

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S PORTFOLIO

Program: 1.4 Justice Services

Question No. SBE16/060

Senator Wong asked the following question at the hearing on 18 October 2016:

Senator WONG: And the department's advice is that no selection committee was established in relation to any of the 76 positions. So, my next question—not about advertising—is whether or not, in relation to any appointment to the AAT by this Attorney-General, there has been a selection committee process established.

Mr Anderson: There has been only that one batch of appointments, in May.

Senator WONG: So the answer is no.

Mr Anderson: That is correct.

Senator WONG: Was the department asked to advise on whether the 76 and in particular the 37 new appointments were appropriately qualified?

Mr Anderson: No, we were not.

Senator WONG: So, you provided no advice as to whether or not any of the 37 new appointments were appropriately qualified?

Mr Anderson: We gave no advice on the individual appointments.

Senator WONG: Where did the names come from? Did the department generate a list of names?

Mr Anderson: No, we did not.

Senator WONG: No list of names was generated by the department?

Mr Anderson: That is correct.

Senator WONG: So the list was generated in the Attorney-General's office?

Mr Anderson: I would have to take that on notice.

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

The appointments were made in accordance with the protocol agreed between the Attorney-General and the President of the AAT, a copy of which is attached.