

SENATE ECONOMICS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – 2014-15 BUDGET ESTIMATES – 2-3 JUNE 2014
INDUSTRY PORTFOLIO

Q No.	Senator	Division/ Agency	Broad topic	Question	Hansard page & date or Written question	Date received by Secretariat	Date tabled
BI-1	Ludlam	ANSTO	Spent Fuel Assemblies to the US	<p>Senator LUDLAM: Okay. What is the timing of the first proposed shipment to the United States? Can you give us some ideas of how many shipments are planned, what number of fuel assemblies are involved and, by the end of that forward estimates period or that \$45 million worth of expenditure, has everything been transferred to the United States apart from the current fuel inventory of the reactor?</p> <p>Dr Paterson: I will take the details on notice so that we can provide you a full account, but at present we are anticipating two shipment. The detailed dates of those shipments are not absolutely finalised, but they would be completed by the end of 2019.</p> <p>Senator LUDLAM: So the forward estimates would envisage two shipments. It is \$22½ million per shipment of spent fuel.</p> <p>Dr Paterson: That is correct, although that is in some ways an oversimplification because there are planning and other arrangements.</p> <p>Senator LUDLAM: Sure. We have not done one of these from OPAL before, have we?</p> <p>Dr Paterson: We have certainly shipped spent fuel around the world from the HIFAR days, but this will be the first one from OPAL and will deal with the fuel from initiation of operations through until May 2016.</p> <p>Senator LUDLAM: Thank you. If you could on notice provide for us your indicative time tables and what kind of volumes are involved. Where does it go in the United States, and what is the plan for management there?</p> <p>Dr Paterson: It is returned to the specialised facilities in the United States. We will provide the details on notice.</p> <p>Senator LUDLAM: You do not know at the table where it is going? Is it one of the US reprocessing plants or just for dry storage?</p> <p>Dr Paterson: I imagine that those details will be in their hands. I do not have it to hand at the moment. We will provide it on notice.</p>	Page 9 2.06.2014		

BI-2	Ludlam	ANSTO	OPAL Reactor	<p>Senator LUDLAM: I certainly do not want to chew into the time for CSIRO too much. Dr Paterson, go through this: your budget papers say \$31.6 million to run the research reactor at full capacity. I should not take that to read that that is an increase in output or anything along those lines?</p> <p>Dr Paterson: No. It is the re-baselining of the funding for consistent and ongoing operation.</p> <p>Senator LUDLAM: When you say re-baselining, is that another way of saying 'increasing'?</p> <p>Dr Paterson: No. The original baseline was set by the operations of the HIFAR reactor, which had different capacities and different scope. It was always intended that, once we had some operational experience, we would bring forward the funding envelope that is required to operate the reactor.</p> <p>Senator LUDLAM: How much of an increase does that re-baselining represent?</p> <p>Dr Paterson: In terms of an overall increase, I will provide that on notice, but the major drivers have been electricity cost and fuel cost.</p> <p>Senator LUDLAM: Weren't we contracted with the United States government to provide fuel at a certain cost? How come that has gone up?</p> <p>Dr Paterson: No, our fuel supply comes from France, and that is supplied on a commercial basis from a commercial company.</p> <p>Senator LUDLAM: Alright. I will leave it there. Can you on notice break out the different components and disaggregate where those figures have come from if you could?</p> <p>Dr Paterson: Yes.</p> <p>Senator LUDLAM: Thanks Chair.</p>	Page 11-12 2.06.2014		
BI-3	Carr	CSIRO	Movement of Facilities at Parkes	<p>Senator KIM CARR: How many jobs do you think will have to go at Parkes?</p> <p>Dr Clark: I will take that on notice. As I just mentioned we will be looking at those broader implications. I would highlight that we have signalled for some time that we would move Parkes's two remote operations. That is not new. We are implementing those changes to operate that facility.</p>	Page 16 2.06.2014		
BI-4	Carr	CSIRO	Wine and Grape Research	<p>Senator KIM CARR: The grapes and horticultural facility at Merbein?</p> <p>Dr Clark: If you are referring to Merbein, that was closed in 2009.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: What has happened to the grape vine connection?</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: 2009 would have been under you?</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: That is right.</p>	Page 16 2.06.2014		

				<p>Dr Clark: I would need to take that on notice, because I would need to revisit it. It was something we were covering in 2009-10. But what I can say is that our Waite facility in South Australia is undertaking much of our wine and grape research. It has recently been reviewed. It works with the wine industry. As you will be aware, at the Waite campus we have a major partnership with the wine industry and the wine research centres that are based there in South Australia.</p>			
BI-5	Carr	CSIRO	Budget Impacts on the National Collections	<p>Senator KIM CARR: In regard to the national collections, there is a range of them. What are the implications for the national collection of these reductions in budgets.</p> <p>Dr Clark: I will take that on notice.</p>	Page 17		
BI-6	Carr	CSIRO	CSIRO Redundancies	<p>Senator KIM CARR: What is the process you will undertake in regard to redundancies?</p> <p>Ms Bennett: The process is set out in our enterprise agreement. In the main it means that managers determine the detail areas that are impacted and we then enter into staff consultations. It is a very formal process of individual discussions. If you wish to have the details perhaps it is easier for me to provide them on notice.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Would you do that? I particularly would like to know what the level of consultation will be with affected business units. What is the method of selection? Is it first on-last off? What is the arrangement?</p>	Page 19		
BI-7	Carr	CSIRO	Staffing Changes in Neurosciences, Clinical Medicine and Agricultural & Environmental Research Areas	<p>Senator KIM CARR: What is the effect of withdrawing from neurosciences and clinical medicine? How many people are you taking out of that area?</p> <p>Dr Clark: I will take that question on notice...</p> <p>...Senator KIM CARR: What will the job losses be, in terms of environmental research, and that includes agricultural-research areas?</p> <p>Dr Clark: As I mentioned, our managers are currently working through—</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Would you take that on notice?</p>	Page 20-21		
BI-8	Milne	Energy Efficiency & Renewables Division	Renewable Energy Investments	<p>Senator Ronaldson: From recollection, Senator Milne talked about dollars invested in renewable energy. I will take the exact question on notice as to where those investments are, but I note that there are investment companies like Victorian Wave Partners who have \$66.5 million; AGL has a large solar project at Broken Hill for \$166 million; and community energy programs provide more than \$400 million to schools, not-for-profits and households to install renewable technology. So to say that there is no support for renewable energy is not right. But I will take the bulk of the question on notice and we will get a breakdown of those investments for Senator Milne.</p>	Page 25		

BI-9	Carr	Science, Research & Innovation Division	Science Funding Tables	<p>Senator KIM CARR: I did not see the science funding tables in the budget. Were any given to you?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: They are currently being prepared, so they should be out shortly.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: They are normally produced on budget night. What is the delay?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: We just need to make sure it is well coordinated across government.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: When will they be ready?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: We expect they will be ready in the next few weeks.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: That is strange. The budget was a couple of weeks ago. We used to have them ready on budget night. Were they not ready on budget night?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: We did not have them ready on budget night.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Why? Didn't you know on budget night how much money was being spent on science?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: As I said, we are coordinating and updating the tables and they will be available shortly.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I look forward to it. Could you take that on notice, please? Can we have the precise date on which they will be available to the committee?</p> <hr/> <p><i>Senator Ronaldson: A couple of the officers at the table have minor clarifications to make.</i></p> <p><i>CHAIR: Please proceed.</i></p> <p><i>Ms Beauchamp: Senator Carr asked yesterday when the science, research and innovation tables would be ready. I think I said that they would be ready in a few weeks. As per the last couple of years, they will not be available until the end of July.</i></p>	Page 28 2.06.2014	Answered later during proceedings (p24 - 3.6.14)	
BI-10	Carr	Science, Research & Innovation Division	Funding for the Office of the Chief Scientist	<p>Senator KIM CARR: Professor Chubb, how much is your office being funded for in this budget?</p> <p>Prof. Chubb: It is in the order of \$2 million, plus \$1 million additional for the maths and science adviser and supporting that role. So, all up, it is about \$3 million. I am not sure of the exact dollar amount.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Could you take that on notice for me, please?</p> <p>Prof. Chubb: Sure.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: And perhaps you could show me where I will find that number in the budget. I am sure it will be there somewhere, but you would probably be better at identifying that than I would.</p> <p>Prof. Chubb: We will have a look for you.</p>	Page 28 2.06.2014		

BI-11	Carr	Science, Research & Innovation Division	Meeting Date for PMSEC	<p>Senator KIM CARR: Could you take on notice to give me the date for the next meeting of PMSEC?</p> <p>Prof. Chubb: Sure.</p>	Page 28 2.06.2014		
BI-12	Carr	Science, Research & Innovation Division	Preparation of Draft Questions for Committee Members	<p>Senator KIM CARR: Has any officer of the department assisted in the preparation of draft questions for members of this committee?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: Not that I am aware of.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Could you take that on notice for me—'any' officer?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: Yes.</p> <hr/> <p><i>Senator KIM CARR: Fair enough. That just reminded me: Madam Secretary, I asked you yesterday if any officers from your department had provided any draft questions for members of this committee, and you said you were not aware of any. Have you had a chance to check that?</i></p> <p><i>Ms Beauchamp: I have checked with most of my senior colleagues, and they are not aware. It would not be an appropriate practice.</i></p> <p><i>Senator KIM CARR: Sorry?</i></p> <p><i>Ms Beauchamp: We would not normally do that.</i></p> <p><i>Senator KIM CARR: I know you would not; that is why I am asking the question. I have never known the department to do it. I am just asking if it is going on—</i></p> <p><i>Ms Beauchamp: No.</i></p>	Page 30 2.06.2014	Answered later during proceedings (p7 - 3.6.14)	
BI-13	Carr	Geoscience Australia	Graduate Recruitment	<p>Senator KIM CARR: How many graduate recruits have you hired over the last ten years?</p> <p>Dr Pigram: I will take that on notice and give you an exact number.</p>	Page 34 2.06.2014		
BI-14	Gallacher	Anti-Dumping Commission	Paper Dumping Complaints	<p>Senator GALLACHER: Has there been a complaint or application about paper sourced from Germany and Austria—</p> <p>Mr Seymour: Not to my knowledge</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: alleging that it is previously sourced from Russian forests without any environmental controls?</p> <p>Mr Seymour: I can check the records around previous matters and get back to you, if you like.</p>	Page 37 2.06.2014		

BI-15	Gallacher	Corporate Division	Paper Sourced by the Department	<p>Senator GALLACHER: Thank you, that is fine. Ms Beauchamp, would you provide me on notice the percentage of Australian made paper your department purchases?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: Sorry, the percentage of?</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: Australian made paper—sourced in Australia. We have a paper industry here so I would like to know where your department sources its paper—Australian manufacturers, hopefully, with Australian workers having made it or recycled it. What percentage of Australian made sourced and made paper does your department use?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I will have to take that on notice.</p>	Page 38 2.06.2014		
BI-16	Xenophon	Anti-Dumping Commission	Anti-Dumping Regime Differences with other Countries	<p>Senator XENOPHON: I appreciate that, but I am familiar with the mechanism that takes place. I am happy to put that on notice; I am trying not to burn up time in relation to technical matters. In the United States and in Europe action was taken much earlier. Is that because the way the regime works there to do with dumping and countervailing measures is that they can initiate action without a complaint being received?</p> <p>Mr Seymour: The approach taken in other jurisdictions is somewhat different to Australia's approach—</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: Is it fair to say that the approach in other jurisdictions such as the United States and Europe is one where they do not need to wait for a complaint—if they believe they have credible evidence of products being dumped in those jurisdictions, they can take action whereas we have a different process? I am not criticising the commission—</p> <p>Mr Seymour: No, I understand the question. Essentially the processes are somewhat different. In Australia there is a requirement that the application be made domestically and that I be satisfied that the tests under the act are met. That can be a somewhat complex exercise and it can explain some of the time taken between date of application and, with Tindo, the date of initiation. It is a moot point to argue what is more efficient and effective in terms of different jurisdictions. The reason I do not want to get involved in a detailed conversation here—I am more than happy to write you a comparative on it—</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: I would be grateful for it on notice.</p> <p>Mr Seymour: is that it is a complex matter.</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: My understanding is that in May 2012 the US imposed anti-dumping duties of more than 31 per cent on solar panels from China. They are ahead of the game by two years in that sense. Presumably, they are the same panels or same sorts of panels. In the meantime, it has been killing Australian industry in terms of being able to compete fairly.</p> <p>Mr Seymour: That is the matter that we are currently investigating. I would make a general observation that the strengthening of the system must involve better</p>	Page 38-39 2.06.2014		

				<p>information and awareness amongst Australian industry of the importance and the remedy that might be available to them under Australia's anti-dumping system. Getting that information out to industry is an important aspect of our role.</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: In terms of jurisdictional comparisons, is it fair to say that the model we have to deal with dumping cases is more reactive than proactive than, say, the United States?</p> <p>Mr Seymour: You could make that observation, but I would like to take on notice an obligation to come back to report you.</p>			
BI-17	Xenophon	Business Comp & Trade Division	Anti-Dumping Regime Review	<p>Senator XENOPHON: Let's move on, because of time constraints. Under the current model, industry bears most of the responsibility and all of the cost, in that they have to bring cases before the commission before any action is to be taken. I put this to the department and to the minister: has any modelling or research been done on the benefits to Australian industry and the system as a whole if the commission were to take a more proactive role? Again, it is not a criticism of the commission.</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: We are looking at implementing the government's election commitments that were made in August 2013. The minister has also asked us to look at whether any other reforms or processes are needed to improve the competitiveness of Australia's industries.</p> <p>Obviously, we will take back the issues you have raised. But I know discussions were occurring about the government or the department taking a more proactive role, not just the legislative requirements of Mr Seymour's commission. We will look at that in the context of options that are being put to government this year in anticipation that the election commitments will be implemented from early next year.</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: As part of that review, does that include the way that we interpret the WTO agreements, given that the same agreements seem to be interpreted differently by other countries, particularly the United States, in terms of ensuring that dumped products do not damage their domestic industry?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: We will be looking at those interpretations.</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: When will we know the outcome of that, and will that process include consultation with Australian industry in respect of that review?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: We will take those issues on board. We are working through the options with the minister at the moment. In terms of consultation, I would have to take that on notice.</p>	Page 39 2.06.2014		
BI-18	Xenophon	Business Comp & Trade Division	International Trade Remedies Advisory Service Report	<p>Senator XENOPHON: Does the commission work with the International Trade Remedies Advisory Service for small and medium enterprises within the Australian Industry Group? The feedback I have had is that it is a very useful service. Does the commission consider this service to be beneficial? Does the commission provide feedback to this service and to the department on this service's operations, and, if so,</p>	Page 40 2.06.2014	Answered later during proceedings (p43 - 2.6.14)	

				<p>what has the feedback contained?</p> <p>Mr Seymour: The answer would be that we work very effectively with the Ai Group that administers the grant from the Australian government for the International Trade Remedies Advisor, and the ITRA, as it is referred to, has been a very useful mechanism inside the Ai Group for pulling together SME applications for dumping and duty assessment activity under the Australian antidumping system. I am aware that the department undertook an evaluation some months ago, as per the contract obligation. It would be a matter for the department to comment on the outcomes of the evaluation and any—</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: Is that public, Ms Beauchamp?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I would have to take that on notice. I am not sure.</p> <hr/> <p><i>Ms Beauchamp: Senator Xenophon raised an issue about the availability of a report from the International Trade Remedies Forum—the evaluation. I would like to put on the record that it has not yet been made public and that I do not have an anticipated date for publication.</i></p>			
BI-19	Carr	Anti-Dumping Commission	Quicklime Exports from Thailand	<p>Senator KIM CARR: I was wondering if I could ask you about the status of the investigation into the dumping of quicklime exports from Thailand, which I understand was initially investigated or instigated in October 2011.</p> <p>Mr Seymour: On 2 May 2013, the then Customs and Border Protection Service terminated an investigation of quicklime exported to Australia from Thailand for the second time. On 8 August 2013 the Anti-Dumping Review Panel overturned the termination decision, and the Anti-Dumping Commission resumed the investigation. Due to the particularly complex legal issues involved and the unique circumstances of the case, the commission's resumed investigation has taken longer than expected. The commission is currently working on a statement of essential facts for the resumed investigation, and I would expect to be in a position to publish that statement of essential facts very shortly.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I just want to be clear about a couple of factual matters. Is it true that Cockburn Cement made allegations that the firm experienced material injury as a result of products being dumped in the period from March to June 2010?</p> <p>Mr Seymour: I do not have the case file in front of me, so I am hesitant to confirm matters of fact in relation to a very complex matter. May I take that on notice and come back to you?</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Thank you. Was that the specific period that was subsequently investigated, and if not, why not? I presume you will tell me you have not got the case file here and cannot answer that.</p> <p>Mr Seymour: I cannot answer it in detail other than to say that the statement of essential facts that I will be publishing will deal with that matter directly.</p>	Page 40 2.06.2014 Written 16.06.2014		

				<p>Senator KIM CARR: I would be interested to know whether or not it is correct that imports of quicklime products from Thailand were found to be dumped at a margin of 48 per cent in the period July 2010 to June 2011. Are you able to help me with that?</p> <p>Mr Seymour: You are correct in terms of the period in question, but the matters are legally complex and I am hesitant to make a comment about them today. I would rather take that on notice and also ask that we rely upon my publishing of the statement of essential facts in that matter, which as I say is due very shortly.</p> <hr/> <p>In relation to the investigation into the dumping of quicklime exports from Thailand and allegations from Cockburn Cement that the firm experienced material injury as a result of products being dumped in the period March-June 2010.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Was this the specific period that was subsequently investigated? If not, why not? Is it correct that imports of quicklime products from Thailand were found to be dumped at a margin of 48 per cent in the period July 2010-June 2011? Why hasn't the Anti-Dumping Commission determined the dumping status of imports of quicklime from Thailand in the period specified by Cockburn Cement, when imports immediately following this period have been found to be dumped? d. Does the Commission agree that this dumping determination is necessary to establish whether the material injury suffered by the Australian industry is caused by dumping? 			
BI-20	Carr	Anti-Dumping Commission	Operations of the International Trade Remedies Forum during Caretaker	<p>Senator KIM CARR: Well I would ask you to answer that particular matter because it might go to the cause for anxiety about this issue. Can I turn now to some other questions that relate to the operations of the International Trade Remedies Forum, which was in part touched on by Senator Gallacher. When was the last time it met? Was it 25 of March 2013?</p> <p>Mr Seymour: Yes, that is correct.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Can you tell me why it has not met since that date?</p> <p>Mr Seymour: The ITRF was due to meet during the period that became the election period, so the caretaker period, and so the judgement inside the Australian Customs and Border Protections service, from the CEO, who is the chair, was to hold that meeting over subject to the outcome of the federal elation. It is my understanding that that was the decision taken by the CEO of Customs and we are now awaiting confirmation as to how the government wishes to manage the ITRF's next meeting and setting an agenda for any meeting that might take place. In the meantime, I as the commissioner have gone around and spoken to each member of the ITRF about the program of activity for the Anti-Dumping Commission and have received a generally positive response that we are delivering our work program as was understood to be the case.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Can I ask you why the operations of the International Trade Remedies Forum would in any way be affected by the caretaker conventions?</p>	Page 41 2.06.2014		

				<p>Mr Seymour: I think at the time it was just difficult to literally line up the parties during that caretaker period.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: But was there a requirement to discuss any of these issues with anyone in the executive? Is this not an independent authority? What has it got to do with the caretaker conventions?</p> <p>Mr Seymour: It was just a judgement made by the administration at the time that it would be better to hold that meeting over until after the election had taken place.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Can you take on notice for me the explanation of why it was necessary because of the caretaker conventions not to hold a meeting of this type.</p> <p>Mr Seymour: Certainly.</p>			
BI-21	Carr	Anti-Dumping Commission	International Trade Remedies Forum Meetings	<p>Senator Ronaldson: The ITRF is under consideration from the government and there will be announcements made in due course.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Sorry, you were saying that the work of the—</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: I said that all these matters, including the ITRF, are under consideration by the government and there will be announcements made in due course.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Considerations for what purpose—to cease their activity? Why would that require the forum to stop working?</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: Senator, how can you possibly—</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: None of the groups have met.</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: take my comment from there, and then the implication is that the committee will not continue? Why would you do that, given that is not what I said? I said—</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: that this is under consideration, and you have said, 'What—why? Are you going to dump it?' That is not what I said at all. I said it is under consideration.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Why have these groups not met?</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: I will take that matter on notice. But what I am saying to is that this issue is under consideration and there will be announcements made by the government during the year, including our election commitments.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Has the government instructed the forum not to meet?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: No, and a date has not been established for the next meeting.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Has there been any advice issued to any of the working groups not to meet?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: You will take that on notice as well. Thank you. Can I ask you: when can we expect the forum to meet?</p>	Page 41-42 2.06.2014		

