

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2016-17

Finance Portfolio
28 February 2017

Department/Agency: Finance
Outcome/Program: 2/2.5
Topic: Procurement rules

Senator: Kitching

Question reference number: F33

Type of question: Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 77, 28 February 2017

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Thursday, 13 April 2017

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator KITCHING: Was that a conversation with Senator Xenophon, do you mean, not a conversation at cabinet or an agenda item on the cabinet papers?

Senator Cormann: Before the government decided to proceed a particular way, after having reached certain understandings with Senator Xenophon, we followed the proper processes and received the necessary authority as required to make relevant changes. If you want more detail, we will provide that on notice.

Senator KITCHING: The detail I would like, which you have agreed to provide on notice is: what date did it go to cabinet?

Senator Cormann: Well, we will provide on notice whatever we can provide.

...

Senator Cormann: It has gone through the normal processes of government with the appropriate authorities provided.

Senator KITCHING: So, therefore, that would go to cabinet. So what date did it go to cabinet?

Senator Cormann: Well, you are making all sorts of assumptions. We will provide on notice the answer about what date the appropriate authorities were received to make the changes that we have announced in relation to the procurement arrangements for the Commonwealth.

Answer:

The Commonwealth Procurement Rules are a non-disallowable instrument issued by the Finance Minister under s105B(1) of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*.

The Commonwealth Procurement Rules instrument was registered on the Federal Register of Legislation on 29 November 2016, with a date of commencement of 1 March 2017.