Network that have completed in-person cyber security training sessions?</p> <p>5. Has consideration been given to making cyber security training mandatory for users of the Department/ Commonwealth Entity’s Network?</p> <p>a. If so, what was the outcome of those considerations?</p> <p>6. What other forms of cyber security training does the Department/Commonwealth Entity provide?</p>	
F220	Finance	2/2.3	Ayres/ Gallacher	Commonwealth Land – Affordable housing	<p>The Government has developed a public, online registry of its land holdings to create the opportunity for stakeholders and the public to propose better use of Commonwealth land. In answers to Questions on Notice received in April Treasury advised that the Government had received six proposals and deemed all six proposals as unsuitable.</p> <p>How many proposals for affordable housing has the Government received since?</p> <p>What steps has the Government taken to act on these proposals for affordable housing?</p>	Written
F221	Finance	2/2.3	Ayres/ Gallacher	Affordable housing initiatives	<p>In December 2017, the Government updated the Commonwealth Property Disposal Policy to require affordable housing initiatives to be considered in the disposal of all Commonwealth land that is suitable for housing. What affordable housing initiatives are required to be included in this policy? To what extent are is this policy being enforced?</p>	Written
F222	Finance Portfolio	General	Kitching	Executive Management	<p>1. In relation to executive management for the Department and its agencies, can the following be provided for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020:</p> <p>a. The total number of executive management positions</p> <p>b. The aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions.</p> <p>c. The change in the number of executive manager positions.</p> <p>d. The change in aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions.</p>	Written
F223	Finance Portfolio	General	Kitching	Ministerial functions	<p>1. In relation to any functions or official receptions hosted by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the following be provided:</p> <p>a. List of functions.</p> <p>b. List of all attendees.</p> <p>c. Function venue.</p> <p>d. Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive).</p> <p>e. Details of any food served.</p> <p>f. Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage.</p> <p>g. Any available photographs of the function.</p> <p>h. Details of any entertainment provided.</p>	Written
F224	Finance Portfolio	General	Kitching	Departmental functions	<p>1. In relation to expenditure on any functions or official receptions etc hosted by the Department or agencies within the portfolio for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the following be provided:</p> <p>a. List of functions.</p> <p>b. List of all attendees.</p> <p>c. Function venue.</p> <p>d. Itemised list of costs (GST <u>inclusive</u>).</p> <p>e. Details of any food served.</p> <p>f. Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage.</p> <p>g. Any available photographs of the function.</p> <p>h. Details of any entertainment provided.</p>	Written

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F225	Finance Portfolio	General	Kitching	Executive office upgrades	1. Have any furniture, fixtures or fittings of the Secretary's office, or the offices of any Deputy Secretaries, been upgraded for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. If so, can an itemised list of costs please be provided (GST <u>inclusive</u>).	Written
F226	Finance Portfolio	General	Kitching	Customised and special-order furniture and office supplies	1. For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the Department/ agency advise the quantum spent on customised and special-ordered furniture and office supplies (excluding items such as ergonomic desks and chairs and items required for work, health and safety purposes). Please provide a full breakdown, descriptions and cost.	Written
F227	Finance Portfolio	General	Kitching	Facilities upgrades	1. Were there any upgrades to facility premises at any of the Departments or agencies for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. This includes but is not limited to: staff room refurbishments, kitchen refurbishments, bathroom refurbishments, the purchase of any new fridges, coffee machines, or other kitchen equipment. 2. If so, can a detailed description of the relevant facilities upgrades be provided together with an itemised list of costs (GST <u>inclusive</u>). 3. If so, can any photographs of the upgraded facilities be provided.	
F228	Finance Portfolio	General	Kitching	Staff travel	1. What is the total cost of staff travel for departmental/agency employees for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.	Written
F229	Finance Portfolio	General	Kitching	Legal costs	1. What are the total legal costs for the Department/agency for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.	Written
F230	Finance	General	Kitching	Secretarial travel	1. Can an itemised list of the costs of all domestic and international travel undertaken by the Secretary of the Department for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020 be provided including: a. Flights for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the airline and class of travel. b. Ground transport for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials. c. Accommodation for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the hotels the party stayed at and the room category in which the party stayed. d. Meals and other incidentals for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials. Any available menus, receipts for meals at restaurants and the like should also be provided. e. Any available photographs documenting the Secretary's travel should also be provided.	Written
F231	Finance Portfolio	General	Kitching	Departmental staff allowances	1. Can a list of Departmental/agency allowances and reimbursements available to employees be provided.	Written
F232	Finance Portfolio	General	Kitching	Market research	1. Does the Department/agency undertake any polling or market research in relation to government policies or proposed policies. 2. If so, can the Department provide an itemised list of: a. Subject matter b. Company c. Costs for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020- 30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020 d. Contract date period 3. Can the Department/agency advise what, if any, research was shared with the Minister or their office and the date and format in which this occurred.	Written
F233	Finance Portfolio	General	Kitching	Advertising and information campaigns	1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on advertising and information campaigns for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 2. What advertising and information campaigns did the Department/agency run in each relevant period. For each campaign, please provide: a. When approval was first sought.	Written