				<p>Senator Ronaldson: I said to you before, these matters are under consideration by the government and the government will make announcements in the fullness of time. I do not think there is anything else that can be added by myself or the secretary in relation to that matter.</p>			
BI-22	Carr	AIMS	Research Vessel Operations	<p>Senator KIM CARR: What about the operation of vessels? Will you see a reduction in days at sea?</p> <p>Mr Gunn: One of the strong tenets of AIMS is that we believe in everything from the collection of data through to the development of process understanding and then advice to policymakers and industry. This end-to-end model of doing research is absolutely fundamental to the work we do. Again, when considering our adaptive strategy we fully expect to be able to run our vessels—two research vessels and our smaller fleet of runabouts—as we have previously. We have actually been oversubscribed in our time on vessels over the last three or four years that I know of and so we have been hiring days on other vessels. I fully expect us to wind back our chartering of external vessels over the next four years.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: By what level are you winding them back?</p> <p>Mr Gunn: I will take that on notice.</p>	Page 46 2.06.2014		
BI-23	Carr	AIMS	International Travel	<p>Senator KIM CARR: What is the effect of the restriction on travel?</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: Do not use the word ban when it is permission. You just keep on doing this all the time. You have been grumpy over there all morning. You have been having a crack at the Chair all day and now you are making things up. Why don't you just ask the question appropriately rather than behaving as you are at the moment?</p> <p>Mr Gunn: The directive that I was given was that all travel for AIMS up to a certain amount—I think it was up to \$50,000 on any single travel event—was at the CEO's discretion. As we always do, we look very carefully at every overseas trip that AIMS scientists make. To my understanding every proposal that was put in front of me was supported. So there was, and has been, no cut in overseas engagement.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Have you had the same level of travel as last year?</p> <p>Mr Gunn: I will take that on notice, but on face value I do not believe that it would be any less than last year.</p>	Page 46 2.06.2014		
BI-24	Wright	NOPSEMA	Environmental Plans	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When a stakeholder raises concerns with NOPSEMA about what is contained in a submitted exploration Environmental Plan, how does NOPSEMA determine if a stakeholder is raising relevant points or not? 2. What process is in place to determine this? 3. Has NOPSEMA considered making Environmental Plan documentation available to stakeholders? 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		

				<p>4. Please provide the number of Environment Plans NOPSEMA accepted in the previous 12 months</p> <p>5. Please provide the number of Environment Plans NOPSEMA rejected in the previous 12 months</p> <p>6. How many NOSPEMA Environment Plan decisions, both to accept or reject, were disputed in the previous 12 months?</p>			
BI-25	Carr	ASQA	Strategic Review into Marketing and Advertising Practices	<p>Senator KIM CARR: When do you anticipate that the government will respond to the report?</p> <p>Prof. Lavarch: The range of the recommendations was at three levels. Some of the recommendations went to ASQA itself in its regulatory scrutiny and the approach that it should take. Some of the recommendations went to the standards—that is, the national standards that apply to the market as a whole. There were some suggestions as to how some of the standards might be adjusted in order to respond to some of the concerns expressed in the report. And the third level of those recommendations went to some of the other regulatory agencies. With this particular report, I understand that the minister has written to other ministers about those areas which are in play. In other respects, ASQA itself has taken action in implementing the recommendations.</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: That is a matter for the government. I am happy to take that question on notice otherwise.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Which question would that be, that you would like to take on notice?</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: The one you asked Professor Lavarch before about when the government was going to respond to it.</p>	Page 55 2.06.2014		
BI-26	Carr	ASQA	Unique International College	<p>Senator KIM CARR: Have you come across a Granville based college by the name of Unique International College?</p> <p>Prof. Lavarch: It is not ringing a bell. There are the best part of 4,000 entities which ASQA—</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: But that one does not immediately come to you on your compliance list?</p> <p>Prof. Lavarch: It is not ringing an immediate bell.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Would you take that on notice?</p> <p>Prof. Lavarch: Yes, I would be happy to.</p>	Page 55 2.06.2014		
BI-27	Carr	ASQA	Student Enrolment Incentives	<p>Senator KIM CARR: Is it common practice to enrol students on the basis of incentives such as the provision of iPads or laptops or \$1,000 shopping vouchers rather than on the basis of academic record?</p>	Page 56 2.06.2014		

				<p>Prof. Lavarch: I do not know whether we have complete analysis as to the percentage of that that we think might be occurring in the marketplace as a whole. I could take that aspect of the question on notice. I do not think it is standard practice by any means. But, in a free market, providers are entitled to seek to get customers into their business, and there is not necessarily any correlation between a particular marketing practice and the quality of the training and learning outcome that might be achieved, which is obviously the main focus of ASQA's operation.</p>			
BI-28	Carr	ASQA	Training Provider Audits	<p>Senator KIM CARR: For instance, would those seeking to offer advanced diplomas have to be registered with TEQSA?</p> <p>Dr Orr: No. Well, there are advanced diplomas offered in the VET sector and I understand that they have been offered in the higher education sector as well. But there are 87 of those providers that are registered to deliver in the higher education sector as well as in the VET sector.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Of those 87, how many of them have been audited according to your provisions as outlined in your statement? Were they part of the sample where only 80 per cent were compliant?</p> <p>Dr Orr: We might have to take that question on notice and get that number for you; I do not have that number today.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Could you tell me specifically how many of those 87 that you have audited were not compliant but were registered on TEQSA?</p> <p>Prof. Lavarch: We would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Could I have the names of those institutions? Presumably you publish the names of training organisations that are not compliant.</p> <p>Dr Orr: Yes, we do.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Could I have the names of those institutions? Presumably you publish the names of training organisations that are not compliant.</p> <p>Dr Orr: Yes, we do.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: There would be no confidentiality issue?</p> <p>Dr Orr: We publish the names of the providers who have been subject to an administrative sanction by ASQA—a suspension or a cancellation of all or part of their registered scope.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: And you would publish those that have been deregistered too, wouldn't you?</p> <p>Dr Orr: Yes.</p> <p>Prof. Lavarch: That is correct.</p>	Page 56-57 2.06.2014		

			<p>Senator KIM CARR: Once they are deregistered from your agency are they automatically deregistered from TEQSA, or is there a separate process?</p> <p>Dr Orr: No, we have a memorandum of understanding with TEQSA; we are working collaboratively in the dual-sector provider area. We do share information with TEQSA about the behaviour of providers who are what we call dual-sector providers. So there is an open line of communication there between us.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: So once you take action it is automatic on TEQSA?</p> <p>Dr Orr: No, because the requirements and the standards are different across the two sectors.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: How are they different?</p> <p>Dr Orr: The standards for registered training organisations are based on, I guess, the nature of VET as a competency-based area of training, and the standards in the higher education area are more focused on the academic standards for people who are studying in higher education.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: So your standards are higher, are they?</p> <p>Dr Orr: We would like to think so.</p> <p>Prof. Lavarch: The standards are certainly slightly different.</p> <p>Dr Orr: They are certainly different.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Have there been any sanctions taken against any provider that has been in receipt of government support—in receipt of any government moneys?</p> <p>Dr Orr: Yes, there have been.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Which ones are they?</p> <p>Prof. Lavarch: Again, we would have to take that on notice in terms of giving you individual names. Certainly we have taken regulatory against some providers that were in receipt of government funding, and that might be state government funding—in fact, it probably would be state government funding.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Could I get a list of those, please? What action was taken in regard to each of those colleges? What was the nature of the breach and what action did you take to rectify it, including deregistration? What happens to the money that they have received? Are they asked to repay it?</p> <p>Dr Orr: That is a matter for the state and territory funding agencies who contract with the providers to provide that training.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Are there any have been in receipt of Commonwealth moneys?</p> <p>Prof. Lavarch: We would have to check. I am not conscious of that off the top of my head, but we will take it notice.</p>		
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BI-29	Rhiannon	ASQA	<p>Percentage of RTOs Deregistered</p>	<p>Senator RHIANNON: I am looking for the percentage so I can make the comparison. I find it interesting you have given some percentages. You said that 80 per cent of existing RTOs audited were found to have at least one instance of noncompliance. Then you said that 23.4 per cent of RTOs were still found to have at least one incidence of significant noncompliance. You worked through the percentages. I am after a percentage so we can make the comparison with how many were deregistered. The figure of 273—is that less than one per cent or is it 10 per cent? Without that it is hard for this to be meaningful data.</p> <p>Prof. Lavarch: About seven per cent of applications from existing providers to be reregistered are being refused. But it is a smaller percentage than that once you take into account the review process. We will take on notice to give you the full figures.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: Please take on notice to turn that last paragraph into percentages that are comparable to the earlier data that you gave us. Thanks very much.</p>	<p>Page 58 2.06.2014</p>		
BI-30	Rhiannon	ASQA	<p>Provision of Adequate Training</p>	<p>Senator RHIANNON:.....I want to go to some of the reports you issued last year that were quite useful. I found that one of them revealed shortcomings in safety and welfare training across the country. One specific finding was that three-quarters of the colleges audited failed over training for the construction white card, which is an occupational safety ticket required by workers on all building sites. Do you have the names of any of the colleges that were caught up in that study where you identified that issue?</p> <p>Dr Orr: We did not publish the names of the training organisations in the report.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: Was there any reason for that?</p> <p>Dr Orr: We were respecting their privacy. They would have had an opportunity to become compliant as part of that strategic review audit process. I can confirm that we did not publish the names of the providers in that report.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: You have said that you respect their privacy but in the description you gave of this problem you said that three-quarters of the colleges audited over training failed in key aspects of occupational health and safety. Do we draw a conclusion from that that there would therefore be a downgrade in job safety for workers and the public if that training is not done properly?</p> <p>Dr Orr: If the action that we took resulted in the application of a suspension of that particular training from the scope of the provider's registration, yes, their name would have been published on our website. I am happy to provide you with a list of the names of those providers that were so published.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: You will take that on notice?</p> <p>Dr Orr: I certainly will.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: I also note that you found problems with 87 per cent of colleges examined over aged-care training, with about one-third teaching a nominally</p>	<p>Page 58-59 2.06.2014</p>		

				<p>one-year certificate in 16 weeks or less. Do we conclude from that that people who gained that certificate that was taught in such a short time are providing reduced care for elderly people?</p> <p>Dr Orr: There is no question that poor-quality training and poor-quality outcomes in that training have a detrimental effect on the skills of workers entering those jobs. ASQA does not necessarily chase up and remove those qualifications from individuals. ASQA deals with the quality issues with the provider. We do have powers under the act to cancel qualifications and, in cases where we do believe that the quality is so suspect that the qualification ought to be withdrawn, we request that the provider cancel those qualifications and seek the return of those qualifications to the provider. If they do not do it we have powers under the act to do that ourselves, to cancel those qualifications.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: Have you done that?</p> <p>Dr Orr: We have in some instances, yes.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: Can you take on notice the providers you have called on to do that and, if they have done it, what the results have been? To go back to your answer, from what I understood, your job is with the people who deliver the training. But it appears that what we have been left with here are people who have received diplomas where their education standards were not what you may have expected or of a quality that I think has been assumed is necessary within the aged-care sector. Is that a fair assumption?</p> <p>Dr Orr: Yes.</p>			
BI-31	Carr	Industry Division	Steel Transformation Program	<p>Senator KIM CARR: Thank you. What is the reduction in the steel transformation program?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: There is nothing identified in this budget.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Do you mean closure? Are you planning to withdraw the act?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I think there may have been some decisions in the MYEFO process, but I will have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I see; so it is in MYEFO. Was there a proposal to withdraw or repeal the act?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: It was in a previous budget decision, but I will take it on notice about the repeal.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I put it to you that there is a proposal by this government to seek to have that act repealed to the effect of \$61 million cut.</p> <p>CHAIR: The secretary has taken that question on notice.</p>	Page 65 2.06.2014		

BI-32	Carr	Finance Division	Portfolio Budget Reductions	<p>Senator KIM CARR: I am asking again: what are the budget cuts in this portfolio?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: In the 2014-15 budget—</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: No. The consequence of decisions taken by this government—we will refine it if you like—either via MYEFO or the budget. What is the total reduction in industry programs that you are to administer.</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: In industry programs?</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Industry programs.</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I will come back with that figure as soon as I can.</p> <hr/> <p><i>Senator KIM CARR: Madam Secretary, do you have a figure for me?</i></p> <p><i>Ms Beauchamp: Yes. If I can just draw your attention to pages 30 and 31 of the Portfolio Budget Statement, plus also page 184 of Budget Paper No. 2. We have had a reduction in net terms in this particular part of the department, because I think we also need to acknowledge that the department did not exist last year. In the old industry and innovation type area there is probably a net reduction of \$279 million, plus the auto-savings.</i></p>	Page 65 2.06.2014	Answered later during proceedings (p67 - 2.6.14)	
BI-33	Carr	Corporate Services	Legal Advice on the Automotive Transformation Scheme	<p>Senator KIM CARR: Sure. Can I ask you about a tender. AusTender lists two contracts: CN1870031, agency reference No. ID0071830. This is a contracts for \$17,600, which I understand was issued by limited tender in November last year. It was to provide a synopsis and policy implications report. A further contract, No. CN1916461, agency reference No. 0072720, was for \$25,000. It was for a prequalified tender in December 2013 to provide legal advice on the Automotive Transformation Scheme.</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: Senator, whilst we are looking for one of those contracts, the head of our legal area can answer your questions in relation to the legal contract.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: That is the \$25,000 one?</p> <p>Ms Tregurtha: Senator, I do not have the details of the contract. I just was not sure what the question was.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Why did you need to have specialist legal advice?</p> <p>Ms Tregurtha: I would have to go and look at the detail, if that is the nature of the question.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: You have a very experienced, longstanding division. Why would you need specialist legal advice?</p> <p>Ms Tregurtha: Well, I do not know exactly what the nature of the 33advice was, but there is some work that is required. There is tied work under the legal services</p>	Page 68-69 2.06.2014 Written 16.06.2014		

			<p>directions. But I am speculating as to the reason; I would have to take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: The officer is taking a dangerous course of action, I might suggest.</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: Senator, in the interest of time, could we take those on notice?</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Well, no, you may not be able to, because I would like to know why it was required to have a prequalified tender. What is a prequalified tender?</p> <p>Ms Tregurtha: That probably refers to the fact that legal advice is sourced from the legal services multi-use list.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: You have got a list of consultant lawyers. Is that right?</p> <p>Ms Tregurtha: The Commonwealth as a whole, the Attorney-General's Department, administers the legal services multi-use list.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: But the department does not have a list of –</p> <p>Ms Tregurtha: No, the department does not. The department sources its legal advice from the multi-use list.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: The contract was for a period from 1 October last year to 30 June this year, so I presume the work is ongoing.</p> <p>Ms Tregurtha: I would have to check on the details, Senator.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Thank you. Can I ask what was the purpose—</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: You would not be getting much from a lawyer for 25 grand over six months, I would not have thought.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: We want to find out what the work is for. Can you tell me that?</p> <p>Ms Tregurtha: No, I cannot. I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Thank you very much. Is it true that your cannot reduce the funding for the Automotive Transformation Scheme without legislation?</p> <p>Ms Tregurtha: Senator, I would have to take that on notice. I am not across the detail on that.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Do we have an officer here that can help us with that?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: Chair, it is probably best to answer that within the program when it comes up.</p> <p>CHAIR: Okay.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I am just wondering: was that the legal matter that you were trying to resolve?</p> <p>Ms Tregurtha: As I said, Senator, I cannot answer that question. I would have to look at the detail.</p>		
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				<p>In relation to a contract listed on AusTender - CN1916461 for \$25,000 for a prequalified tender to the AGS for legal advice on the Automotive Transformation Scheme:</p> <p>a. What was the nature of the advice sought?</p> <p>b. Is the advice finalised?</p> <p>c. What is the outcome (or expected outcome) of the advice?</p>			
BI-34	Carr	Corporate Services	Tender for Synopsis and Policy Implications Report	<p>Senator KIM CARR: All right. Then who can help me with the other contract for \$17,000?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: We are still looking into that, Senator.</p> <p>Ms Weston: I think the first one you mentioned, the 0031, was for part of our higher education area.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: So that is an old one? Was that before the administrative changes?</p> <p>Ms Weston: Before the machinery of government change, yes.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I see. It was listed for November. That was after the administrative changes.</p> <p>Ms Weston: We did not have the people transferring out for a while after that. So there was a period of time where the work was still being undertaken before final section 31 transfers and so forth.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Ms Weston, is that still your responsibility? It is listed under your accounts.</p> <p>Ms Graham: We do not have responsibility anymore Senator, no.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: So you do not have to answer any questions on it. Is that what you are telling me?</p> <p>Ms Graham: We do not have responsibility for higher education anymore.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: No. I want to know about this contract.</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: The officer just said they no longer have responsibility for it, so of course they cannot answer the question.</p> <p>Ms Graham: Certainly the people that would have the background in relation to that contract no longer work for the department, Senator.</p> <p>CHAIR: Senator, could I suggest that maybe you put the questions you have on notice to this department.</p>	Page 69-70 2.06.2014		

				<p>Senator KIM CARR: It may well be that this is not complete information you are providing the committee. As I say, it was issued in November and it was to provide a synopsis and policy implications report; I am wondering on what matter—what was the project?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: There does not seem to be enough information. We will have to take that on notice and get back to you.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Thank you. Could you advise me as to why it was a limited tender?</p> <p>Ms Graham: Again, we would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Thank you. I see that Mr Ryan is at the table here. Was legal advice sought concerning how to get around the ATS?</p> <p>Mr Ryan: Senator, we are trying to get the specifics on this particular contract. But the summary of the contract, as we have got in our documents just at the moment, just says its legal advice to the ATS.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Because it is true, isn't it, Mr Ryan, that you can only alter the amounts of money in the ATS by regulation, which is a disallowable instrument, or by legislative amendment?</p> <p>Mr Ryan: Yes, Senator.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: So you would not need to spend a lot of legal money on that, would you?</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: Well, you are assuming that is what it was done for. The officer has taken it on notice and you will get an answer in due course.</p>			
BI-35	Carr	Science, Research & Innovation Division	Senate Inquiry into the Australian Innovation System	<p>Senator KIM CARR: Thank you very much. Could I ask, Madam Secretary, is it the department intending to make a submission to the current Senate inquiry into the Australian innovation system?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: Normally for these inquiries we do provide submissions and factual information.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: But you could tell me whether or not you are going to provide one, not whether you normally do?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I would have to take that on notice. I am not aware of one being developed, that is all.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I have a recollection that this is through the references component of this committee. And I think submissions close by the end of the month. So you have got a lot to get your head around, if it is by the end of the month.</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: I think it is July.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: The end of July.</p>	Page 70 2.06.2014		

BI-36	Carr	AusIndustry	Grant Application Feedback from Recipients	<p>Senator KIM CARR: So has there been a request to any of your grant recipients to write a report on how much time they are writing reports?</p> <p>Mr Chesworth: I am not aware of that request. I will go and speak with my AusIndustry colleagues to check to see that that is the case and correct the record if need be.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: It could be AusIndustry?</p> <p>Mr Chesworth: AusIndustry, in our program delivery, have been working with us as part of our audit of, I guess, paperwork and compliance within the portfolio to help us understand the impact complying with program requirements has on clients of those programs.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: So, you can assure me you would not be asking people about—</p> <p>Ms Butler: Good afternoon, Senator.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Ms Butler, perhaps you can get to the bottom of this for me.</p> <p>Ms Butler: I am not sure if I can get to the very bottom of it, but I was aware that we did put in some phone calls to some of our textile, clothing and footwear grant recipients. We certainly did not ask them to put things in writing.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Right. So they were verbal reports?</p> <p>Ms Butler: My understanding is that was the case, Senator.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: And what was the nature of these requests?</p> <p>Ms Butler: The request was around the cost of applying for the program. It was around the application process. That is my understanding.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Did you ask them questions about the acquittal process?</p> <p>Ms Butler: I am not sure what detail we went into. I just understood that this had taken place, but I was not personally responsible for it. I am very happy to provide you with some more information on notice.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Thank you very much. That would be very good. Are they the only people who were asked to write reports?</p> <p>Ms Butler: It is the only one I was aware of. Once again, I probably should take it on notice and then I can get some more information to you.</p>	Page 70-71 2.06.2014		
BI-37	Carr	Portfolio Regulation Reform Taskforce	Deregulation Savings	<p>Senator KIM CARR: You indicated that you had a figure of nearly \$60 million in savings as a result of the deregulation efforts. Could you itemise that. You can take it on notice.</p> <p>Mr Chesworth: I can answer it now. It was around \$64 million. There was \$59.5 million that was related to the NOPSEMA reform. There is about \$3.9 million in relation to removing the requirement to have an Australian Industry Participation</p>	Page 75 2.06.2014		

