



Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee  
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2025–26  
Wednesday, 8 October 2025  
Daily summary

The committee met from 9.01am until 10.54pm.

The committee called the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet portfolio and the Department of Finance portfolio, discussing the following topics:

Anindilyakwa Land Council (ALC), Central Land Council (CLC), Northern land Council (NLC), and Tiwi Land Council (TLC)

- Consultation on the cessation of the cross-portfolio Indigenous matters estimates;
- CLC relationship with the Centrecorp Foundation and private companies, including Good Advice;
- CLC procedures for consultation with traditional owners;
- NLC conflict of interest management; and
- Average approval timing for Section 19 leasing applications.

Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA)

- Tagai Kemer Kemer Zugubal (TKKZ) alignment with the TSRA development plan; and
- Torres Strait Community Consultation Planning Project and implementation of programs for Torres Strait and Aboriginal people in the Torres Strait region.

Aboriginal Investment NT, Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation, Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations, and Outback Stores Pty Ltd

- Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation – consultations and potential sale of Ayres Rock Resort and Mossman Gorge Centre;
- Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander corporations' compliance with financial and performance reporting obligations;
- Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006 (CATSI Act) review and consultation processes;
- Requirements for officials of Indigenous Corporations working with vulnerable children to obtain Working with Vulnerable People certification; and
- Outback Stores – training and certification of staff to build an Indigenous workforce.

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet – Office for Women (OFW)

- Sexual violence funding allocation and composition and analysis of service provision;
- Average Staffing Level and budget allocations for OFW activities;
- Performance of Australia in international rankings for gender equality;
- Number of homes for vulnerable women and children delivered under the Housing Australia Future Fund; and
- Effect of tax cuts on the gender superannuation gap.

### Workplace Gender Equality Agency

- Workforce composition and legislative definitions.

### Australian Public Service Commission (APSC)

- Departure and selection processes for departmental Secretaries;
- Representation of culturally diverse communities in the Senior Executive Service and anti-racism training in the Australian Public Service (APS);
- Progress on APS Reform Stage 2 (integrity initiatives) implementation;
- APSC's stance on government outsourcing to consultants, and the role of consultants in APS Artificial Intelligence (AI) training, and use of AI by the APS;
- Consultation with the APS Commissioner on use of non-disclosure agreements in relation to instances of sexual harassment, and victim-survivors' access to legal advice in such processes; and
- Freedom of Information request and Senate Order for the Production of Documents for the Briggs report of the review of public sector board appointments processes, and the current status of the report.

### Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet – Australian Government Consulting

- Update on Australian Government Consulting's work since its formation in 2023.

### Department of Finance

- Government decisions around consulting procurement and contracts, specifically allowing PricewaterhouseCoopers to tender for government contracts;
- Departmental work and advice on deregulation and Australia's regulatory system;
- Review of Final Budget Outcome and spending decisions by government;
- Negotiations with Landbridge surrounding the Port of Darwin lease; and
- Utilisation of Generative AI by consulting firms, especially Deloitte's AI use in a report produced for government.

### Future Fund Management Agency (FFMA)

- Management of conflicts of interest and FFMA interactions with purchasing and negotiating processes;
- Performance and penalisation structures for investment managers and equity; and
- Composition of Australian Government Investment Funds especially potential holdings in corporations producing weapons used in Gaza.

### Services Australia

- Freedom of Information requests and processing;
- Investigation into the defrauding of Medicare benefits by two inmates of Melbourne Immigration Detention Facility; and
- Role Services Australia plays in payment cancellations and suspensions around mutual obligations and the targeted compliance framework.

The committee agreed to release ASC Pty Ltd, Australian Naval Infrastructure Pty Ltd and the Digital Transformation Agency from the hearing.

The committee will resume its examination of the 2025-26 Supplementary Budget Estimates with the Parliamentary Departments portfolio at 9:00am on Friday, 31 October 2025.

Please contact the secretariat on (02) 6277 5780 or [fpa.sen@aph.gov.au](mailto:fpa.sen@aph.gov.au) if you have any questions.