



Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee
Budget Estimates 2021-22
Wednesday, 26 May 2021
Daily summary

Here is the summary of today's proceedings in the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee estimates hearing.

The committee met from 9.00am until 10.30pm.

The committee called the Attorney-General's Department in relation to cross-portfolio, corporate and general matters and the following groups of the department:

- Legal Services and Families;
- Integrity and International Group; and
- Australian Government Solicitor Group.

Topics discussed by the committee included:

- application of Ministerial Standards to historical allegations concerning the Attorney-General;
- provision of legal assistance funding to ministers (and staff) under the Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017;
- legislative and policy reform for domestic and family violence, including consideration of the criminalisation of coercive control;
- provision in the budget for women's safety initiatives;
- appointments to the AAT;
- costs to the Commonwealth in the matter of *Palmer v Western Australia* [2021] HCA 5 and related matters;
- reforms to Class Action Litigation Funding arrangements;
- Commonwealth Integrity Commission; and
- Religious Discrimination Bill.