				<p>officer allocated within a business for projects over \$2 billion. The third one was a reform from IP Australia in relation to the licensing of IP practitioners. That was \$10,000.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I would like to see the workings behind each of those numbers.</p> <p>Mr Chesworth: We can take that on notice, and we will be referring to the regulation impact statements.</p>			
BI-38	Carr	Skills Division	Trade Support Loans and the FEE-HELP Program	<p>Senator KIM CARR: Why is it that your loans will be cheaper than the higher education loans?</p> <p>Mr Lalor: It is a decision of the government.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: You had no part in that; it was just a decision of government. Minister, can you explain to me why there is a difference between the loan arrangements for this program and the loan arrangements for the FEE-HELP program?</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: I will need to take that on notice to see whether that is indeed correct. In relation to this fantastic system, which I presume has got your support, because you, like me, would want to see us investing in our apprentices and trainees—I assume it is supported by you?</p>	Page 76 2.06.2014		
BI-39	Carr	Skills Division	Trade Support Loans – Legal Responsibilities for Parents	<p>Senator KIM CARR: Yes, I know. Have you checked the legal position in terms of who is responsible for children's debts?</p> <p>Mr Lalor: We have sought legal advice on this issue, yes.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: You have sought it? What is the response? Are parents responsible for 16-year-olds' debts?</p> <p>Mr Lalor: The gist of the advice was that there were no legal restrictions on providing the loan to an individual.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: No. I appreciate that I may not have been clear. Is there any legal advice that parents are not responsible for their 16-year-olds' debts?</p> <p>Mr Lalor: I would have to take that on notice.</p>	Page 78 2.06.2014		
BI-40	Carr	Skills Division	Trade Support Loan Guidelines	<p>Senator KIM CARR: Suppose an apprentice generates a debt through this new funding arrangement and then goes on to a diploma or some other higher education qualification, one presumes that they would end up with a double debt, wouldn't they?</p> <p>Mr Lalor: It is possible for an individual to take out a Trade Support Loan and then some other kind of loan through another scheme as well.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: So one presumes that, once they are over the \$50,300 threshold, they would be paying both?</p>	Page 80 2.06.2014		

				<p>Mr Lalor: They would be paying off a HELP loan, but they do not pay them at the same time; they stack, if you like, so that they are only paying off one loan at a time.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: And that will be in the legislation, will it?</p> <p>Mr Lalor: That will be set out in the legislation and rules of the program, yes.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Actually in the legislation or in guidelines?</p> <p>Mr Lalor: I would have to take that on notice. I cannot recall off the top of my head.</p>			
BI-41	Carr	Enterprise & Skills Connect Division	VET Funding	<p>Senator KIM CARR: Given the indexation rate differences, can you give me on notice a figure for the changes over the forward estimates in the amounts of money spent by this government on vocational education?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: Over the forward estimates?</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: What is the net effect over the forward estimates, including all indexation payments, these ten programs, state grants programs and the ISF program? Is there a reduction or an increase in the amount of money spent for vocational education?</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: We will take that on notice, but I will make the point that dollars do not necessarily equal outcomes.</p>	Page 82 2.06.2014		
BI-42	Carr	Enterprise & Skills Connect Division	Closing Skills Programs	<p>Senator KIM CARR: What was the basis for deciding which skills programs would be abolished?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: As you would appreciate, that is part of the decision-making process through the budget and cabinet.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Yes, but what are the criteria you use for the axing of these 10 programs?</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: You have just had your answer to that, Senator.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: What was the reason?</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: You have just had your answer. The secretary said before that this is part of the government decision-making process, and your second question was the same as the first.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: How many of those programs were subject to independent review before they were axed?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: If there were independent reviews, can we have a look at the reports?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: Of course, that would be a decision for the minister and the government.</p>	Page 82-83 2.06.2014		

				<p>Senator KIM CARR: Of course it would be, but I have asked a separate question: if there are independent evaluation reports, can we have access to them?</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: That is part of the full decision-making process. We will take on notice consideration of whether they may or may not be provided.</p>			
BI-43	Rhiannon	Skills Division	Trade Support Loan Modelling	<p>Senator RHIANNON: So you are confident that you are going to get all these people taking up these loans? Could you explain how you did the modelling that makes you so confident how this is going to work?</p> <p>Mr Lalor: When we were going through the budget process we looked at other mechanisms and made some assumptions about how many apprentices are likely to take them up. That is the main basis on which the expected take-up was arrived at.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: Could you describe what 'other mechanisms' are, and the assumptions? You said that you looked at other mechanisms and you made assumptions.</p> <p>Mr Lalor: We looked at the expected take-up of other schemes that had been considered by government before—</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: Which schemes?</p> <p>Mr Lalor: For example, we looked at the anticipated take-up previously of another scheme, whose name I have forgotten.</p> <p>Mr Robertson: Sorry, we have a mental blank on the name.</p> <p>Mr Lalor: We could provide that on notice.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: So, more than one scheme. So there are different schemes you have looked at for their take-up rate?</p> <p>Mr Lalor: We did have a look at another loans scheme. It is important to recognise that this is quite a different mechanism for supporting apprentices and trainees. There are not a huge number of other mechanisms to look at, so some assumptions did need to be made.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: But you have said that you looked at other schemes. Is that still correct?</p> <p>Mr Lalor: Yes.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: Is there somebody here who can tell us what the other schemes are? I thought it would have been to the forefront of your considerations, considering it is such a big part of the shift in what we are talking about tonight.</p> <p>Mr Lalor: I am the person who is responsible for that, and I cannot recall the name of the scheme at this point. I will have to take that on notice.</p>	Page 87-88 2.06.2014		

BI-44	Carr	Skills Division	Trade Support Loans Eligibility	<p>Senator KIM CARR: It may well be that you cannot answer this, Minister, but you have sought to implement the election commitment: why were the apprentices undertaking agricultural qualifications not included in the original proposal?</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: I do not know whether that is right but I will take your question on notice.</p>	Page 91 2.06.2014		
BI-45	Gallacher	AWPA	AWPA Studies being Conducted	<p>Senator GALLACHER: I have no problem with anything you have said, but no-one has actually answered the question. How many of those staff are still working on the types of studies AWPA used to carry out in assessing current, future and emerging skills and workforce development needs and liaison with industry?</p> <p>Mr Shreeve: Without going through in one line all the staff we have got at the moment—I can take that on notice—I anticipate it will be between 30 and 35. I will confirm that on notice.</p>	Page 100 2.06.2014		
BI-46	Gallacher	Science, Research & Innovation Division	Funding for Research and Development	<p>Senator GALLACHER: I suppose research and development and science are a bit like private equity. You need to put the money in to get the result out. Blue-sky results do not come about if you do not invest the money. Are we continuing to invest in those sort of blue-sky opportunities?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: Recent OECD reports suggest that Australia's research system is well funded by international standards. I think we are 11 out of 34 of OECD countries for gross R&D as a percentage of GDP. From the government's perspective we are making sure that we get a big bang for the buck from the research and science.</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: Is that a rising or declining 11 out of 34?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Dr Porteous: It would be best to take that on notice.</p>	Page 103-104 2.06.2014		
BI-47	Gallacher	Questacon	Travelling Programs and Exhibitions	<p>Senator GALLACHER: Do you keep statistics on the number of participants?</p> <p>Prof. Durant: Yes, we do.</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: How many participants would you have in a year?</p> <p>Prof. Durant: I can give you the exact figures on notice, but approximately in Questacon here in Canberra we get about 450,000 people through the centre. Roughly a further 400,000 would interact with our various outreach programs. About half a million would interact with our travelling exhibition programs. The outreach programs are probably on course this year for about 200,000. The Web is about one million. Travelling exhibitions are about 350,000, but if we include some of the international programs that jumps up a bit. Then there are memberships and Q By Night and a few other programs. We interact with about two million people each year in different ways.</p>	Page 105 2.06.2014		

BI-48	Carr	SKA	SKA Project – Host Country Contributions	<p>Senator KIM CARR: What is the prospect of Australia actually losing the project if it does not meet the funding obligations?</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: That is clearly a hypothetical question.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I do not think it is hypothetical at all.</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: I think it is.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I think, Professor Boyle, there has been a discussion about that.</p> <p>Dr Boyle: No, there has not been any discussion about the host countries not contributing their money.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I see. And there has been no conversation within the board about the consequences of host premiums not being met?</p> <p>Dr Boyle: No, there has been no conversation with the board on that matter.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: And no conversation within the Australian government about that prospect?</p> <p>Dr Boyle: No.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Maybe you should take that on notice, Professor. I would urge you to take that on notice before you answer it in that way.</p> <p>Dr Boyle: Yes, I will.</p>	Page 109-110 2.06.2014		
BI-49	Carr	Questacon	Science Prizes	<p>Senator KIM CARR: What is the value of the prize?</p> <p>Prof. Durant: The main Prime Minister's Prize for Science is \$300,000 a year. The Malcolm McIntosh prize and the Frank Fenner prize are \$50,000 a year; and the two science teaching prizes are again at \$50,000 a year but the teacher's prize is split between the school and the teacher.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: You say they are remaining—</p> <p>Prof. Durant: The value of those prizes will remain constant. There are no plans to—</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: They have been like that for a couple of years, haven't they?</p> <p>Prof. Durant: They have been that way for a number of years, yes.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: How many years?</p> <p>Prof. Durant: I would need to seek advice on that. The figure will be known but the time I have been involved in it, it has been that figure.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: What about the cost of attendance at the science prizes for school teachers—is that being met by the department?</p> <p>Prof. Durant: The cost for attendance at the science prizes—we have always paid for</p>	Page 113 2.06.2014		

				<p>the attendance of the prizewinners and their headmasters</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: They are the only ones.</p> <p>Prof. Durant: I believe that is the case but, again, can I take that on notice and just check so I don't mislead you.</p>			
BI-50	Carr	Questacon	Questacon Smart Skills National Technology Learning Program	<p>Prof. Durant: The \$9.1 million splits up between the technology learning program, a program to promote equity of access to Questacon resources across Australia and with some disadvantaged communities, and a component to establish a Questacon foundation.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: This foundation is a bequest, is it?</p> <p>Prof. Durant: Yes. We want to give people the opportunity to contribute to the long-term aims of Questacon.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: How much is involved with the setting-up of a bequest?</p> <p>Prof. Durant: Senator, I will get you the figure.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Of the \$9.1 million, how much is that?</p> <p>Prof. Durant: I think it is about \$140k a year. It is a modest amount and it is not flatlined; it peaks early on to get the foundation up and running.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Can you give me a breakdown of that \$9.1 million in detail, please? Take it on notice.</p> <p>Prof. Durant: Yes, I can do that.</p>	Page 114 2.06.2014		
BI-51	Carr	Questacon	National Science Week Grants Briefing	<p>Senator KIM CARR: Minister, have you been able to establish why it took two months for the grants that were approved on 13 December to be announced? I would not answer that question, Professor, if I were you.</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: I presume the minister had a good reason for doing so. I am not aware of the reason. It was a decision made by the minister.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: That is right. They got clogged in the minister's office, didn't they?</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: You are making that suggestion, Senator.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I am.</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: I assume that the minister announced them when he was ready to do so.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Yes, after a question I asked you in the Senate. It occurred just after that.</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: With the greatest respect to you, Senator Carr, I am not entirely convinced that your questions in the Senate determine what actions the minister takes.</p>	Page 115 2.06.2014		

				<p>Senator KIM CARR: Yes, I am sure they would have that impact; I accept that. Can you tell me when the briefs actually got to the minister's office, Secretary?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I understand that the brief did not get into the minister's office until February. Would that be right? Professor Durant, when did you send the briefs across to the department?</p> <p>Prof. Durant: I will take that on notice. I do not have the details here.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I just want to get the train—</p> <p>Prof. Durant: I think you are probably in the right ballpark, but let me get the exact details.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Why does it take so long for the grants briefs to move through the department in that way?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: Senator, I will take that on notice.</p>			
BI-52	Carr	AusIndustry	CRC Program – Round 17 Consortia	<p>Senator KIM CARR: How many bidders did you have?</p> <p>Ms Launder: At the time of the budget announcement there were 13 registered consortia that were actively working through our online system on an application.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Are you able to tell me who the 13 consortia were?</p> <p>Ms Butler: I do not think we would have that information with us; we would have to take it on notice.</p>	Page 8 3.06.2014		
BI-53	Carr	AusIndustry	CRC Program – Round 17 Suspension	<p>Senator KIM CARR: Have there been any expressions of concern made to the department about companies bidding for the first time, finding that they are on the way to a meeting to discover that the round has been cancelled?</p> <p>Ms Launder: We have received representations from two consortia that were coming through about their disappointment about the round having been suspended.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Was there concern expressed that this may well be a significant deterrent to companies bidding in this process in the future?</p> <p>Ms Launder: That hasn't been expressed in that manner to me, no.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I am putting it to you now: would there be any cause for concern about that?</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: We will take that on notice to see if there is any commentary regarding that that is appropriate for you to be given on notice.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I will get you to look at Coles in particular. How many occasions has there been a round cancelled? This is the 17th round, so there have been 16 other rounds that have occurred before it. Has there ever been an occasion where a</p>	Page 9 3.06.2014		

				<p>round has been cancelled midstream in this manner?</p> <p>Ms Launder: Given that goes back over some time, I would need to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I cannot recall an occasion, but perhaps your records are better than my memory. It is a unique circumstances.</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: It has been taken on notice.</p>			
BI-54	Carr	AusIndustry	CRC Program Funding Eligibility	<p>Senator KIM CARR: The question was: how many of these are eligible for re-funding? Depending on the number of years an organisation has been funded, there are restrictions on whether they are able to make an application. Is that correct?</p> <p>Ms Launder: That is correct.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: How many of these five would be ineligible to apply for funding?</p> <p>Ms Launder: Can I take that question on notice?</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Okay. From memory, they would all be eligible because they have only had one round—the composite CRC. I do not think the seafood CRC has had too many rounds. Greenhouse gases—</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: You may well be right, but the officer has taken the question on notice as to how many are eligible. Your view will be confirmed, or otherwise, in the fullness of time.</p>	Page 10 3.06.2014		
BI-55	Carr	AusIndustry	CRC Program Guidelines	<p>Senator KIM CARR: It is ultimately a ministerial decision. If the minister chooses to direct the CRC committee, is that still a publishable instrument?</p> <p>Ms Launder: To the extent that the minister's decision would be made public through the announcement of the outcomes of the round. We would not necessarily be publishing what the CRC might have applied for through their application.</p> <p>Ms Butler: Senator, I think you might be referring to the Commonwealth granting guidelines, where there might be a change. I am not really aware of that; I would probably have to take that on notice; but I think I know what you are referring to.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I know it well. The capacity for ministerial discretion in this area is limited by what the guidelines say. Would that be a fair statement?</p> <p>Ms Launder: Yes.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: The recommendations of the CRC committee can be altered, at the direction of the minister, but only within the bands that have been offered. Is that correct?</p> <p>Ms Launder: Could you clarify what you mean by 'in the bands'?</p>	Page 10-11 3.06.2014		

				<p>Senator KIM CARR: The CRC committee makes recommendations on priority orders. Is that correct?</p> <p>Ms Launder: If there was a priority, the minister might take that into consideration when he is reviewing.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: He has to; I will take you through the guidelines. My memory is correct: he is required to take that into consideration. But the minister may well advise the committee that he wants to change the recommendations and lift a CRC up the ladder, but he cannot necessarily just put a new one in or knock one out? Is that true?</p> <p>Ms Butler: I think we would have to take that on notice. It is a bit difficult to visualise how that would all work.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: My point is that the guidelines are quite prescriptive.</p> <p>Senator RONALDSON: Well, it is an advisory committee.</p> <p>CHAIR: Senator Carr, you are not here to make comments; you are here to ask questions.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: What is that? I am asking a question: are the guidelines prescriptive?</p> <p>CHAIR: But using the term 'my point is' is probably not appropriate from this side of the table. If you couch your questions correctly you can probably get your point across.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I do not think the officers have any trouble understanding my point. I am asking: do the guidelines prescribe what the minister can and cannot do in terms of awarding funding? Do you want to take that on notice?</p> <p>Ms Butler: Senator, are you talking about the ministerial guidelines?</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: No. I am talking about the CRC guidelines.</p> <p>Ms Butler: So we are talking about the program guidelines?</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: The program guidelines.</p> <p>Ms Butler: We would honestly have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: My understanding is that there has been no change to the guidelines of the former government.</p>			
BI-56	Carr	AusIndustry	CRC Program Review	<p>Senator KIM CARR: How many reviews have there been of the CRC program since its inception? When was the last review?</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: I understand it was in 2008.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Who headed that review, and did that review find any major deficiencies in the program?</p>	Page 12 3.06.2014		

				<p>Ms Beauchamp: I would have to take the outcome of that review on notice; it was a long time ago.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Have any of the reviews actually recommended the winding down of the program?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I would have to take that on notice as well.</p>			
BI-57	Carr	Science, Research & Innovation Division	R&D Tax Legislation	<p>Senator KIM CARR: The Tax Laws Amendment (R&D) Bill 2013 is still on the legislative program—that is right, isn't it? Some anomalies have been raised in relation to the current definition of 'annual Australian assessable income' around the inclusion of excise collection, and I am sure you would be aware this was covered by a Senate committee report. Does the department agree these are legitimate concerns?</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: I am not entirely sure whether you have articulated what those concerns were for the department to make a comment on that. They might have been your concerns; they might have been the fellow down the street's concerns.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: The department can say, 'We don't have those concerns.'</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: If your question is about the placement of parliamentary business, that is a matter for the government.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: That is not what the question is. We have already answered that. The question is: does the department believe there are legitimate concerns around the definition of 'annual Australian assessable income' in terms of these measures?</p> <p>Ms Weston: I am happy to take that on notice.</p>	Page 21 3.06.2014	Withdrawn on 30 June 2014.	
BI-58	Bishop	ARENA	Expiring Contracts	<p>Senator MARK BISHOP: Can you just take this on notice and give me a table that shows a break-up of the numbers of contracts that expire, on a per-annum basis—year 1,2,3,4, up to 8. Is ARENA still in the business of advocating for business or have you made an internal decision not to engage in anything further?</p> <p>Mr Frischknecht: Under our act, as the secretary said, we have a number of functions that we are required to perform while the act is available and live. Those functions include providing financial assistance to renewable energy technologies and companies. The board has looked at this matter closely and decided that the lowest risk path for them is to continue with their business, neither accelerating nor decelerating what ARENA is doing. So we continue to accept applications; we continue to assess applications; and we continue to commit funding to new projects.</p>	Page 24-25 3.06.2014		
BI-59	Xenophon	ARENA	ARENA/CFC Project Transition	<p>Senator XENOPHON: I might put something more on notice about this because time is short.</p> <p>Mr Frischknecht: I would be happy to.</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: So if you can on notice. There is that transition when something that is a nascent emerging technology then becomes a mainstream proven technology—so how would you jump from an ARENA type thing to a CFC? If you</p>	Page 30 3.06.2014		

				<p>could give me some more details on that—</p> <p>Mr Frischknecht: There is overlap.</p>			
BI-60	Ruston	ARENA (Coord by Corporate)	Investment in the Climate Science Renewable Energy Field	<p>Senator RUSTON: Just following on from the comments from the senator, how many other agencies are currently undertaking work in the climate science renewable energy field including government and Commonwealth agencies?</p> <p>Mr Hoffman: I might have to get a full answer for that on notice. Certainly the ARENA and the Clean Energy Finance Corporation have been mentioned. The department itself, through AusIndustry and other areas within the department, is also a significant investor and funder of this sort of activity. CSIRO has a significant program in energy. One of its flagship programs is Energy Transformed. You would point to Geoscience Australia and its work, including in characterisation of the geotechnical research and the deep-earth heating that we were just speaking about with Senator Xenophon. They are probably the main ones that come to mind. Obviously the universities, particularly ANU here in Canberra, receive significant government funding, and many of them—including UNSW, in photovoltaic research—have significant capabilities in this area as well...</p> <p>...Senator RUSTON: It might be really interesting to look at what percentage of the science budget is expended on these clean energy projects. I do not imagine that you have that handy, but it would be an interesting statistic if you could get it.</p> <p>Mr Hoffman: I think we can take that on notice.</p>	Page 30-31 3.06.2014		
BI-61	Ruston	Resources Division	Exploration Development Incentive	<p>Senator RUSTON: I want to ask about the new Exploration Development Incentive program announced in the budget, particularly in the context of coming from South Australia and the amount of mining exploration that has been going on there. I was wondering if you could give me a little bit more meat around what this \$100 million initiative is all about and what benefits it is going to deliver for the junior miners I suppose more than anything in my home state.</p> <p>Mr Hoffman: It is a program that, being a tax measure, is primarily the responsibility of Treasury, but I am very happy to make some initial comments and colleagues might add to that. As you note, it is aimed at junior explorers, who tend to be the ones who make the most initial greenfields discoveries. They are often loss-making and so this program is available to companies that are loss-making in the sense that they have exploration expenditure without the income at this stage. Effectively there is \$100 million available over the four-year forward estimates period that enables eligible exploration expenditure to effectively be passed through as a tax credit to their investors. It effectively lowers the cost of capital for junior explorers. There are similar sorts of programs that have been in operation in other countries, particularly Canada, which in some senses is a major competitor to Australia for this sort of investment. The government is treating this as the first stage. It will look to an evaluation of its impact over the period and I believe it has made statements that it will consider then, at the end of that 100 million period, further investment of this type.</p>	Page 35 3.06.2014		