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. The date of approval, including whether the advertising went through the Independent Campaign Committee process. c. the timeline for each campaign, including any variation to the original proposed timeline. <p>3. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all advertising and information campaign contracts in each period be provided.</p>	
F234	Finance Portfolio	General	Kitching	Promotional merchandise	<p>1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on promotional merchandise for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.</p> <p>2. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all promotional merchandise contracts in that period please be provided.</p> <p>3. Can photographs or samples of relevant promotional merchandise please be provided.</p>	Written
F235	Finance	General	Kitching	Ministerial overseas travel	<p>1. Can an itemised list of the costs met by the department or agency for all international travel undertaken by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020 please be provided including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Flights for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials, together with the airline and class of travel. b. Ground transport for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials. c. Accommodation for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the hotels the party stayed at and the room category in which the party stayed. d. Meals and other incidentals for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials. Any available menus, receipts for meals at restaurants and the like should also be provided. e. Any available photographs documenting the Minister's travel should also be provided. 	Written
F236	Finance Portfolio	General	Kitching	Social media influencers	<p>1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on social media influencers for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.</p> <p>2. What advertising or information campaigns did the Department/agency use social media influencers to promote.</p> <p>3. Can a copy of all relevant social media influencer posts please be provided.</p> <p>4. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all relevant social media influencer contracts please be provided.</p>	Written
F237	No question assigned to this number					
F238	Finance Portfolio	General	Kitching	Commissioned Reports and Reviews	<p>1. For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many Reports or Reviews have been commissioned. Please provide details of each report including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Date commissioned. b. Date report handed to Government. c. Date of public release. d. Terms of Reference. e. Committee members and/or Reviewers. <p>2. How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost.</p> <p>3. The background and credentials of the Review personnel.</p> <p>4. The remuneration arrangements applicable to the Review personnel, including fees, disbursements and travel</p> <p>5. The cost of any travel attached to the conduct of the Review.</p> <p>6. How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level.</p> <p>7. What is the current status of each report. When is the Government intending to respond to each report if it has not already done so.</p>	Written

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F239	Finance Portfolio	General	Kitching	Board Appointments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide an update of portfolio boards, including board title, terms of appointment, tenure of appointment and members. 2. What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio 3. Please detail any board appointments made from 30 June 2020 to date. 4. What has been the total value of all Board Director fees and disbursements paid. 5. What is the value of all domestic travel by Board Directors. 6. What is the value of all international travel by Board Directors. 	Written
F240	Finance	General	Kitching	Stationery	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much has been spent on ministerial stationery requirements in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 	Written
F241	Finance Portfolio	General	Kitching	Media monitoring	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the each Minister's office for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Which agency or agencies provided these services. b. Can an itemised list of Austender Contract notice numbers for any media monitoring contracts in each period please be provided c. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the FY 2020-21. 2. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Which agency or agencies provided these services. b. Can an itemised list of Austender Contract Notice numbers for any media monitoring contracts in each period please be provided c. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year FY 2020-21. 	Written
F242	Finance	General	Kitching	Departmental staff in Minister's office	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can the Department provide an update on the total number of departmental staff seconded to ministerial offices, including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Duration of secondment. b. APS level. 2. Can the Department provide an update on the total number of DLOs/CLOs for ministerial offices including APS level. 	Written
F243	Finance Portfolio	General	Kitching	CDDA Payments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many claims have been received under the Compensation for Detriment caused by Defective Administration scheme (CDDA) by the Department for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020? 2. How many claims were: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Accepted. b. Rejected. c. Under consideration. 3. Of the accepted claims, can the Department provide: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Details of the claim, subject to relevant privacy considerations b. The date payment was made c. The decision maker. 	Written
F244	Finance Portfolio	General	Kitching	Recruitment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What amount has been expended by the department/agency on external recruitment or executive search services in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 2. Which services were utilised. Can an itemised list be provided. 	Written
F245	Finance Portfolio	General	Kitching	Staffing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many full-time equivalent staff were engaged at each of 30 June 2019, 30 June 2020 and at 10 November 2020. 2. How many of these positions are (a) ongoing and (b) non-ongoing. 3. How many redundancies have occurred in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 	Written

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					<p>2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. How many were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. voluntary b. involuntary. <p>4. How many of those redundancies occurred as a result of departmental restructuring. What is the total cost of those redundancies.</p> <p>5. What was the total value in dollar terms of all termination payments paid to exiting staff.</p> <p>6. How much overtime or equivalent has been paid to staff in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.</p> <p>7. How many section 37 notices under the <i>Public Service Act 1999</i> have been offered in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.</p>	
F246	Finance Portfolio	General	Kitching	Comcare	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the Department advise whether it has been the subject of any investigations involving Comcare. If yes, please provide details of the circumstances and the status. 2. Can the Department advise the number of sanctions it has received from Comcare in the each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 	Written
F247	Finance Portfolio	General	Kitching	Fair Work Commission	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many references have been made to the Fair Work Commission within the Department or agency. 	Written
F248	Finance Portfolio	General	Kitching	Fair Work Ombudsman	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many references have been made to the Fair Work Ombudsman within the Department or agency. 	Written
F249	Finance Portfolio	General	Kitching	Office of the Merit Protection Commissioner	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many references have been made to the Office of the Merit Protection Commissioner within the Department or agency. 	Written
F250	Finance Portfolio	General	Kitching	Public Interest Disclosures	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many public interest disclosures have been received. 	Written
F251	AEC	General	Farrell	Market Research Groom by-election	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What were the services contracted under prequalified tender contract CN3725511 for \$45,000 described as ‘Research for the Groom by-election’? 2. Why does the contract run until 28 February 2021, three months past the date of the by-election? 3. How many providers tendered for the contract? 4. What criteria were used to select the successful tenderer, Wallis Research? 5. Why is the AEC conducting market research? 6. Does the AEC conduct market research at each general election and by-election? 7. Since 2013, how many times has the AEC used the services of Wallis Research? 	Written