

**Senate Economics Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Additional Estimates

2015 - 2016

**Department/Agency: Australian Securities and Investment Commission**

**Question: AET 104-107**

**Topic: Turnbull Opposition**

**Reference: written - 17 February 2016**

**Senator: Dastyari, Sam**

**Question:**

**Turnbull Opposition**

In a speech to the Australian Information industry summit in March 2014, the then Minister of Communications, Malcolm Turnbull criticised the proposal to sell access to data.

He claimed “the productivity benefits from making data freely available are so much greater than whatever revenues you can generate from them”... and “as a matter of principle, I don’t think the government should be charging the public for data.”

104. Has the new Prime Minister, or his PMO, sought a briefing on the sale of the ASIC registry?

105. This process has been underway since April 2014. Has the process been delayed in any way since September 2015?

106. What are the ‘Productivity benefits’ of making company data publicly available?

107. Is the company data for Prime Minister Turnbull’s companies now publicly available, as a result of his announcement on 24 November 2015, that he would ask to be taken off the list of companies enjoying a grandfathered exemption from ASIC’s normal reporting requirements?

**Answer:**

104. ASIC is not in a position to answer this question as we are not aware of what the PM or PMO seeks briefings upon.

105 – 107. NA