				<p>Senator RUSTON: Did this come on the back of industry indicating to or expressing a concern about the lack of capacity that these guys had to try to attract capital investment?</p> <p>Mr Hoffman: I think there has been a long period of input from a range of industry, both industry associations and individual companies in this field, around the competitiveness of Australia for investment in greenfields exploration.</p> <p>Senator RUSTON: What sort of impact is projected from this into some of our regional economies? Obviously it is an entirely regional program, so have we made any estimate about the kinds of benefits it will generate within those economies?</p> <p>Mr Hoffman: Unless my colleagues have another answer, I am not aware that there has been specific modelling of the regional economic impact. I am happy to take that on notice though and check for you. But it is going to be relatively small in terms of the \$100 million of eligible tax credits being passed through. The real impact is if it leads to, over the medium term, the development of a new mine or a new mining province. The impact is likely to be down the track rather than immediately.</p>			
BI-62	Gallacher	Geoscience Australia	Maritime Ban Review	<p>Senator GALLACHER: Geoscience Australia is currently reviewing the maritime ban, is that correct?</p> <p>Mr Hoffman: Yes, Senator. There is ongoing activity and a program of that type.</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: How long is that process expected to take until completion?</p> <p>Mr Hoffman: Geoscience as an agency was on yesterday, so I will attempt to answer your question to be helpful to the committee—</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: If you could just supply on notice the process and when it is going to be formally completed.</p>	Page 36 3.06.2014		
BI-63	Whish-Wilson	Energy Division	Renewable Energy Target Review – Stakeholder Discussions	<p>Senator WHISH-WILSON: Has the minister, secretary or any level of the bureaucracy had meetings with either Origin, AGL or Energy Australia in relation to the RET and the RET review—prior to or after the Warburton review commenced?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I will let other officers add to this, but we meet with our stakeholders on a regular basis and talk about a range of matters, including the RET.</p> <p>Senator WHISH-WILSON: Can you tell us when you had those discussions?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I would have to take on notice when I have had discussions with those organisations. As I said, we do talk about a range of matters.</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: You do understand that this is an independent review and that we cannot pre-empt the outcome of those independent review discussions. I want to put a framework around what can and cannot be answered by the officers at the table. I am sure they will take that on board.</p>	Page 38 3.06.2014		

				<p>Senator WHISH-WILSON: With the scrapping of the Million Solar Roofs Program from the budget—without any reference or announcement—how actively were incumbent generators engaging with the department or the minister in relation to this policy?</p> <p>Mr Hoffman: I struggle to answer that question in the sense that it was, I believe, discussed in the context of the Emissions Reduction Fund and the Direct Action Plan, which are the responsibility of Minister Hunt and the Department of the Environment.</p> <p>Senator WHISH-WILSON: We have asked similar questions of Minister Hunt. He has taken those on notice, but we were told to also put the questions to Minister Macfarlane in terms of the industry fund. I suppose what we are looking for is whether you can confirm or deny that coal and gas generators, or their industry lobby groups, have been lobbying the government to drop this specific policy.</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: There is an independent review underway at the moment, and it is certainly not appropriate to discuss what matters may or may not have been raised with the minister. I cannot rule in and rule out what discussions may or may not have been had. In a general sense, we will take that question on notice and see whether we can provide you with any further answers.</p> <p>Mr Hoffman: I will add to that. As the secretary said, we meet regularly with companies and industry associations across the whole range of views—clean energy companies, energy efficiency associations, et cetera—and they all put a perspective to us. One of the tasks of the Public Service advising the government is to take all those perspectives into account.</p>			
BI-64	Whish-Wilson	Resources Division	Exploration Development Incentive Review	<p>Senator WHISH-WILSON: I have a question in relation to one of Senator Ruston's questions around the \$100 million mining exploration—the tax credit system that you talked about. How often will you evaluate the success of that? Having had a fair bit to do with mining exploration and the risks around that, some small companies especially are very good at mining shareholders over a long period of time. I would hate to see the same thing happen with taxpayers. How often are you—</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: Is this the EDI you are talking about?</p> <p>Senator WHISH-WILSON: Yes.</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: My understanding is that it will be reviewed in 2016 and, subject to the outcome, may be extended for a further period, but they will review in 2016.</p> <p>Senator WHISH-WILSON: Can you tell me what the KPIs would be on that review? Would it be the number of new exploration permits or drilling activity or—</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: I do not have that level of knowledge. I am happy to take it on—</p> <p>Senator WHISH-WILSON: It is \$100 million so I was just interested in how you are going to judge the success of it.</p>	Page 39 3.06.2014		

				<p>Senator Ronaldson: I understand. I do not have that knowledge personally. I do not know whether the department do. If they have not, we will take it on notice and see if we can ask.</p> <p>Mr Hoffman: I can give you a general answer but it might be best to take it on notice and we will give you the formal KPIs being established for the program.</p>			
BI-65	Di Natale	Resources Division	Medical Procedures Involving Radioactive or Nuclear Material	<p>CHAIR: So one in three people will receive some treatment relying on radioactive or nuclear material.</p> <p>Mr Sheldrick: That is my understanding, yes.</p> <p>CHAIR: What percentage of medical procedures would involve the use of those materials?</p> <p>Mr Sheldrick: Generally in Australia, as an advanced society, we estimate that about one-third of the procedures used in our hospitals—paediatric work, cardiological work and so on—rely on radiation or some form of nuclear medicine.</p> <p>CHAIR: So one-third again. You mentioned Australia as a developed country; is that particularly high for developed countries or is it fairly standard across the board?</p> <p>Mr Sheldrick: I would estimate that it is fairly consistent with advanced countries like Australia where there is an expectation and an ability to be able to deliver fairly advanced medicine. I would say that it is average.</p> <p>Senator DI NATALE: Can I ask for some evidence on that one-third figure.</p> <p>Mr Sheldrick: I would have to take that on notice.</p>	Page 39 3.06.2014		
BI-66	Bushby	Resources Division	Hospital Produced Radioactive Waste	<p>Mr Sheldrick: Australia does not generate high-level radioactive waste from any of its activities. I could classify it into two different streams of waste. There is the waste that comes out of the hospitals. I have been to facilities and seen some of this waste, and a lot of the time it is literally the gloves and gowns that are worn by the medical practitioners. So there is the waste that comes out of the use of the material but there is also waste that is generated in Australia by the development of some of the medicines and so on, and that is slightly different.</p> <p>CHAIR: So that is a second category.</p> <p>Mr Sheldrick: Yes.</p> <p>CHAIR: Is that like spent fuel, in a sense, or is it something lower than that?</p> <p>Mr Sheldrick: I like to make the distinction between spent fuel and waste. Spent fuel is not necessarily waste. As you may know, Australia has spent fuel which we send overseas for reprocessing. What we get back is waste. The spent fuel often has material in it that is still useful.</p>	Page 40 3.06.2014		

				<p>CHAIR: In terms of the need to store this material, the bulk of it by size, I would imagine, would be your used gloves, clothing and things like that, rather than the other category that you mentioned?</p> <p>Mr Sheldrick: Volume-wise, there are various forms of waste that are currently held in Australia. Some of it is from the decommissioning of previous reactors. We have about 4,000 cubic metres of low-level waste. I would have to take on notice the percentage of that that is hospital produced waste.</p>			
BI-67	Di Natale	Energy Efficiency & Renewables Division	Study into Health Impacts of Wind Farms	<p>Senator DI NATALE: The commitment was a little more specific than that. In fact, the Prime Minister said very recently that he intends to make funds available for an independent study. In which case, I am just exploring what that would like. I just wanted a sense of whether the NHMRC in the final report indicates that there are no significant health impacts that can be demonstrated to have been caused by wind farms and whether the government intends to continue to conduct an independent study and allocate funds for that.</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: We will take that on notice.</p>	Page 42 3.06.2014		
BI-68	Di Natale	Energy Efficiency & Renewables Division	Wind Farm Correspondence	<p>Senator DI NATALE: Can I ask whether the department has had any correspondence about the issue of wind farms from any specific lobby groups or any other stakeholders?</p> <p>Mr Hoffman: We would receive, as you would imagine, a large amount of correspondence across many issues. There may well have been correspondence on these matters. I am happy to take that on notice and give a specific answer.</p> <p>Senator DI NATALE: Given that you do receive correspondence on a number of matters and given the dearth of evidence to suggest that there is in fact any physiological link between wind farms and health, why would you make specific reference to the issue of wind farms and health? Why would you do that and effectively ignore some of the other issues on which you may have received correspondence?</p> <p>Mr Hoffman: I do not accept that we do ignore other issues.</p> <p>Senator DI NATALE: The NHMRC already said that at this stage the interim report demonstrates no physiological link. I also know what the science says. The science is very clear on this.</p> <p>Mr Hoffman: I do not accept that we do ignore correspondence on other topics. Your question is really a policy question and about the intent of the government. Minister Ronaldson could answer it.</p> <p>Senator DI NATALE: You make specific reference to wind farms and health on the website. I am just interested as to why that is.</p> <p>Mr Hoffman: It reflects the government's policy intention.</p>	Page 42 3.06.2014		

				<p>Senator DI NATALE: You will take that on notice?</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: It is on notice, yes.</p> <p>Senator DI NATALE: We will get some information on it. Thank you.</p>			
BI-69	Ludlam	Resources Division	Radioactive Waste Storage Facility at Muckaty	<p>Senator LUDLAM: Can I take it from that—this maybe a straightforward policy question straight to you, Minister—that the government's present policy is for a national centralised radioactive waste dump at Muckaty. What will you do if the court throws that out and finds the nomination is invalid?</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: I certainly cannot pre-empt what the decision might be, so to that extent the second part of your question is theoretical. As to the first part, I would not want to mislead you in relation to the specific policy—this is not my portfolio area, as you will appreciate. So, unless the officers at the table are able to provide some further assistance, I think it is probably better that I take that on notice. I am sure the minister's office is listening. I am happy to get that to you as quickly as possible so I do not misrepresent the government's position.</p> <p>Senator LUDLAM: I presume the officers at the table are not working completely in the dark, so to be very clear—because I do not think this is a question that should be taken on notice: is it present Commonwealth government policy, as far as the officers at the table understand it, to proceed with the construction of the radioactive waste dump on Muckaty Land Trust land?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: Can I say that there is a commitment to pursue the feasibility study around a long-term solution to radioactive waste storage. I think the site at Muckaty was a volunteered site, so I would have to take it on notice. I think a site has not been finalised, so, in a sense, they are two separate issues. One is the development of a long-term storage solution, and I think the site options probably need to remain open. If there are other nominations coming forward, I would have to seek advice from the minister and government on whether they would be ruled out.</p> <p>Senator LUDLAM: All I would say is that they are not seen as being separate issues for the old people of the Barkly and of that region around Tennant Creek and Muckaty, who have had this thing hanging over their heads for eight years. It is not seen as separate by them. Is it that difficult to ascertain? What I am trying to do is work out whether the government is proceeding with Muckaty and has a decision point that is yet ahead of it depending on what the Federal Court determines. Or are options actually genuinely open? That is a reasonably straightforward question.</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: And I think, so that I do not in any way give you information that is not correct, we will take that on notice so that, if it requires any clarification, that can be done.</p> <p>Senator LUDLAM: Maybe I will put the second one as a supplementary question on notice—whether or not the Commonwealth intends to proceed with the nomination even if the Northern Land Council is found to have breached the Aboriginal Land</p>	Page 44-45 3.06.2014		

				<p>Rights Act, which is what is being considered.</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: Again, it is a hypothetical question. We have court cases before us. I think, quite frankly, that we should not be discussing either those or the potential outcome of those at the present time. I am sure you will understand that.</p>			
BI-70	Ludlam	Resources Division	Minister's Commitment to Visit Muckaty Station	<p>Senator LUDLAM: Late last year, Minister Macfarlane—and this was confirmed on 19 March in response to questions that I asked; thank you for the reply—said: 'I'm committed to visiting Muckaty Station when the schedules of all relevant parties allow.' That was a commitment we were never able to secure from the former minister who had carriage of this. Has that meeting been scheduled as such? What steps have been taken to advance it?</p> <p>Mr Hoffman: I am not aware that that has been scheduled.</p> <p>Senator LUDLAM: Why is that?</p> <p>Mr Hoffman: There are a range of matters the minister is dealing with.</p> <p>Senator LUDLAM: That is what you told us three months ago.</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I still think that commitment remains.</p> <p>Mr Hoffman: The commitment remains and it was subject to a range of parties' convenience, but I am happy to confirm and come back to you on that.</p> <p>Senator LUDLAM: I am just after an answer as to whether this is a commitment that will hang in the air for another eight years or whether anything has actually been done to progress it. I do not think that is an unreasonable request.</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: There are a number of matters before the Australian courts at the moment. I am sure that the minister is taking those into account, in relation to both his schedule and other matters. We will take that on notice and let you know. I do not imagine, if the minister said he is going to go, that he has any intention other than of going. I am sure of that. It will be timely and it will depend on a number of circumstances, and it would be inappropriate for me to predict what they may or may not be.</p>	Page 45 3.06.2014		
BI-71	Ludlam	Resources Division	International Hosting of Foreign Radioactive Waste	<p>Senator LUDLAM: A final question for you, Senator Ronaldson: there has been recent media reporting citing both Prime Minister Bob Hawke and current NT Chief Minister Adam Giles supporting the hosting of an international high-level radioactive waste dump in Australia. I presume the government is aware of those comments. What is the government's current policy on international hosting of foreign radioactive waste?</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: Well (a) I have not seen those comments and (b) I will take that question on notice.</p>	Page 45 3.06.2014		

BI-72	Carr	Industry Division	ATS Legislation	<p>Senator KIM CARR: When will we see this legislation?</p> <p>Mr Durrant: The government is considering how to approach the changes to the ATS.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: We have not seen the changes to the regulations for the MYEFO proposed reductions of \$500 million, have we?</p> <p>Mr Durrant: That is correct.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: When will we see those?</p> <p>Mr Durrant: As I said, the government is working on that.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Perhaps the minister can advise us. When will the parliament see this legislation and these regulations?</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: I am not aware of the legislative program for that piece of legislation. I will take that on notice.</p>	Page 47 3.06.2014		
BI-73	Carr	Industry Division	State Breakdown of Automotive Employment	<p>Senator KIM CARR: How many people, do you think? How many automotive manufacturing jobs are there in New South Wales?</p> <p>Mr Durrant: You would appreciate that there is a difficulty in answering this question. The head office of ATS could be in New South Wales and the production could be in another state.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I see your point. But it is true to say that there are automotive workers employed in Sydney, Brisbane and Perth. That would be true, would it not? Do you have the state-by-state breakdown of automotive employment figures, as you understand them?</p> <p>Mr Durrant: I do not have state-by-state—</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I will ask you to take on notice the department's latest thinking on the spread of automotive employment across Australia, direct and indirect.</p>	Page 50 3.06.2014		
BI-74	Madigan	IP Australia	Intellectual Property Protection	<p>Senator MADIGAN: Is there anything specific proposed to help our innovative companies to protect their intellectual property, their trademarks and their patents?</p> <p>Mr Ryan: I am wondering what it is in the current process that is of concern? It is a pretty good system that we actually run now.</p> <p>Senator MADIGAN: Many companies that I know, and quite a few who do export, are continually saying to me how their trademarks and their product get ripped off. There is product coming into Australia that trades under a very similar name to theirs. It is a rip-off of their product. It is their product; they have patents. It is their intellectual property. It is their IP—and there is little or predominantly no assistance for them to help them protect their property.</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I will add a couple of things. We are looking at IP arrangements as part of the competitiveness agenda that Mr Ryan spoke about. We will be looking at</p>	Page 62 3.06.2014		

				<p>how our entrepreneurs program and commercialising ideas are managed. We do have IP Australia as part of the portfolio. They were not called to these hearings. But I am happy to take that back and see if there is a particular problem—the systemic problem that you seem to be inferring. I think we have a fairly robust system that meets international standards. I will take that on notice, if that is okay with you.</p> <p>Senator Cash: Senator Madigan, could you provide some additional details—particularly in relation to the people who have come to you—so that we are able to look at those specific examples to give you an informed response.</p>			
BI-75	Xenophon	Business Comp and Trade Division	Thailand/Australia Free trade Agreement	<p>Senator XENOPHON: I am happy for it to be taken on notice, but to any casual observer it looks as though we were mugs in terms of the deal we entered into, only to find that the Thais were whacking big non-tariff barriers on Australian-made vehicles, which killed the opportunity to import vehicles made in Australia into Thailand. Can somebody confirm that was the case? Were these contingencies looked at?</p> <p>Mr Trotman: I cannot speak to the Thailand free trade agreement; that precedes me.</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: You know it exists.</p> <p>Mr Trotman: That is right.</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: You know the terms of it and you know that after we entered into the agreement the Thais whacked on these huge non-tariff barriers on Australian-made vehicles. Do you agree that they are incontrovertible facts?</p> <p>Mr Trotman: That is right.</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: So you agree with that. To what extent did the department provide advice to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in respect to negotiating these agreements to foresee that the Thais were going to do us in the eye, so to speak, after the agreement was entered into?</p> <p>Mr Ryan: We will probably have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: Please do.</p> <p>Mr Ryan: We have been up and down the table and no-one was around when that deal was done.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Mr Durrant has provided advice on that. I think you will find he is not inexperienced in this matter.</p> <p>Mr Durrant: Senator, even I was not around.</p> <p>CHAIR: Mr Durrant, please ignore the interjections.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: No, but you have provided advice on the question of the effects of the free trade agreement.</p> <p>CHAIR: Mr Durrant, ignore the interjections. Senator Xenophon has the call.</p>	Page 68-69 3.06.2014		

				<p>Senator XENOPHON: I am happy for that to be taken on notice, but further to that question, what liaison is there between the two departments to ensure that we do not get treated like mug punters again with some of these free trade agreements?</p>			
BI-76	Xenophon	Industry Division	Modelling for the Transition of the Auto Industry into other Markets	<p>Senator XENOPHON: What I am trying to establish is, has any economic modelling been undertaken to determine the extent of the sorts of funds needed to successfully transition the industry to other markets, to other products, given that they will not be part of the same supply chain in terms of the OEMs? I am happy for you to take that on notice.</p> <p>Mr Ryan: The industry has been in transition for 30 years but in more recent times, if we look at what change has taken place in the industry, the volume of units has declined from 400,000 units in 2004 down to 220,000 units in 2012—</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: Mr Ryan, I am happy for you to put that on notice as we have a tight time frame.</p>	Page 70 3.06.2014		
BI-77	Xenophon	Industry Division	PC Review into the Automotive Industry	<p>Senator XENOPHON: Has the department considered—and I can put this to the minister—varying the terms of the ATS to allow greater flexibility given what will occur post 2017? In other words, at the moment the legislation is clear—the criteria are clear for funding. But given that some of these companies will need to transition out of automotive to another form of manufacturing, is that something the department and the government have indeed looked at?</p> <p>Mr Ryan: What I can say is that the government has received the Productivity Commission report on the future of the—</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: Which has not been released yet.</p> <p>Mr Ryan: It has not been released.</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: Can you tell me when it will be released?</p> <p>Mr Ryan: I cannot tell you that, but I can say that when the government gives its response to that it may actually cover off what you are raising at the moment.</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: But are we looking at two months, three months, four months? I do not know whether the minister can help me on that.</p> <p>Senator CASH: To the extent that I am able to assist you, my understanding is that automotive policy will now focus on assisting an industry that is in transition, so that is certainly the intent of the government. We are still considering the findings of the Productivity Commission's review into the automotive industry, and I understand that the minister hopes to respond to that in the coming weeks. In particular, in terms of the minister and the key players within the industry, my understanding is that the minister remains in constant contact with them. In relation to the rest of the question, though, I would have to take that on notice.</p>	Page 72 3.06.2014		

