

**USER GUIDE
TO THE
PORTFOLIO BUDGET STATEMENTS**

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The purpose of the 2015-16 Portfolio Budget Statements (PB Statements) is to inform the Senate of the proposed allocation of resources to the Department of the Senate (the department) and the funding proposed in the appropriation bills.

A key role of the PB Statements is to facilitate the understanding of proposed annual appropriations in Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) Bill (No. 1) 2015-16. In this sense the PB Statements are Budget related papers and are declared by the Appropriation Acts to be 'relevant documents' to the interpretation of the Acts according to section 15AB of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*.

The PB Statements provide information, explanation and justification to enable the Senate to understand the purpose of each outcome proposed in the Bills.