



## Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee Budget Estimates 2024–25 Tuesday, 28 May 2024 Daily Summary

The committee met from 9.00am until 11.02pm.

The committee called the following departments and agencies:

- Department of the Senate
- Parliamentary Budget Office
- Department of Parliamentary Services
- Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topics discussed by the committee included:

### Department of the Senate

- Guidance around answers to questions on notice;
- Senate Resolution 36, interference with witnesses;
- Use of generative artificial intelligence (AI); and
- Staffing and resourcing.

### Department of Parliamentary Services

- Staffing and executive remuneration;
- Electric vehicle charging infrastructure;
- Departmental culture and staff satisfaction;
- Incentive to retire processes;
- Process for the disclosure of conflicts of interest;
- Accessibility of Australian Parliament House;
- Implementation of the Jenkins Review;
- Remuneration of technical staff;
- Use of contractors;
- Restoration and display of the Magna Carta;
- Cyber security posture of DPS systems; and
- Use of generative artificial intelligence (AI).

### Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PMC)

- Deportation of individuals with poor character and Ministerial Direction 99;
- Approaches to Senate Estimates QoNs guidance document;
- Future Made in Australia Plan;
- NDIS Review Panel secretariat support;
- Progress of election commitments - cabinet subcommittee;
- Public holiday flexibility and how this is recorded;
- Staffing budget and average staffing level;
- Engagement with external consultants or contractors regarding preparation for Senate Estimates;
- Travel and working arrangements for PMC Secretary, Professor Glyn Davis AC;
- Messaging and communication platforms used by PMC staff and recordkeeping;

- Use of generative artificial intelligence in PMC; and
- Chair and Advisory Board membership for the future Net Zero Economy Authority.

The committee will next meet at 9.00am on Wednesday, 29 May in Committee Room 2S1, for an examination of the Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio and the Finance Portfolio.