BI-78	Carr	Industry Division	Australian Government Solicitor Advice on ATS Legislation	<p>Senator KIM CARR: Can I ask about contract number CN196461, which is a matter I raised in the cross-portfolio discussions, Mr Durrant.</p> <p>Mr Durrant: The department had a contract with the Australian Government Solicitor. The Australian Government Solicitor for a number of years has provided advice on the ATS legislation. That was a contract of \$25,000, and \$9,003 of that contract was spent.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Has it been your custom and practice to record the Australian Government Solicitor's advice in this matter? Is this the regular pattern for recording the transaction?</p> <p>Mr Durrant: Yes, it is.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: It is a standard contractual arrangement.</p> <p>Mr Durrant: Yes, and we report it along with other tenders the department have been involved in.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Why wouldn't you say 'Australian Government Solicitor' in the contract notes?</p> <p>Mr Durrant: I was following procedure. I do not think it was any different to the way any other tenders are recorded, whether AGS, private sector or other.</p> <p>Ms Tregurtha: Can I get the question again?</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Why was the Australian Government Solicitor not referred to in the contract notes?</p> <p>Ms Tregurtha: I would have to look at the contract notes. Is this off the legal services multi-use list?</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: This is the contract that I raised with the secretary yesterday—\$25,000 for legal services. I understand you came to the table at that point.</p> <p>Ms Tregurtha: Yes.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I cannot quite follow why we were not advised this was the Australian Government Solicitor.</p> <p>Ms Tregurtha: Again, I would have to go and look at the exact record to see why it was put in in that way.</p>	Page 76-77 3.06.2014		
BI-79	Carr	Industry Division	Manufacturing Leaders Group	<p>Senator KIM CARR: Are you familiar with the project Smarter Manufacturing for a Smarter Australia?</p> <p>Dr Green: All the contracts that we let under that leaders group funding line have been continued through to their conclusion.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Was there a project contract issued for \$100,000 for that project?</p>	Page 78 3.06.2014		

				<p>Dr Green: I do not recall a project of that specific name. That may be an adaption of the name of the grant.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I may well have it wrong. There may be a slight variation, but was there a reference group which worked with AiG and the department on a research program to analyse the scope and scale of non-compliant imported building and electrical products. Was there such a project?</p> <p>Dr Green: Yes, there was a study. We let a contract for \$100,000 to the AiG to undertake that work, and that study was completed.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: That would be the same one. It was completed. Did industry put up \$108,000 in kind for that project?</p> <p>Dr Green: I would have to check the details, but I believe that is broadly correct.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Would you take that on notice.</p>			
BI-80	Carr	Industry Division	Non-compliant Building Products Report	<p>Senator KIM CARR: Did the report find that non-conforming products were widespread across the building and construction sector, to the extent that 92 per cent of respondent countries reported non-conforming products in their market sector and 45 per cent reported having adverse impacts on revenue margins and employment numbers. Is that correct?</p> <p>Dr Green: I think that is a correct statement of something that is in the report.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: The report did contain a number of recommendations. Is that correct?</p> <p>Dr Green: Yes, there were some recommendations in the report.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: What are you doing about the recommendations?</p> <p>Dr Green: I think it would be better to take specific actions that were undertaken on notice.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Thank you.</p>	Page 79 3.06.2014		
BI-81	Carr	Industry Division	Australian Industry Participation Plans	<p>Senator KIM CARR: So there will still be a requirement to put in Australian industry participation plans?</p> <p>Dr Green: The Jobs Act is still in place and still has its requirements, as do the Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines, which still have their obligations.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Is it still going to be a trade-off against the tariff concessions?</p> <p>Dr Green: The Enhanced Project By-Law Scheme still remains.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: What is the funding for administering that?</p> <p>Dr Green: We can take that on notice.</p>	Page 84 3.06.2014		

BI-82	Carr	Business Comp and Trade Division	Clinical Trials	<p>Senator KIM CARR: How many clinical trials do you anticipate will be undertaken as a result of this money?</p> <p>Ms Hemmings: I do not have that number, I am sorry. I do not think that assessment has been done. I do not think the work has been assessed in terms of—</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Could you take that on notice for me and give me what your estimates are.</p>	Page 86 3.06.2014		
BI-83	Lundy & Ludwig	Corporate Division & Agencies	Department and Agency Staffing	<p><i>Transfers</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many people does your department/agency currently employ? Please provide a breakdown of this figure based on the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. State and Territory. b. Age. c. Gender. d. APS level classification. e. Contract type (ongoing or non-ongoing). 2. How many people did your department/agency employ as of 30 June 2013? Please provide a breakdown of this figure based on the following variables: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. State and Territory. b. Age. c. Gender. d. APS level classification. e. Contract type (ongoing or non-ongoing). 3. How many people did your department/agency employ as of 18 September 2013? Please provide a breakdown of this figure based on the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. State and Territory. b. Age. c. Gender. d. APS level classification. e. Contract type (ongoing or non-ongoing). 4. Since 18 September 2013, what department/agency functions have been transferred from one state or territory to another? 5. For all functions transferred, can you please provide figures for the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Number of staff employed before and after the transfer, b. Where the function was based before and after the transfer. 6. For each employee transferred please provide the followings: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Their age. b. Their gender. c. Their APS classification. 	Written Question Received 5.06.2014		

				<p>d. The wage of the employee before and after the transfer.</p> <p>e. The area of the department/agency they worked in before and after their transfer.</p> <p>f. A description of their position before and after the transfer.</p> <p>g. The dates of their transfer.</p> <p>h. An explanation for why the employee was transferred.</p> <p>i. Whether they were transferred to or from Canberra.</p> <p>j. Any costs incurred by the department/agency due to this transfer.</p> <p><i>Redundancies</i></p> <p>7. Since 18 September 2013, how many positions have been made redundant in your department/agency?</p> <p>a. How many of these positions were ongoing?</p> <p>b. How many of these positions were non-ongoing?</p> <p>c. How many of these positions were situated in the Australian Capital Territory?</p> <p>8. How many of the employees filling these redundant positions were redeployed?</p> <p>a. How many of these employees were ongoing?</p> <p>b. How many of these employees were non-ongoing?</p> <p>c. How many of these employees were situated in the Australian Capital Territory?</p> <p>9. How many of these employees were offered voluntary redundancies?</p> <p>a. How many of these employees were ongoing?</p> <p>b. How many of these employees were non-ongoing?</p> <p>c. How many of these employees were situated in the Australian Capital Territory?</p> <p>10. How many accepted voluntary redundancies?</p> <p>a. How many of these employees were ongoing?</p> <p>b. How many of these employees were non-ongoing?</p> <p>c. How many of these employees were situated in the Australian Capital Territory?</p> <p>11. How many employees were offered the choice between a voluntary redundancy and redeployment?</p> <p>a. How many of these employees were ongoing?</p> <p>b. How many of these employees were non-ongoing?</p> <p>c. How many of these employees were situated in the Australian Capital Territory?</p> <p>12. For all employees who accepted voluntary redundancies please provide the following:</p>			
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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Their age. b. Their gender. c. A description of their position. d. The APS classification level of their position. e. Their wage. f. Their contract type (non-ongoing versus ongoing). g. Where they were located. h. A dollar figure of their pay out and what component of that figure was paid out as entitlements (annual leave etc.). i. The reason a voluntary redundancy was offered for their position. j. Details pertaining to any other costs incurred by the department/agency because of this redundancy. k. Please provide all relevant dates. <p>13. For all employees who were redeployed please provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Their age. b. Their gender. c. A description of their position before and after redeployment. d. The APS classification level of their position before and after redeployment. e. Their wage before and after redeployment. f. Contract type (non-ongoing versus ongoing) before and after redeployment. g. Where they were located before and after redeployment. h. Please provide the reason for the redeployment. i. Please specify any other costs incurred by the department/agency because of this redeployment. j. Please provide all relevant dates. <p>14. Since the 18 September 2013, how many employees in your department/agency have been made forcibly redundant?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. How many of these employees were ongoing? b. How many of these employees were non-ongoing? c. How many of these employees were situated in the Australian Capital Territory? <p>15. How many of these employees were offered voluntary redundancies or redeployments prior to being made forcibly redundant?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. How many of these employees were ongoing? b. How many of these employees were non-ongoing? c. How many of these employees were situated in the Australian Capital Territory? <p>16. For employees who were made forcibly redundant since the 18 September 2013 please provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Their age. b. Their gender. 			
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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. A description of their position. d. The APS classification level of their position. e. Their wage at retrenchment. f. Their contract type (non-ongoing versus ongoing). g. Where they were located. h. A dollar figure of their pay out and what component of that figure was paid out as entitlements (annual leave etc.). i. The reason why the employee was made forcibly redundant. j. Details pertaining to any other costs incurred by the department/agency because of this redundancy. k. Please provide all relevant dates. <p><i>Extensions</i></p> <p>17. Since the 18 September 2013 how many non-ongoing contracts has your department/agency extended?</p> <p>18. How many non-ongoing contract extensions did your department/agency submit the Public Service Commission for approval?</p> <p>19. How many of these extensions were approved by the Australian Public Service Commission (APSC)?</p> <p>20. For every approved extension please provide the following details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The employees age. b. Their gender. c. A description of their position. d. Their APS classification level. e. Their wage. f. Where they are located. g. Their length of continuous employment at the APS. h. The length of the approved extension. i. The reason why the extension was submitted. j. The reason why the extension was approved by the APSC. k. Please provide all relevant dates. <p>21. How many of these extensions were rejected by the APSC?</p> <p>22. For every rejected extension please provide the following details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The employee's age. b. Their gender. c. A description of their position. d. Their wage. e. Where they were located. f. Their length of continuous employment at the APS. g. The length of the extension sought by the department/agency. h. The reason why the extension was submitted. 			
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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The reason why the extension was rejected by the APSC. j. Please provide all relevant dates. <p>23. Since 18 September 2013, how many non-ongoing contracts have been extended by your department/agency without the APSC's approval?</p> <p>24. For every unapproved extension please provide the following details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The employee's age. b. Their gender. c. A description of their position. d. Their wage. e. Their position's APS level classification. f. Where they were located. g. Their length of continuous employment at the APS. h. The length of the extension granted by the department/agency. i. The reason why the extension was granted. j. Whether the extension was submitted to the APSC for approval and if not why the extension was not submitted for APSC approval? k. The reasons why the extension was granted without the APSC's approval. l. Please provide all relevant dates. <p>25. Since the 18 September 2013 how many non-ongoing contracts have expired without extension?</p> <p>26. For every non-ongoing contract that has expired without extension please provide the following details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The employee's age. b. Their gender. c. A description of their position. d. Their wage. e. Their position's APS level classification. f. Where they were located. g. Their length of continuous employment at the APS. h. The reason why the extension was not sought for their position. i. Please provide all relevant dates. <p>27. Since the 18 September 2013 how many new employees have been engaged by your department/agency on non-ongoing contracts?</p> <p>28. Since the 18 September 2013 how many (a) non-ongoing and (b) new non-ongoing engagements were submitted to the APSC for approval?</p> <p>29. How many of these new non-ongoing engagements were approved by the APSC?</p> <p>30. For every approved new engagement of a non-ongoing employee please provide the following details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Their age. 			
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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Their gender. c. A description of their position. d. Their wage. e. Where their position is located. f. Their position's APS level classification. g. The length of their non-ongoing contract. h. Whether their position was advertised externally. i. The reason for engaging this new employee. j. The reason given by the APSC for approving this engagement. k. Please provide all relevant dates <p>31. How many of these new non-ongoing employee applications were rejected by the Public Service Commission?</p> <p>32. For every rejected new engagement of a non-ongoing employee please provide the following details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Their age. b. Their gender. c. A description of their position. d. Where their position is located. e. Their wage. f. Their position's APS level classification. g. The length of their non-ongoing contract. h. Whether their position was advertised externally. i. The reason for engaging this new employee. j. The reason given by the APSC for rejecting this engagement. k. Please provide all relevant dates <p>33. Since 18 September 2013, how many new employees have been engaged on non-ongoing contracts without the approval of the Public Service Commission?</p> <p>34. For every unapproved new engagement of a non-ongoing employee please provide the following details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Their age. b. Their gender. c. A description of their position. d. Their wage. e. Where their position is located. f. Their position's APS level classification. g. The length of their non-ongoing contract. h. Whether their position was advertised externally. i. The reason for engaging this new employee. j. The reason for engaging this employee without the APSC's approval. k. Please provide all relevant dates 			
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			<p>35. Since the 18 September 2013 how many new employees have been engaged by your department/agency on ongoing contracts?</p> <p>36. Since the 18 September 2013 how many (a) on-ongoing and (b) new ongoing engagements were submitted to the Public Service Commission for approval?</p> <p>37. How many of these new ongoing engagements were approved by the Public Service Commission?</p> <p>38. For every approved new engagement of a ongoing employee please provide the following details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Their age. b. Their gender. c. A description of their position. d. Their wage. e. Where their position is located. f. Their position's APS level classification. g. The length of their ongoing contract. h. Whether their position was advertised externally. i. The reason for engaging this new employee. j. The reason provided by APSC for approving this engagement. k. Please provide all relevant dates. <p>39. How many of these new ongoing employee applications were rejected by the Public Service Commission?</p> <p>40. For every new ongoing engagement rejected by the Public Service Commission please provide the following details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Their age. b. Their gender. c. A description of their position. d. Where their position is located. e. Their wage. f. Their position's APS level classification. g. The length of their ongoing contract. h. Whether their position was advertised externally. i. The reason for engaging this new employee. j. The reason provided by APSC for approving this engagement. k. Please provide all relevant dates. <p>41. How many new employees have been engaged on ongoing contracts without the approval of the Public Service Commission?</p> <p>42. For every ongoing employee engaged without the Public Service Commission's approval please provide the following details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Their age. 			
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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Their gender. c. A description of their position. d. Where their position is located. e. Their wage. f. Their position's APS level classification. g. The length of their ongoing contract. h. Whether their position was advertised externally. i. The reason for engaging this new employee. j. The reason for engaging this employee without the APSC permission. k. Please provide all relevant dates. 			
BI-84	Bishop	Resources Division	Exploration Development Incentive	<p>Under the proposed program, a tax credit will be provided to Australian resident shareholders for eligible 'green fields' exploration expenditure incurred in Australia. A 'no taxable income' test will ensure that the program is only available to junior minerals explorers. An exploration tax credit scheme was first promised by the Rudd Labor Government in 2007 and subsequently dropped upon development of the Mineral Resources Rent Tax.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This exploration Development Incentive seeks to encourage green fields exploration – Can you tell us what impact the cuts to Geoscience Australia will have on necessary geological surveys and geological mapping? 2. Exploration for what minerals will be eligible under this program? 3. What probity measures are in place to ensure the tax is not taken advantage of? 4. Can you tell us about previous tax incentives or exploration? 5. Why were they removed? 6. How will you measure the success of this program? 	Written Question Received 5.06.14		
BI-85	Bishop	Energy Division	Departmental Involvement in the Renewable Energy Target Review	<p>On 17 February 2014, the Government announced the review of the Renewable Energy Target scheme by an expert panel which will report by mid-2014. Currently, RET aims for 20 per cent of power drawn from renewables, or a mandated target of 41,000 gigawatts an hour of renewable energy, by 2020. The RET Review is supported by a secretariat in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet involving specialists from the Department of Industry and Environment.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many specialists has the Department got working on the Review? 2. What areas are these staff specialists in? 3. Certainty and stability is important to this developing industry aren't they? Wouldn't you agree that the bipartisan support, that the RET has enjoyed over the last 13 years, has been good for the industry and consumers? 4. What is the reporting dare for the Warburton Review? 5. What fees have to Committee Members? 	Written Question Received 5.06.14		

				<p>6. How many times have the Committee met?</p> <p>7. Is there any direct engagement from the Prime Minister's Office or personal staff with Mr Warburton or the Review Committee?</p>			
BI-86	Wright	CSIRO	Bullying Investigation by Professor Pearce	<p>1. Is it the case that Professor Pearce was not empowered to make findings of misconduct?</p> <p>2. Is bullying classified as misconduct under the agency's Code of Conduct?</p> <p>3. What is the total amount of money that CSIRO has spent, to date, on the investigation?</p> <p>4. Will any further costs be incurred?</p> <p>5. In his Phase 2 'General Findings' report, Professor Pearce made two recommendations that misconduct proceedings should be commenced. Has CSIRO commenced misconduct proceedings in these two cases?</p> <p>6. What level were these two staff classified at?</p> <p>7. Professor Pearce also noted that there were a number of other persons whose behaviour was not 'above reproach'. Is CSIRO aware of who these people are?</p> <p>8. Will CSIRO hold any managers, supervisors or Human Resources staff accountable for behaviour which Professor Pearce assessed as not 'above reproach'?</p> <p>9. What process has CSIRO established to obtain feedback from people who participated in the investigation?</p> <p>10. How many complaints has CSIRO received, regarding how the investigation was conducted?</p> <p>11. How many current staff who made submissions to the Pearce Investigation are in line for redundancy?</p> <p>12. Was Professor Pearce empowered, in Phase 2, to investigate allegations relating to the failure of supervisors, executives, managers or HR staff to appropriately address complaints about bullying or unreasonable behaviour?</p> <p>13. How many supervisors, executives, managers or HR personnel who were employees of CSIRO at the time of the Pearce Investigation were the subject of complaints in Phase 1, but were not investigated in Phase 2?</p> <p>14. In his Phase 1 'General Findings' report, Professor Pearce stated that '130 discrete allegations were received'. Did that number include all allegations made against supervisors, managers, executives and HR staff for not appropriately acting on complaints, or did it exclude those allegations?</p> <p>15. How many submissions received in Phase 1 contained allegations about Dr Clarke's conduct?</p>	Written Question Received 11.06.14		

				<p>a. How many of these allegations were investigated in Phase 2?</p> <p>16. Is CSIRO aware of any resignations from the agency, because of unresolved complaints?</p> <p>17. Are CSIRO or investigators providing participants with their individual reports on the Pearce Investigation?</p> <p>a. Are there any cases where participants have been refused access to their Phase 1 or Phase 2 individual reports?</p> <p>b. If so, why has such access been refused?</p> <p>18. Professor Pearce submitted a number of reports/documents to CSIRO including a Phase 1 General Findings Report, a Phase 2 General Findings Report, Phase 1 Individual Summary Reports and Phase 2 Individual Summary Reports. Did Professor Pearce submit other documents to the CSIRO board?</p> <p>19. Does the agency anticipate receiving any further reports from Professor Pearce?</p>			
BI-87	Ludlam	Resources Division	Bilateral Talks Regarding the Sale of Uranium to India	<p>Senator LUDLAM: I might put some questions on notice, Chair, if we are out of time. On the current status of bilateral talks aimed at advancing the planned sale of Australian uranium to India, I get to take that up with Dr Floyd, I think, from the foreign affairs department. I am just wondering whether this department has any visibility of that, but I will put that to you on notice.</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: Thank you.</p>	Page 45 2.06.2014		
BI-88	Xenophon	CSIRO	Health Benefits of CSIRO's Resistance Starch Projects	<p>Senator XENOPHON: I am acutely aware of time constraints, and I want to put a couple of questions to you, one on notice. The CSIRO is currently working on projects relating to resistance starch and its role in bowel health. On notice, can you tell me the benefits of this project in terms of preventive health and whether this budget will be affected by budget cuts? The second question is that I note that the CSIRO has been credited with developing wi-fi technology. How much, in monetary terms, has this brought back to the taxpayers of Australia?</p> <p>Dr Clark: I can answer both of those without taking them on notice. The answer to the second question is \$425 million from our wireless LAN licences—</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: And counting.</p> <p>Dr Clark: We still have a small part of the market that we are chasing for licences. In terms of the first question, we have made the decision that the work that we do in the combination of food and nutrition is vital to the decade or future of the nation, and we will continue to work very actively in the area of food and nutrition and the combination, particularly leading on the strength that we have in resistance starch and the strengths we have in those areas.</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: And will the budget cuts affect that work?</p>	Page 14 2.06.2014		

				Dr Clark: We are only reducing our areas of clinical medicine in the areas that do not relate to food and nutrition.			
BI-89	Whish-Wilson	CSIRO	Marine National Facility Research Ship	<p>In regards to media reports that the former Marine National Facility research ship, the RV Southern Surveyor, was sold for \$270,000</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To whom and for what purpose was the RV Southern Surveyor sold? 2. Where do the proceeds of the sale of the RV Southern Surveyor go? Into CSIRO bottom line or elsewhere? 3. What is the scrap value for a ship of this type on the international market? 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-90	Whish-Wilson	Industry Division	Tasmanian Major Projects Agency	<p>In regards to Tasmanian Major Projects Agency</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Will it run as a fee for service system? 2. Where it will be located in Launceston? 3. Will it be an agency of the Department of Industry? If not which Department will it be part of? 4. Are there projects from 1 July that the agency will be working on? 5. Will the agency have a role in promoting the benefit of investing in Tasmania? 6. What review process is in place to determine the effectiveness of this office over the coming years? 7. How will the Agency work with the Tasmanian Government to ensure there isn't duplication of effort? 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-91	Wright	NOPSEMA	Relevant Persons	<p>NOPSEMA states that a 'relevant person' is 'a person or organisation whose functions, interests or activities may be affected by the activities to be carried out under the Environmental Plan', but stakeholders report the agency is not usually able to advise who is considered a relevant person.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Which of the following would NOPSEMA consider to be a relevant person with an interest in an 'exploration' proposal: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. An Indigenous fisherman for whom the region is sea country. ii. A commercial fisherman who has a licence to fish in the area. iii. A recreational fishing or diving charter vessel operator who regularly visits the area. iv. An industry body who, at times, represents a group of fishermen or other commercial marine industries. v. A state or federal member whose constituents regularly use the area, for commercial or recreational purposes. vi. A local Council whose ratepayers regularly use the area, for commercial or recreational purposes. vii. A conservation organisation who has conservation programs focused on species or ecosystems known to exist in the region. 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		

				<p>viii. A university researcher who is conducting research on species or ecosystems known to exist in the region.</p> <p>ix. A community member of the state that the proposal relates to.</p> <p>b. What provisions exist for 'relevant persons' who were not consulted by the titleholder and seek to appeal a NOPSEMA decision to accept an Environment Plan?</p>			
BI-92	Wright	NOPSEMA	Bight Petroleum Pty Ltd Lightning 3D Marine Seismic Survey Environment Plan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please provide the full Environment Plan for the Bight Petroleum Pty Ltd Lightning 3D Marine Seismic Survey which was accepted on June 6, 2014. 2. What correspondence has NOPSEMA received in relation to this Environment Plan submission? 3. Did NOPSEMA require Bight Petroleum Pty Ltd. to alter this Environment Plan before it was accepted in its final form? 4. Was this Environment Plan submission the first of its kind assessed under the amended Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Environment) Regulations 2009 which came into effect on February 28, 2014? 5. How many Environment Plan submissions have been accepted under the amended regulations? 6. How many Environment Plan submissions have been rejected under the amended regulations? 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-93	Wright	NOPSEMA	New Information	<p>Regulation 17 of the Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Environment) Regulations 2009 relates to a 'revision because of a change, or proposed change, of circumstances or operations'. With particular reference to 'new or increased environmental impact or risk', please provide the following information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Examples of what may constitute 'new information' and a 'significant new environmental impact or risk' 2. Details of the process undertaken by the titleholder upon the advent of 'new information', including timeframes 3. An explanation of how NOPSEMA would determine whether a particular piece of 'new information' would require a proposed revision. 4. An outline of the consultation a titleholder would be required to engage in upon the advent of 'new information'. 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-94	Ludwig	Corporate	Appointments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please detail any board appointments made from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date. 2. What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio? 3. Does the department have a gender ratio target and/or any other policy intended to increase the participation rate of women on boards? If yes, please specify what the 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		

				<p>target and policy is for each board.</p> <p>4. Please specify when these gender ratio or participation policies were put in place.</p> <p>5. Has there been any change to this ratio or policy since September 7, 2013? If yes, please detail.</p>			
BI-95	Ludwig	Corporate	Advertising	<p>1. How much has the Department/Agency spent on Advertising since Additional Estimates in February, 2014? Including through the use of agencies.</p> <p>2. Please detail each advertising campaign including it's cost, where the advertising appeared, production costs, who approved, ministerial or ministerial staff involvement in commissioning.</p>	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-96	Ludwig	Corporate	Enterprise Bargaining Agreements (EBAs)	<p>1. Please list all related EBAs with coverage of the department.</p> <p>2. Please list their starting and expiration dates.</p> <p>3. What is the current status of negotiations for the next agreement/s? Please detail.</p>	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-97	Ludwig	Finance	Existing Resources Program	<p>1. Since 7 September how many major projects, work, programs or other tasks has the department started as a consequence of government policies or priorities that are required to be funded 'within existing resources'?</p> <p>2. List each project or piece of work</p> <p>3. List the staffing assigned to each task</p> <p>4. What is the nominal total salary cost of the officers assigned to the project?</p> <p>5. What resources or equipment has been assigned to the project?</p>	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-98	Ludwig	Finance	Conditions of Government Contracts and Agreements	<p>Since 7 September 2013;</p> <p>1. Do any contracts managed by the Department/Agency contain any limitations or restrictions on advocacy or criticising Government policy? If so, please name each contact. When was it formed or created?</p> <p>2. What are the specific clauses and/or sections which state this, or in effect, create a limitation or restriction?</p> <p>3. Do any agreements managed by the Department/Agency contain any limitations on restrictions on advocacy or criticisms of Government policy? If so, please name each agreement. When was it formed or created?</p> <p>4. What are the specific clauses and/or sections which state this, or in effect, create a limitation or restriction?</p> <p>5. For each of the contracts and agreements, are there any particular reason, such as genuine commercial in confidence information, for this restriction?</p>	Written Question Received 12.06.14		

				<p>6. Have any changes to financial or resource support to services which advocate on behalf of groups or individuals in Australian society been made? If so, which groups? What was the change?</p> <p>7. Has any consultation occurred between the Department/Agency and any individuals and/or community groups about these changes? If so, what consultation process was used? Was it public? If not, why not? Are public submissions available on a website?</p> <p>8. If no consultation has occurred, why not?</p> <p>9. Did the Minister/Parliamentary Secretary meet with any stakeholders about changes to advocacy in their contracts and/or agreements? If so, when? Who did he/she meet with?</p>			
BI-99	Ludwig	Corporate	Reviews	<p>1. Since Additional Estimates in February, 2014, how many new reviews (defined as review, inter-departmental group, inquiry, internal review or similar activity) have been commenced? Please list them including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. the date they were ordered b. the date they commenced c. the minister responsible d. the department responsible e. the nature of the review f. their terms of reference g. the scope of the review h. Whom is conducting the review i. the number of officers, and their classification level, involved in conducting the review j. the expected report date k. the budgeted, projected or expected costs l. If the report will be tabled in parliament or made public <p>2. For any review commenced or ordered since Additional Estimates in February, 2014, have any external people, companies or contractors being engaged to assist or conduct the review?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, please list them, including their name and/or trading name/s and any known alias or other trading names b. If so, please list their managing director and the board of directors or equivalent c. If yes, for each is the cost associated with their involvement, including a break down for each cost item 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d. If yes, for each, what is the nature of their involvement e. If yes, for each, are they on the lobbyist register, provide details. f. If yes, for each, what contact has the Minister or their office had with them g. If yes, for each, who selected them h. If yes, for each, did the minister or their office have any involvement in selecting them, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. If yes, please detail what involvement it was ii. If yes, did they see or provided input to a short list iii. If yes, on what dates did this involvement occur iv. If yes, did this involve any verbal discussions with the department v. If yes, on what dates did this involvement occur <p>3. Since Additional Estimates in February, 2014, what reviews are on-going?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Please list them. b. What is the current cost to date expended on the reviews? <p>4. Since Additional Estimates in February, 2014, have any reviews been stopped, paused or ceased? Please list them.</p> <p>5. Since Additional Estimates in February, 2014, what reviews have concluded? Please list them.</p> <p>6. Since Additional Estimates in February, 2014, how many reviews have been provided to Government? Please list them and the date they were provided.</p> <p>7. When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?</p> <p>8. What reviews are planned?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. When will each planned review be commenced? b. When will each of these reviews be concluded? c. When will government respond to each review? d. Will the government release each review? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. If so, when? If not, why not? 			
BI-100	Ludwig	Corporate	Legal Costs	<p>1. List all legal costs incurred by the department or agency since Additional Estimates in February, 2014</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. List the total cost for these items, broken down by source of legal advice, hours retained or taken to prepare the advice and the level of counsel used in preparing the advice, whether the advice was internal or external 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. List cost spend briefing Counsel, broken down by hours spend briefing, whether it was direct or indirect briefing, the gender ratio of Counsel, how each Counsel was engaged (departmental, ministerial) c. How was each piece of advice procured? Detail the method of identifying legal advice 			
BI-101	Ludwig	Corporate	Briefings for Other Parties	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Since Additional Estimates in February, 2014 have any briefings and/or provision of information been provided to Non-Government parties other than the Australian Labor Party? If yes, please include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. How are briefings requests commissioned? b. What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing. c. Provide details of what information has been provided and a copy of the information. d. Have any briefings request been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details of what the requests were and why it could not proceed. e. How long is spent preparing and undertaking briefings/information requests for the Independents? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification. f. Which Non-Government Parties or Independents, excluding the Australian Labor Party have requested briefings and/or information? 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-102	Ludwig	Corporate	Vending Machines	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Since Additional Estimates in February, 2014 has the department/agency purchased or leased or taken under contract any vending machine facilities? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, list these b. If so, list the total cost for these items c. If so, list the itemised cost for each item of expenditure d. If so, where were these purchased e. If so, list the process for identifying how they would be purchased f. If so, what is the current location for these items? g. If so, what is the current usage for each of these items? 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-103	Ludwig	Corporate	Stationery Requirements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much was spent by each department and agency on the government (Ministers / Parliamentary Secretaries) stationery requirements in your portfolio from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Detail the items provided to the minister's office 2. How much was spent on departmental stationery requirements from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date. 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		

BI-104	Ludwig	Corporate	Electronic Equipment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Other than phones, ipads or computers – please list the electronic equipment provided to the Minister’s office since Additional Estimates in February, 2014. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. List the items b. List the items location or normal location c. List if the item is in the possession of the office or an individual staff member of minister, if with an individual list their employment classification level d. List the total cost of the items e. List an itemised cost breakdown of these items f. List the date they were provided to the office g. Note if the items were requested by the office or proactively provided by the department 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-105	Ludwig	Corporate	Media Subscriptions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What pay TV subscriptions does your department/agency have? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Please provide a list of what channels and the reason for each channel. b. What is the cost from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? c. What is provided to the Minister or their office? d. What is the cost for this from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? 2. What newspaper subscriptions does your department/agency have? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Please provide a list of newspaper subscriptions and the reason for each. b. What is the cost from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? c. What is provided to the Minister or their office? d. What is the cost for this from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? 3. What magazine subscriptions does your department/agency have? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Please provide a list of magazine subscriptions and the reason for each. b. What is the cost from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? c. What is provided to the Minister or their office? d. What is the cost for this from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? 4. What publications does your department/agency purchase? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Please provide a list of publications purchased by the department and the reason for each. b. What is the cost from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? c. What is provided to the Minister or their office? d. What is the cost for this from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		

BI-106	Ludwig	Corporate	Media Monitoring	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Which agency or agencies provided these services? b. What has been spent providing these services from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? c. Itemise these expenses. 2. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Which agency or agencies provided these services? b. What has been spent providing these services from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? c. Itemise these expenses 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-107	Ludwig	Corporate	Report Printing	<p>Have any reports, budget papers, statements, white papers or report-like documents printed for or by the department been pulped, put in storage, shredded or disposed of? A. If so please give details; name of report, number of copies, cost of printing, who order the disposal, reason for disposal</p>	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-108	Ludwig	Corporate	Communications Staff	<p>For all departments and agencies, please provide – in relation to all public relations, communications and media staff – the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. How many ongoing staff, the classification, the type of work they undertake and their location. b. How many non-ongoing staff, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location c. How many contractors, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location d. How many are graphic designers? e. How many are media managers? f. How many organise events? 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-109	Ludwig	Corporate	Commissioned Reports	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Since Additional Estimates in February, 2014, how many Reports (including paid external advice) have been commissioned by the Minister, department or agency? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members. 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		

				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost? How many departmental or external staff were involved in each report and at what level? 3. What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports? 			
BI-110	Ludwig	Corporate	Ministerial Staff Turnover	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. List the current staffing allocation for each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary 2. For each Minister or Parliamentary Secretary list the number of staff recruited, broken down by their staffing classification 3. For each Minister or Parliamentary Secretary list the number of staff that have resigned, broken down by their staffing classification 4. For each Minister or Parliamentary Secretary list the number of staff that have been terminated, broken down by their staffing classification 5. For each Ministerial staff position, please provide a table of how many individual people have been engaged against each position since the swearing in of the Abbott Government, broken down by employing member and the dates of their employment 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-111	Ludwig	Corporate	FOI Request	<p>Since September 7, 2013:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many requests for documents under the FOI Act have been received? 2. Of these, how many documents have been determined to be deliberative documents? 3. Of those assessed as deliberative documents: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. For how many has access to the document been refused on the basis that it would be contrary to the public interest? b. For how many has a redacted document been provided? 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-112	Ludwig	Corporate	Ministerial Motor Vehicle	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has the minister been provided with a motor vehicle since Additional Estimates in February, 2014? If so: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What is the make and model? b. How much did it cost? c. When was it provided? d. Was the entire cost met by the department? If not, how was the cost met? e. What, if any, have been the ongoing costs associated with this motor vehicle? Please include costs such as maintenance and fuel. f. Are these costs met by the department? If not, how are these costs met? g. Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine if a minister is entitled to a motor vehicle. 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> h. Have these guidelines changed since Additional Estimates in February, 2014? If so, please detail. i. Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine how a minister is to use a motor vehicle they have been provided with. Please include details such as whether the motor vehicle can be used for personal uses. j. Have these guidelines changed since Additional Estimates in February, 2014? If so, please detail. 			
BI-113	Ludwig	Corporate	Ministerial Staff Vehicles (non-MoPS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Outside of MoPS Act entitlements, have any of the Minister's staff been provided with a motor vehicle since Additional Estimates in February, 2014? If so: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. What is the make and model? b. How much did it cost? c. When was it provided? d. Was the entire cost met by the department? If not, how was the cost met? e. What, if any, have been the ongoing costs associated with this motor vehicle? Please include costs such as maintenance and fuel. f. Are these costs met by the department? If not, how are these costs met? g. Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine this entitlement to a motor vehicle. h. Have these guidelines changed since Additional Estimates in February, 2014? If so, please detail. i. Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine how a motor vehicle is to be used that they have been provided with. Please include details such as whether the motor vehicle can be used for personal uses. j. Have these guidelines changed since Additional Estimates in February, 2014? If so, please detail. 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-114	Ludwig	Corporate	Ministerial Staff Vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have any of the Minister's staff been provided with a motor vehicle under the MoPS Act entitlements since Additional Estimates in February, 2014? If so: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. What is the make and model? b. How much did it cost? c. When was it provided? d. Was the entire cost met by the department? If not, how was the cost met? e. What, if any, have been the ongoing costs associated with this motor vehicle? Please include costs such as maintenance and fuel. 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> f. Are these costs met by the department? If not, how are these costs met? g. Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine this entitlement to a motor vehicle. h. Have these guidelines changed since Additional Estimates in February, 2014? If so, please detail. i. Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine how a motor vehicle is to be used that they have been provided with. Please include details such as whether the motor vehicle can be used for personal uses. j. Have these guidelines changed since Additional Estimates in February, 2014? If so, please detail. 			
BI-115	Ludwig	Corporate	Building Lease Costs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What has been the total cost of building leases for the agency / department since Additional Estimates in February, 2014? 2. Please provide a detailed list of each building that is currently leased. Please detail by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Date the lease agreement is active from. b. Date the lease agreement ends. c. Is the lease expected to be renewed? If not, why not? d. Location of the building (City and state). e. Cost of the lease. f. Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department. 3. Please provide a detailed list of each building that had a lease that was not renewed since Additional Estimates in February, 2014. Please detail by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Date from which the lease agreement was active. b. Date the lease agreement ended. c. Why was the lease not renewed? d. Location of the building (City and state). e. Cost of the lease. f. Why the building was necessary for the operations of the agency / department. 4. Please provide a detailed list of each building that is expected to be leased in the next 12 months. Please detail by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Date the lease agreement is expected to become active. b. Date the lease agreement is expected to end. c. Expected location of the building (City and state). 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d. Expected cost of the lease. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Has this cost been allocated into the budget? e. Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department. <p>5. For each building owned or leased by the department:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. What is the current occupancy rate for the building? b. If the rate is less than 100%, detail what the remaining being used for. 			
BI-116	Ludwig	Corporate	Government Advertising	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much has been spent on government advertising (including job ads) since Additional Estimates in February, 2014? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. List each item of expenditure and cost b. List the approving officer for each item c. Detail the outlets that were paid for the advertising 2. What government advertising is planned for the rest of the financial year? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. List the total expected cost b. List each item of expenditure and cost c. List the approving officer for each item d. Detail the outlets that have been or will be paid for the advertising 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-117	Ludwig	Corporate	Lobbyist Register Meetings	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. List all interactions between the department/agency with any representative listed on the lobbyist register since Additional Estimates in February, 2014. List the participants in the meeting, the topic of the discussion, who arranged or requested the meeting, the location of the meeting 2. List all interactions between the Minister/parliamentary Secretary and/or their offices with any representative listed on the lobbyist register since Additional Estimates in February, 2014. List the participants in the meeting, the topic of the discussion, who arranged or requested the meeting, the location of the meeting 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-118	Ludwig	Corporate	Ministerial Website	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much has been spent on the Minister's website since Additional Estimates in February, 2014? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. List each item of expenditure and cost 2. Who is responsible for uploading information to the Minister's website? 3. Are any departmental staff required to work outside regular hours to maintain the Minister's website? 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-119	Ludwig	Corporate	Provision of Equipment – Ministerial & Departmental	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For departments/agencies that provide mobile phones to Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices, what type of mobile phone is provided and the costs? 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Itemise equipment and cost broken down by staff or minister classification <p>2. Is electronic equipment (such as ipad, laptop, wireless card, vasco token, blackberry, mobile phone (list type if relevant), thumb drive, video cameras) provided to department/agency staff? If yes provide a list of what is provided across the department of agency, the purchase cost, the ongoing cost and a breakdown of what staff and staff classification receives each item.</p>			
BI-120	Ludwig	Finance	Multiple Tenders	<p>1. List any tenders that were re-issued or issued multiple times since Additional Estimates in February, 2014:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Why were they re-issued or issued multiple times? b. Were any applicants received for the tenders before they were re-issued or repeatedly issued? c. Were those applicants asked to resubmit their tender proposal? 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-121	Ludwig	Corporate	Market Research	<p>1. List any market research conducted by the department/agency since Additional Estimates in February, 2014:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. List the total cost of this research b. List each item of expenditure and cost, broken down by division and program c. Who conducted the research? d. How were they identified? e. Where was the research conducted? f. In what way was the research conducted? g. Were focus groups, round tables or other forms of research tools used? h. How were participants for these focus groups et al selected? 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-122	Ludwig	Corporate	Departmental Upgrades	<p>1. Since Additional Estimates in February, 2014 has the department/agency engaged in any new refurbishments, upgrades or changes to their building or facilities?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, list these b. If so, list the total cost for these changes c. If so, list the itemised cost for each item of expenditure d. If so, who conducted the works? e. If so, list the process for identifying who would conduct these works f. If so, when are the works expected to be completed? 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		

BI-123	Ludwig	Corporate	Wine Coolers / Fridges	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Since Additional Estimates in February, 2014 has the department/agency purchased or leased any new wine coolers, or wine fridges or other devices for the purpose of housing alcohol beverages, including Eskies? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, list these b. If so, list the total cost for these items c. If so, list the itemised cost for each item of expenditure d. If so, where were these purchased e. If so, list the process for identifying how they would be purchased f. If so, what is the current location for these items? g. If so, what is the current stocking level for each of these items? 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-124	Ludwig	Corporate	Office Plants	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Since Additional Estimates in February, 2014 has the department/agency purchased or leased any new office plants? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, list these b. If so, list the total cost for these items c. If so, list the itemised cost for each item of expenditure d. If so, where were these purchased e. If so, list the process for identifying how they would be purchased f. If so, what is the current location for these items? 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-125	Ludwig	Corporate	Office Recreation Facilities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Since Additional Estimates in February, 2014 has the department/agency purchased or leased or constructed any office recreation facilities, activities or games (including but not limited to pool tables, table tennis tables or others)? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, list these b. If so, list the total cost for these items c. If so, list the itemised cost for each item of expenditure d. If so, where were these purchased e. If so, list the process for identifying how they would be purchased f. If so, what is the current location for these items? g. If so, what is the current usage for each of these items? 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		

BI-126	Ludwig	Corporate	Workplace Assessments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much has been spent on workplace ergonomic assessments since Additional Estimates in February, 2014? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. List each item of expenditure and cost 2. Have any assessments, not related to an existing disability, resulted in changes to workplace equipment or set up? 3. If so, list each item of expenditure and cost related to those changes 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-127	Ludwig	Corporate	Ministerial Staff Code	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have there been any identified breaches of the Ministerial Staff Code of Conduct by the Minister, their office or the department? * If so, list the breaches identified, broken by staffing classification level * If so, what remedy was put in place to manage the breach? If no remedy has been put in place, why not? * If so, when was the breach identified? By whom? When was the Minister made aware? 2. Can the Minister confirm that all ministerial and electorate officers in their office comply fully with the ministerial staff code of conduct? * If not, how many staff don't comply, broken down by classification level? * How long have they worked for the Minister? 3. Can you confirm they all complied with the code on the date of their employment? * If not, on what date did they comply? 4. Can you confirm that all disclosures as required by the code were made to the government staffing committee? * If so, on what date were those disclosure made? 5. By position title list the date each staff member was approved by government staff committee. 6. Can you confirm all staff have divested themselves of any and all relevant shares as of the date of their appointment 7. Can you list by number if any staff have been granted exception by the SMOS to remain a director of a company as allowed by the Ministerial Staff Code of Conduct, break down by position level 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-128	Ludwig	Finance	Credit Cards	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide a breakdown for each employment classification that has a corporate credit card. 2. Please update details of the following? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What action is taken if the corporate credit card is misused? b. How is corporate credit card use monitored? c. What happens if misuse of a corporate credit card is discovered? 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		

				<p>d. Have any instances of corporate credit card misuse have been discovered since Additional Estimates in February, 2014? List staff classification and what the misuse was, and the action taken.</p> <p>e. What action is taken to prevent corporate credit card misuse?</p>			
BI-129	Ludwig	Corporate	Media Training	<p>1. In relation to media training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date:</p> <p>a. Total spending on these services</p> <p>b. an itemised cost breakdown of these services</p> <p>c. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification</p> <p>d. The number of employees who have utilised these services and their employment classification</p> <p>e. The names of all service providers engaged</p> <p>f. the location that this training was provided</p> <p>2. For each service purchased from a provider listed under (1), please provide:</p> <p>a. The name and nature of the service purchased</p> <p>b. Whether the service is one-on-one or group based</p> <p>c. The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)</p> <p>d. The total number of hours involved for all employees (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)</p> <p>e. The total amount spent on the service</p> <p>f. A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)</p> <p>3. Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:</p> <p>a. The location used</p> <p>b. The number of employees who took part on each occasion</p> <p>c. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)</p> <p>d. Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location.</p>	Written Question Received 12.06.14		

BI-130	Ludwig	Corporate	Question Time	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many officers are responsible for preparing the department, agency, Minister or representing Minister's briefing pack for the purposes of Question Time? 2. How many officer hours are spent each sitting day on preparing that information? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Please break down the hours by officer APS classification 3. Are drafts shown to the Minister or their office before Question Time? a. If so, when does this occur? b. How many versions of this information are shown to the minister or their office? 4. Does the minister or their office make any contributions, edits or suggestions for departmental changes to this information? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, when does this occur? b. What officer hours were spent on making these edits? Please break down the hours by officer APS classification. 5. Provide each of the contents page of the Minister and representing Minister's Question Time folder prepared by the department for the week of 11 February 2014. 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-131	Ludwig	Corporate	Freedom of Information	<p>The following questions relate to requests made pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (the Act):</p> <p>Consultations with other Departments, Agencies and the Minister</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Other than for the purpose of discussing a transfer under section 16 of the Act, does the Department consult or inform other Departments or Agencies when it receives Freedom of Information requests? 2. If so, for each instance provide a table setting out the following information: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Department or Agency which was consulted; b. The document; c. The purpose of the consultation; d. Whether an extension of time was sought from the applicant to allow time for the consultation, including whether it was granted and the length of the extension; e. Whether an extension of time was sought from the Information Commissioner to allow time for the consultation, including whether it was granted and the length of the extension. 3. Other than for the purposes of discussing a transfer under section 16 of the Act, has the Department consulted or informed the Minister's office about Freedom of Information requests it has received? 4. If yes, provide a table setting out the following information: 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The requests with respect to which the Minister or Ministerial office was consulted; b. The Minister or Ministerial office which was consulted; c. The purpose of the consultation; d. Whether an extension of time was sought from the applicant to allow time for the consultation, including whether it was granted and the length of the extension; e. Whether an extension of time was sought from the Information Commissioner to allow time for the consultation, including whether it was granted and the length of the extension f. Whether any briefings (including formal briefs, email briefings and verbal briefings) were provided to the Minister's office. <p>Staffing resources</p> <p>The following questions relate to the period from 18 September 2013:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For the period of time from 18 September 2013, what was the average FTE is allocated to processing FOI requests? <p>FOI Disclosure Log</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For the purposes of meeting its obligations under 11C of the Act, does the Department or Agency: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Maintain a webpage allowing download of documents released under section 11A (direct download)? b. Require individuals to contact the Department or Agency to ask for the provision of those documents (request for provision)? c. Facilitate to those documents in a different manner (if so, specify). 2. If the Department or Agency has moved from a system of meetings its 11C obligations by direct download, to a system of meeting those obligations by request for provision, provide the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The dates for which documents were made available for direct download, and the dates for which documents were made available through request for provision; b. The total number of direct downloads of documents released under 11A the Departmental or Agency website; c. The total number of requests for provision to documents that had been directly received, and how many had been processed by [date]? d. What was the average FTE allocated to monitoring incoming email, collating 			
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				<p>and forwarding documents providing under a request for provision?</p> <p>i. What was the approximate cost for salaries for the FTE staff allocated to this task?</p> <p>3. Has the Department or Agency charged any for access to a document under section 11C(4)?</p> <p>4. If so, please provide the following information in a table:</p> <p>a. On how many occasions charges have been imposed;</p> <p>b. The amount charged for each document</p> <p>c. The total amount charged;</p> <p>d. What is the highest charge that has been imposed.</p> <p>With respect to FOI requests:</p> <p>1. How many documents were assessed (at internal review or - if internal review was not requested - by the original decision maker) as conditionally exempt?</p> <p>2. Of those, how many were:</p> <p>a. Released in full</p> <p>b. Released in part</p> <p>c. Refused access on the grounds that release of the document would be contrary to the public interest</p> <p>d. Other (please specify)</p>			
BI-132	Ludwig	Corporate	Functions	<p>1. Provide a list of all formal functions or forms of hospitality conducted for the Minister since Additional Estimates in February, 2014. Include:</p> <p>a. The guest list of each function</p> <p>b. The party or individual who initiated the request for the function</p> <p>c. The menu, program or list of proceedings of the function</p> <p>d. A list of drinks consumed at the function</p> <p>2. Provide a list of the current wine, beer or other alcoholic beverages in stock or on order in the Minister's office</p>	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-133	Ludwig	Regulation Reform Taskforce	Red Tape Reduction	<p>1. Please detail what structures, officials, offices, units, taskforce or other processes has the department dedicated to meeting the government's red tape reduction targets?</p> <p>a. What is the progress of that red tape reduction target</p> <p>2. How many officers have been placed in those units and at what level?</p>	Written Question Received 12.06.14		

				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. How have they been recruited? 4. What process was used for their appointment? 5. What is the total cost of this unit? 6. What is the estimated total salary cost of the officers assigned to the unit. 7. Do members of the unit have access to cabinet documents? 8. Please list the security classification and date the classification was issued for each officer, broken down by APS or SES level, in the red tape reduction unit or similar body. 9. What is the formal name given to this unit/taskforce/team/workgroup or agency within the department?_ 			
BI-134	Ludwig	Corporate	Land Costs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much land (if any) does the Department or agencies or authorities or Government corporation within each portfolio own or lease? 2. Please list by each individual land holding, the size of the piece of land, the location of that piece of land and the latest valuation of that piece of land, where that land is owned or leased by the Department, or agency or authority or Government Corporation within that portfolio? (In regards to this question please ignore land upon which Australian Defence force bases are located. Non Defence Force base land is to be included) 3. List the current assets, items or purse (buildings, facilities or other) on the land identified above. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What is the current occupancy level and occupant of the items identified in (3)? b. What is the value of the items identified in (3)? c. What contractual or other arrangements are in place for the items identified in (3)? 4. How many buildings (if any) does the Department or agencies or authorities or Government Corporation within each portfolio own or lease? 5. Please list by each building owned, its name, the size of the building in terms of square metres, the location of that of that building and the latest valuation of that building, where that building is owned by the Department, or agency or authority or Government corporation within that portfolio? (In regards to this question please ignore buildings that are situated on Australian Defence force bases. Non Defence Force base buildings are to be included). 6. In regards to any building identified in Q4, please also detail, the occupancy rate as expressed as a percentage of the building size. If occupancy is identified as less than 100%, for what is the remaining space used? 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		

BI-135	Ludwig	Finance	Hire Cars	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much did each department/agency spend on hire cars from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency. 2. What are the reasons for hire car costs? 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-136	Ludwig	Corporate	Boards	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Since September Additional Estimates in February, 2014; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. how often has each board met, break down by board name; b. what travel expenses are provided; c. what is the average attendance at board meetings; d. how does the board deal with conflict of interest; e. what conflicts of interest have been registered; f. what remuneration is provided to board members; g. how does the board dismiss board members who do not meet attendance standards; h. Have any requests been made to ministers to dismiss board members since Additional Estimates in February, 2014; i. Please list board members who have attended less than 51% of meetings; and j. what have catering costs been for the board meetings held this year; is alcohol served. 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-137	Ludwig	Corporate	Shared Resources Following MOG Changes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Following the Machinery of Government changes does the department share any goods/services/accommodation with other departments? 2. What resources/services does the department share with other departments; are there plans to cease sharing the sharing of these resources/services? 3. What were the costs to the department prior to the Machinery of Government changes for these shared resources? What are the estimated costs after the ceasing of shared resource arrangements? 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-138	Ludwig	Corporate	Departmental Rebranding	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has the department/Agency undergone a name change or any other form of rebranding since Additional Estimates in February, 2014? If so: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Please detail why this name change / rebrand were considered necessary and a justified use of departmental funds? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Please provide a copy of any reports that were commissioned to study the benefits and costs associated with the rebranding. b. Please provide the total cost associated with this rebrand and then break down by amount spent replacing: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Signage. 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. Stationery (please include details of existing stationery and how it was disposed of). iii. Logos iv. Consultancy v. Any relevant IT changes. vi. Office reconfiguration. <p>c. How was the decision reached to rename and/or rebrand the department?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Who was involved in reaching this decision? ii. Please provide a copy of any communication (including but not limited to emails, letters, memos, notes etc) from within the department, or between the department and the government regarding the rename/rebranding. 			
BI-139	Ludwig	Finance	Contracts Under \$10,000	Please provide a detailed list of all contracts entered into worth between \$4,000 and \$10,000 since September 7th, 2013.	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-140	Ludwig	Corporate	Contracts for Temporary Staff	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much did the department/agency spend on temporary or contract staff since September 7th 2013? 2. How many temporary or contract staff were employed since September 7th 2013? 3. How many temporary or contract staff are currently employed? 4. How much was paid for agencies/companies to find temporary/contract staff 5. How much is budgeted in the 2014/15 year for contract staff? 6. What policies/criteria govern the appointment of Contract staff? 7. How is the use of contract staff consistent with a professional, independent public service? 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-141	Ludwig	Finance	Prequalified, Multi-use List Tenders	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does the Department/Agency have existing Prequalified or Multi-use list panels for tenders? 2. Please list all Prequalified or Multi-use list panels, and the firms on them, compiled or used by the department/agency? 3. Do any of your EL or higher staff have interest- financial or otherwise - in any of the firms on your panels? 4. Do any Ministerial staff have directorships in any of the firms on your panels? 5. Do any Ministerial staff have interest- financial or otherwise- in any of the firms on your panel 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		

				<p>6. Have the minister or ministerial staff made representations concerning the panels</p> <p>7. Is Australian Public Affairs on any of your panels?</p>			
BI-142	Ludwig	ICT Division	Unallocated Equipment	<p>1. Please detail how much electrical equipment, phones and computers the department/agency has in storage or unallocated to staff</p> <p>2. Please detail the purchase, storage and ongoing costs associated with equipment, phones and computers in storage or unallocated.</p>	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-143	Ludwig	Corporate	Official Residences	<p>1. Provide a list of all formal functions conducted at any of the Official Residences, or for the Prime Minister's office or Prime Minister's Dining Room where it has been used in place of the official residences since Additional Estimates in February, 2014. Include:</p> <p>a. The guest list of each function, including if any ministerial staff attended</p> <p>b. The party or individual who initiated the request for the function</p> <p>c. The menu, program or list of proceedings of the function</p> <p>d. A list of drinks consumed at the function</p> <p>2. Provide a list of the current wine, beer or other alcoholic beverages in stock or on order at any of the official residences, or venues or offices acting as official residences.</p>	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-144	Ludwig	Corporate	Hospitality and Entertainment	<p>1. What is the Department/Agency's hospitality spend from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>2. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total hospitality spend from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs. c) What is the Department/Agency's entertainment spend from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>3. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total entertainment spend from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>4. What hospitality spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>5. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what hospitality spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.</p>	Written Question Received 12.06.14		

				<p>6. What entertainment spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>7. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what entertainment spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>8. Is the Department/Agency planning on reducing any of its spending on these items? If so, how will reductions be achieved?</p>			
BI-145	Ludwig	Corporate	Computers	<p>1. List the current inventory of computers owned, leased, stored, or able to be accessed by the Ministers office as provided by the department, listing the equipment cost and location and employment classification of the staff member that is allocated the equipment, or if the equipment is currently not being used</p> <p>2. List the current inventory of computers owned, leased, stored, or able to be accessed by the department, listing the equipment cost and location</p> <p>3. Please detail the operating systems used by the departments computers, the contractual arrangements for operating software and the on-going costs</p>	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-146	Ludwig	Finance	Travel Costs - Department	<p>1. Since Additional Estimates in February, 2014, detail all travel for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary on their travel. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals).</p> <p>2. Since Additional Estimates in February, 2014, detail all travel for Departmental officers. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals). Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.</p> <p>3. What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.</p>	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-147	Ludwig	Corporate	Travel Costs – Ministerial	<p>1. From Additional Estimates in February, 2014, detail all travel conducted by the Minister/parliamentary secretary</p> <p>2. List each location, method of travel, itinerary and purpose of trip;</p> <p>3. List the total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals), and;</p> <p>4. List the number of staff that accompanied the Minister/parliamentary secretary, listing the total costs per staff member, the class of airplane travelled, the classification of staff accompanying the Minister/parliamentary secretary.</p> <p>5. What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.</p>	Written Question Received 12.06.14		

BI-148	Ludwig	Finance	Grants	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide a list of all grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date. Provide the recipients, amount, intended use of the grants, what locations have benefited from the grants and the electorate and state of those locations. 2. Update the status of each grant that was approved prior to Additional Estimates in February, 2014, but did not have financial contracts in place at that time. Provide details of the recipients, the amount, the intended use of the grants, what locations have benefited from the grants and the electorate and state of those grants. 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-149	Ludwig	Finance	Government Payments of Accounts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. From Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date, what has been the average time period for the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors, consultants or others? 2. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in under 30 days? 3. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 30 and 60 days? 4. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 60 and 90 days? 5. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 90 and 120 days? 6. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in over 120 days? 7. For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency since Additional Estimates in February, 2014? 8. Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined? 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-150	Ludwig	Corporate	Senate Estimates Briefing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many officers were responsible for preparing the department, agency, Minister or representing Minister's briefing pack for the purposes of senate estimates? 2. How many officer hours were spent on preparing that information? a. Please break down the hours by officer APS classification 3. Were drafts shown to the Minister or their office before senate estimates? a. If so, when did this occur? b. How many versions of this information were shown to the minister or their office? 4. Did the minister or their office make any contributions, edits or suggestions for departmental changes to this information? 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		

				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, when did this occur? b. What officer hours were spent on making these edits? Please break down the hours by officer APS classification. c. When were the changes made? <p>5. Provide each of the contents page of the Department/Minister/representing Minister's Senate Estimates folder prepared by the department for the Additional Estimates hearings in February 2014.</p>			
BI-151	Ludwig	Corporate	Meeting Costs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the Department/Agency's meeting spend from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events, including any catering and drinks costs. 2. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total meeting spend from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs. 3. What meeting spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs. 4. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what meeting spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs. 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-152	Ludwig	Finance	Taxi Costs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much did each department/agency spend on taxis from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? Provide a breakdown for each business group in each department/agency. 2. What are the reasons for taxi costs? 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-153	Ludwig	Corporate	Executive Coaching and Leadership Training	<p>In relation to executive coaching and/or other leadership training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Total spending on these services 2. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification 3. The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted (provide a breakdown for each employment classification) 4. The names of all service providers engaged. For each service purchased from a provider listed under (4), please provide: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The name and nature of the service purchased b. Whether the service is one-on-one or group based 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification d. The total number of hours involved for all employees (provide a breakdown for each employment classification) e. The total amount spent on the service f. A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package) <p>5. Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The location used b. The number of employees who took part on each occasion (provide a breakdown for each employment classification) c. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification) d. Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location <p>6. In relation to education/executive coaching and/or other leadership training services paid for by the department what agreements are made with employees in regards to continuing employment after training has been completed?</p> <p>7. For graduate or post graduate study, please breakdown each approved study leave by staffing allocation and degree or program title.</p>			
BI-154	Ludwig	Corporate	Staffing Profile	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the current staffing profile of the department/agency? 2. Provide a list of staffing numbers, broken down by classification level, division, home base location (including town/city and state) 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-155	Ludwig	Corporate	Staffing Reductions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many staff reductions/voluntary redundancies have occurred from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? What was the reason for these reductions? 2. Were any of these reductions involuntary redundancies? If yes, provide details. 3. Are there any plans for further staff reductions/voluntary redundancies? If so, please advise details including if there is a reduction target, how this will be achieved, and if any services/programs will be cut. 4. If there are plans for staff reductions, please give the reason why these are happening. 5. Are there any plans for involuntary redundancies? If yes, provide details. 6. How many ongoing staff left the department/agency from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? What classification were these staff? 7. How many non-ongoing staff left department/agency from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? What classification were these staff? 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		

				<p>8. What are the voluntary redundancy packages offered? Please detail for each staff level and position</p> <p>9. How do the packages differ from the default public service package?</p> <p>10. How is the department/agency funding the packages?</p>			
BI-156	Ludwig	Corporate	Staffing Recruitment	<p>1. How many ongoing staff were recruited from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? What classification are these staff?</p> <p>2. How many non-ongoing positions exist or have been created from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? What classification are these staff?</p> <p>3. From Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?</p>	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-157	Ludwig	Corporate	Coffee Machines	<p>1. Has the department/agency purchased coffee machines for staff usage since Additional Estimates in February, 2014?</p> <p>a. If yes, provide a list that includes the type of coffee machine, the cost, the amount, and any ongoing costs such as purchase of coffee or coffee pods and when the machine was purchased?</p> <p>b. Why were coffee machines purchased?</p> <p>c. Has there been a noticeable difference in staff productivity since coffee machines were purchased? Are staff leaving the office premises less during business hours as a result?</p> <p>d. Where did the funding for the coffee machines come from?</p> <p>e. Who has access?</p> <p>f. Who is responsible for the maintenance of the coffee machines? How much was spent on maintenance from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date, include a list of what maintenance has been undertaken. Where does the funding for maintenance come from?</p> <p>g. What are the ongoing costs of the coffee machine, such as the cost of coffee?</p> <p>2. Since Additional Estimates in February, 2014, has the department/agency rented or leased any coffee machines for staff usage?</p> <p>a. If yes, provide a list that includes the type of coffee machine, the cost, the amount, and any ongoing costs such as purchase of coffee or coffee pods and when the machine was purchased.</p> <p>b. Why are coffee machines rented?</p> <p>c. Has there been a noticeable difference in staff productivity since coffee machines were rented? Are staff leaving the office premises less during business hours as a result?</p> <p>d. Where does the funding for the coffee machines come from?</p>	Written Question Received 12.06.14		

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> e. Who has access? f. Who is responsible for the maintenance of the coffee machines? How much was spent on maintenance from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date, include a list of what maintenance has been undertaken. Where does the funding for maintenance come from? g. What are the ongoing costs of the coffee machine, such as the cost of coffee? 			
BI-158	Ludwig	Corporate	Printing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many documents (include the amount of copies) have been printed from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? How many of these printed documents were also published online? 2. Did the Department/agency use external printing services for any print jobs Additional Estimates in February, 2014? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, what companies were used? b. How were they selected? c. What was the total cost of this printing? 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-159	Ludwig	Finance	Corporate Cars	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many cars are owned by each department/agency? 2. Where is the car/s located? c) What is the car/s used for? 3. What is the cost of each car from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? 4. How far did each car travel from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? 5. How many cars are leased by each department/agency? 6. Where are the cars located? 7. What are the cars used for? 8. What is the cost of each car from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? 9. How far did each car travel from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		
BI-160	Ludwig	Finance	Consultancies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many consultancies have been undertaken from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? Identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc). Also include total value for all consultancies. 2. How many consultancies are planned for this calendar year? Have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and if not why not? In each case please identify the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known. 3. Have any consultancies not gone out for tender? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, which ones and why? 	Written Question Received 12.06.14		

BI-161	Waters	CSIRO	Impacts of Coal Seam Gas on Groundwater	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When is CSIRO's work on CSG impacts on groundwater expected to be completed? 2. Have the Federal Budget cuts affected the CSG study in any way, including but not limited to timeframe, staffing, resources, expertise available? 	Written Question Received 16.06.14		
BI-162	Rhiannon	ASQA	RTO Quality	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Submissions to the recent Senate Inquiry into TAFE, across interests and sectors, had a common theme of concern that a 'race to the bottom' is being forced in the competitive training market with continually reduced fees and reduced course times being marketed to students, with commensurate reduced training and delivery to cut costs: Does ASQA share these concerns? 2. The AWPA report stated that substandard quality of training is happening across sectors: May I please have a list of the courses, by state, where concerns about quality have been lodged or examined? 3. The AWPA report also found up to half of RTOs' marketing practices are misleading, and on 30 May the Daily Telegraph reported that private providers are "spiralling out of control" by targeting disadvantaged students in Western Sydney to sign up to expensive diploma courses – costing up to \$25,000 in costs, with inducements such as laptops, ipads and \$1,000 shopping vouchers. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What does ASQA know about the Granville-based Unique International College's promotional day at the Treagar Community Centre, where cash was being offered as inducement when the laptops ran out? b. Is Unique International College a recipient of any public funding? c. Does ASQA agree this is shonky practice – especially considering accounts that students didn't even know what courses they were signing up for (huge debts & loss of once-only learning entitlements) d. What consumer protection do students have given they are not giving informed consent? e. What remedy do students have in this respect? f. What sort of regulation exists to stop this happening? What sort of investigative/audit powers and resources are available in this regard/ g. Why are such unethical providers registered in the first place? h. Is this an indication of what will happen increasingly as the VET market is opened up? 	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-163	Rhiannon	ASQA	Minimum Registration Standards	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does ASQA agree with inquiry submitters that the explosion of small RTOs in a deregulated VET market poses quality and governance risks? 2. What sort of reputational risk to the whole VET sector, including TAFE, do these lower-quality fly-by-night tick and flick RTOs present? 	Written Question Received 17.06.14		

				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. How much public funding has been awarded to these low quality providers? Any figures kept? 4. May I please have a breakdown of how many smaller private VET providers are currently registered out of the total VET RTOs? 5. What is ASQA's response to recommendations to impose minimal quality and fiduciary standards, including a risk-assessed framework in the initial registration process? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Would this immediately go a long way to cutting down on need to expend funding on post-registration remedial regulation by restricting the number of RTOs those smaller riskier providers? b. Would ASQA agree this could be an effective way to protect Australia's and those quality VET/TAFE providers' reputations in the international VET marketplace? c. Why does this not exist now? d. Would this help stop substantial wastage of public funding into courses that are meaningless for industry and students? 6. Do we have an idea of how much public funding might have been lost to providers and courses that do not meet quality and outcomes expected by students and industry? 7. How is the diversion of public funding to support new RTOs affecting TAFE's ability to deliver quality training? 8. What is ASQA's response to the observation that Australia has had to "<i>construct a VET system and associated (inadequate) regulatory & quality assurance system to police 98% of the providers who deliver less than 20% of all teaching because it believes in the primacy of the market</i>" (Wheelahan 2012) 			
BI-164	Carr	Geoscience Australia	Geoscience Research	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is the continuation of Geoscience's research work with the CSIRO threatened by lack of resources? 2. Is it the view of Geoscience that research programs looking into earthquakes, bushfires and other natural hazards (such as the Sentinel program for example) warrant ongoing Government support? 3. Are any of Geoscience's research programs looking into natural hazard risks and impacts undermined by the Government's funding cuts in the recent Budget? What are the ramifications of any reduction in Australia's capacity in these areas? 	Written Question Received 17.06.14		

BI-165	Carr	Anti-Dumping Commission	Stronger Compliance Working Group	<p>In relation to the agreed work from the Stronger Compliance Working Group (27 July 2012) that Customs and Border Protection would analyse other jurisdictions approaches to sharing import data - which Customs committed would occur in 2013 at the August 2012 meeting of the ITRF and noting the 25 March 2013 meeting of the ITRF in which Customs and the ABS agreed to report to the Forum on restrictions to accessing import data and the approach taking by other border agencies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Have forum members received any information? Has this work progressed? Is this work progressing? If not, why not? 	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-166	Carr	Anti-Dumping Commission	Electronic Public Record – Icon for New Investigations	<p>In relation to the Commission's practice of an electronic public record (current cases) places a 'new' icon next to a case when a new document has been uploaded related to an investigation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> How long is the new icon next to the investigation in question? Is there a standard time for the new icon to remain? Industry feedback suggests that this feature has been inconsistently applied in terms of how long it is left up. Is there any reason for this? Did the Electronic Public Record Working Group agree to a protocol for this feature? When did the Electronic Public Record Working Group last meet - and was this matter discussed or any other improvements to the system which may help interested parties know that a document has been loaded (such as an email alert to parties who register)? If so, what was the outcome? 	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-167	Carr	Anti-Dumping Commission	Extensions to Exporters	<p>In relation to the Commission's policy on granting extensions to exporters in terms of deadline that they need to submit documents in response to initiations, Statements of Essential Facts, or any other matters in the course of the investigation (including requests for information from the Commission):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Is it the Commission's policy to always grant extensions on request? How many times has a request for an extension not been granted? Is it the Commission's policy to always place documents relating to requests for extensions and responses to requests for extensions on the Electronic Public Record? Have there been any investigations when requests for extensions or letters in response granting extensions have not been placed on the Electronic Public Record? 	Written Question Received 17.06.14		

				<p>e. Has the Commission ever accepted documents from exporters after deadlines despite there being no extension granted/it being submitted beyond the deadline?</p> <p>f. Has there been any direction to change policy or has there been any change in practice since the 2013 election, given the Coalition's election policy to 'introduce more stringent and vigorous enforcement for deadlines for submissions'?</p>			
BI-168	Carr	Anti-Dumping Commission	Anti-Dumping Commission Staffing	<p>In relation to staffing at the Anti-Dumping Commission:</p> <p>a. When did the Anti-Dumping Commission become subject to the Government's APS redeployment policy?</p> <p>b. Were any recruitments made before that?</p> <p>c. How many officers work in the Commission?</p> <p>d. What is the percentage of officers who are in the investigation teams?</p> <p>e. Is the recruitment process complete?</p> <p>f. What percentage of officers in the Commission formerly worked with the Customs and Border Protection Service?</p> <p>g. What percentage of staff in the investigation teams formerly worked with the Customs and Border Protection Service?</p> <p>h. In terms of the leadership of the investigation teams, what percentage formerly worked for Customs and Border Protection?</p> <p>i. What is the goal in terms of the percentage of the Commission's staff to be based in Melbourne compared to based in Canberra?</p> <p>j. Is the Commission capable of hiring any external industry experts?</p> <p>k. What is the timeframe for consolidation of the Commission in Melbourne?</p>	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-169	Carr	Anti-Dumping Commission	Anti-Dumping Duty	<p>Section 6.8.2 (b) of the KAFTA states:</p> <p>(b) the Party making such a decision to impose an Anti-Dumping duty in accordance with Article 9.1 of the Anti-Dumping Agreement, shall normally apply the 'lesser duty' rule, by imposing a duty which is less than the dumping margin where such lesser duty would be adequate to remove the injury to the domestic industry.</p> <p>a. Does this limit the Minister's power to apply the full margin of duty?</p> <p>b. Under what conditions are you allow to apply the full margin of duty?</p>	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-170	Carr	Anti-Dumping Commission	Anti-Dumping Inquiries	<p>In relation to the Anti-Dumping Commission:</p> <p>a. Does the Commission for Law Enforcement and Integrity retain any oversight of the Anti-Dumping Commission now that it sits within the Department of Industry?</p>	Written Question Received		

				<p>b. How many inquiries (formal and informal) has the Commission received since it was established?</p> <p>c. What proportion of informal inquiries have become formal inquiries?</p>	17.06.14		
BI-171	Carr	Industry Division	WTO Agreement on Subsidies	In relation to the Government's election policy to strengthen enforcement of the provisions of the WTO Agreement on subsidies and countervailing measures, has there been any direction to change policy or any change of practice in this area?	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-172	Carr	Anti-Dumping Commission	Subsidies Working Group	<p>In relation to an action item from the last meeting of the ITRF for Customs and Border Protection to establish a Subsidies Working Group with the same membership as the Market Situation Working Group:</p> <p>a. Has this group being established?</p> <p>b. Have there been any concerns raised with the Commission that lack of action in this area is resulting in the failing of Anti-Dumping investigations because subsidies are impacting the particular market situation in exporting countries but this is not being recognised?</p> <p>c. Has the Commission been alerted to or considered in relation to the above 'Subsidies to Chinese Industry; State Capitalism, Business Strategy and Trade Policy' (Haley 2013)?</p>	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-173	Carr	Anti-Dumping Commission	Chinese Solar Panel Dumping Investigation	What is the expected completion date for the investigation into allegations of dumped Chinese solar panels?	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-174	Carr	Industry Division	Economic Reviews of SA & VIC	<p>1. In relation to the Economic Reviews of SA and VIC - what remuneration was provided to panel members? If any, please provide a breakdown.</p> <p>2. In relation to the Economic Reviews of SA and VIC - the review panel received submissions from individuals and organisations. When are how were submissions invited?</p>	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-175	Carr	Corporate	Government Assistance for Qantas Call Centre Jobs	Reports in The Age on 29 May 2014 suggested there may have been Federal Government intervention in Qantas Call Centre jobs being reallocated from Victoria to Tasmania. Is the Department aware of any Federal Government support provided to facilitate the move? If so, what is the nature of that support.	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-176	Carr	Science, Research & Innovation Division	Commonwealth Research Infrastructure Funding	In relation to Commonwealth research infrastructure funding provided to Australian universities and research agencies, which is allocated in proportion to an institution's share of funding from Commonwealth competitive grants such as from the NHMRC and the ARC:	Written Question Received 17.06.14	Transferred to Education on 30.06.14	

				<p>a. Has the Department made any recommendations to Government on expanding eligibility for Commonwealth research infrastructure funding to overseas grants (such as grants for large-scale clinical trials) from international research institutes?</p> <p>b. Is the Department aware of concerns that the lack of available Commonwealth research infrastructure funding for overseas grants creates a disincentive for Australian clinical researchers to apply for such grants? And if so, how are these concerns being addressed?</p> <p>c. What is the policy rationale for excluding grants from highly prestigious international funding agencies from the Commonwealth scientific research infrastructure funding pool?</p>			
BI-177	Carr	Business Comp & Trade Division	Industry & Competitiveness Agenda	<p>On what date will the Government's industry and competitiveness agenda be released? Also, what is going to be released (for example, a fully formed policy, a discussion paper, a Ministerial statement, a website)?</p>	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-178	Carr	Finance Division	Reduction in Departmental & Administered Funding	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Compared to the 2013-14 Federal Budget, what is the reduction in administered and departmental funding for the Australian Renewable Energy Agency over the forward estimates? 2. Compared to the 2013-14 Federal Budget, what is the reduction in administered and departmental funding for the CRC program over the forward estimates? 3. Compared to the 2013-14 Federal Budget, what is the reduction in administered and departmental funding for Venture Capital programs over the forward estimates? 4. Compared to the 2013-14 Federal Budget, what is the reduction in administered and departmental funding for Commercialisation Australia over the forward estimates? 5. Compared to the 2013-14 Federal Budget, what is the reduction in administered and departmental funding for the Enterprise Solutions Program over the forward estimates? 6. Compared to the 2013-14 Federal Budget, what is the reduction in administered and departmental funding for the Clean Technology suite of programs over the forward estimates? Please provide a breakdown between the different program elements. 7. Compared to the 2013-14 Federal Budget, what is the reduction in administered and departmental funding for Enterprise Connect over the forward estimates? 8. Compared to the 2013-14 Federal Budget, what is the reduction in administered and departmental funding for Industry Innovation Precincts over the forward estimates? 	Written Question Received 17.06.14		

				<p>9. Compared to the 2013-14 Federal Budget, what is the reduction in administered and departmental funding for Textile, Clothing and Footwear programs over the forward Please provide a breakdown between the different program elements.</p> <p>10. Compared to the 2013-14 Federal Budget, what is the reduction in administered and departmental funding for the Steel Transformation Plan over the forward estimates?</p>			
BI-179	Carr	Corporate	Single Business Service Delivery	<p>In relation to the single business service delivery Initiative:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> When will it commence? What programs in the Department of Industry is this initiative replacing? How much funding is being provided to develop the initiative? Is this new funding or funding being redirected from another area of the Department? What component of this funding is being used to develop a website? How many Department of Industry staff are being allocated to this initiative? Which Government Department will ultimately be responsible for managing the single business service delivery initiative? 	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-180	Carr	AusIndustry	Program Websites	<p>Are websites for the following programs being decommissioned? If so, when will that occur?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Commercialisation Australia Enterprise Connect AusIndustry Cooperative Research Centres Skills Connect 	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-181	Carr	Enterprise & Skills Connect Division	Entrepreneurs' Infrastructure Program	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In relation to the Entrepreneurs Infrastructure Program, please provide a breakdown of how the \$484.2 million allocated to this program in Budget Paper No.2 will be allocated between different elements of the program. In relation to the Entrepreneurs Infrastructure Program, is the government considering charging individuals and businesses a fee for any of the services offered under this program? In relation to the programs which are being cut to fund the Entrepreneurs Infrastructure Programme as listed in Budget Paper number 2: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Which of these measures are being cut immediately and which ones are being phased out? 	Written Question Received 17.06.14		

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. How is the Department managing ongoing services to industry for the programs that are being phased out? c. What date were Commercialisation Australia grants frozen? What dates were Enterprise Connect grants frozen? d. How many applications have been made to those programs that are being cut that are now waiting on some sort of advice or resolution? 			
BI-182	Carr	Science, Research & Innovation Division	R&D Tax Incentive	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In relation to the R&D Tax Incentive - page 47 in Powering Ideas states that the incentive "increases certainty by uncoupling the level of R&D support from the corporate tax rate." Please outline how this would increase certainty. 2. What was the purpose of the R&D Tax Incentive Advisory Committee, which was set up as an advisory committee under Innovation Australia? 3. Is it correct to say that part of the R&D Tax Incentive Advisory Committee's role was to contribute to the two year review of the Incentive, as outlined in the AusIndustry guidance document? See http://www.ausindustry.gov.au/programs/innovation-rd/RD-TaxIncentive/Guidance-and-Information/Governance-and-Corporate/Documents/GuidanceEducationAgenda.pdf <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Was this review completed? If not, who is currently working on the review? 4. In relation to the R&D Tax Incentive Advisory Committee, what work did the Advisory Committee complete before it was disbanded and where can members of the public see the results of this work? 5. In relation to the R&D Tax Incentive, is the Government still committed to undertaking a two year review of the program? If so: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Who is undertaking this review b. Will members of the public have an opportunity to provide input c. When will the review period be complete? 	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-183	Carr	Industry Division	Grey Imports	<p>On Sat 7 June Minister Briggs was quoted as saying about road fatalities that "...vast improvements in vehicle safety across Australia in the last decade has made a significant contribution to achieving" a reduction in road fatalities over the past decade (http://www.drive.com.au/motor-news/elderly-drivers-and-cyclists-more-at-risk-on-the-road-report-20140606-zs02r.html). An article published in the Herald Sun on Friday 6 June (Scrap over car imports, Cars Guide p.9) highlighted there are significant safety, environmental and consumer issues that need to be considered for allowing more grey imports. In relation to the above information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Can the Department confirm if they are considering allowing greater access for grey imports? 	Written Question Received 17.06.14		

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Has the Department identified a market failure in the Australian new car market to justify this position? c. Has the Department done any research to demonstrate that cars (new and used) are more expensive in Australia compared to other markets around the world? What has that research shown and which markets? d. Can the Department confirm what research has been undertaken or commissioned by the government or the department to demonstrate that such a change will have a positive benefit to Australia and Australian consumers? e. Can the Department confirm that there will be no negative impacts on road safety, the environment or that consumers will not be subjected to unacceptable risk of purchasing grey imports should the Government proceed with this proposition. f. Has the Department undertaken an assessment of the economic, social, environmental, safety and security impact in New Zealand concerning the relaxation of import restrictions on second-hand imported motor vehicles in that country? What did that assessment find? g. Has the Department done any research to model the impact of lower environmental standards from second-hand automotive imports on Australia's emissions levels? h. Has the Department done any research to model the impact of lower safety standards from second-hand automotive imports? 			
BI-184	Carr	Business Comp & Trade Division	Clinical Trial Reform Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. How much funding is allocated in the Budget over the forward estimates to expedite the implementation of clinical trial reform initiatives? b. Is this new funding, or funding allocated in previous budgets? c. Please provide a breakdown of how this funding will be allocated to different projects. d. What measures is the Department using to measure the effectiveness of this funding? e. Is there any additional money in the Budget for clinical trials? 	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-185	Carr	Science, Research & Innovation Division	Industrial Transformation Research Hub Scheme	<p>In relation to the Government's announcement of seven research hubs to be funded through the ARC's Industrial Transformation Research Hub Scheme (ITRP):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Are any of the private sector firms that were previously signed up as core partners in the recently abolished Industry Innovation Precincts initiative involved in any of these new hubs? b. Was the Department of Industry consulted on the funding of the ITRP hubs? c. Does the Department maintain any oversight of ITRP funding or have any input on the selection of successful projects? 	Written Question Received 17.06.14		

BI-186	Carr	Industry Division	Victorian Steel Industry	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is the Department aware of any plans from the Federal Government to mandate that tax payer funds being used to implement the East West Link (VIC) are spent locally in order to maximise the benefits of the project? If not, why not? 2. Is the Department aware of any discussions between Federal and Victorian Government counterparts on how the federal contribution to the East West Link is intended to be spent? Has any assessment been made of the benefits to the local steel supply chain in terms of investment and jobs of sourcing local steel? 3. How does the Department of Industry intend to support Victorian industry, particularly steel, in future defence related projects? Has any assessment been made of the benefits to the local steel supply chain in terms of investment and jobs of sourcing local steel? 	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-187	Carr	Industry Division	Australian Industry Participation Plan Submissions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Which major project proponents suggest costs associated with Australian Industry Participation Plans are greater than indicated in the RIS for the Australian Jobs Act? Was this a position they outlined before the bill was passed in terms of submissions they made? 2. Why has only one major project proponent as required by the threshold under the Australian Jobs Act submitted an Australian Industry Participation Plan? 3. Will the review into Australian Industry Participation Plans, in all their guises (Gov procurement etc.) be transparent and will submissions be made public? 	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-188	Carr	Industry Division	AiG Contract	<p>In relation to the \$100,000 contract for AiG to undertake work on non-compliant imported building and electrical products:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Was the funding contingent on the AiG convening a forum to launch the findings of the report, present case studies, perspective and discuss the reports recommendations and next steps? b. If so, has this forum occurred? c. If so, was anyone from Government or the Department invited to attend? d. If so, did anyone from the Government or the Department attend? Please provide their name and/or title. 	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-189	Carr	ANSTO	ANSTO Staffing Allocation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the total staffing allocation for ANSTO in both ASL and actual headcount terms? 2. Please list the number of staff per ANSTO site in both ASL and headcount terms. 	Written Question Received 17.06.14		

BI-190	Carr	CSIRO	CSIRO Staffing & Recruitment	<p>Please update QON A1-109 outlining the impacts of the Abbott government's public sector freeze on renewal of non-ongoing employees. In particular:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the effect on staffing levels of the interim recruitment arrangements (also known as recruitment and staffing freeze)? 2. How many new non ongoing positions have been put forward to executives for approval? 3. How many are renewals of ongoing staff? How many are new positions? Please divide these figures by division and flagship. 4. How many vacancies are exempt from the recruitment freeze? 5. Please outline the sites impacted by the recruitment freeze and the number of positions per site impacted. 6. Please outline the states impacted by the recruitment freeze and the number of positions per state impacted. 	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-192	Carr	Skills Division	VET FEE-HELP	<p>On 30 May 2014, the Daily Telegraph (Diplomas or a debt trap?, page 26) reported that lavish inducements such as free iPads, laptops, spotters fees and shopping vouchers are being used to sign students to courses which can cost up to \$25,000. Community workers have expressed concern that young people had signed up for programs they did not understand and many believed they may never have to pay loans covering fees.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Under VET FEE HELP, what protections are in place to protect people with intellectual disabilities and other vulnerable people being signed up for large VET FEE HELP debts without fully understanding that they will be incurring a debt? 2. If an individual is unaware that they have accrued a debt or that there are questions around the accrual of the debt, what lines of appeal are available to question a VET FEE HELP debt? 3. What protections are in place to protect vulnerable people from failing one course and being signed up to another course by the same provider? 4. What regulations are in place to prevent training organisations from offering laptops, shopping vouchers and other incentives in order to sign people up to courses using VET FEE HELP? 	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-193	Carr	CSIRO	CSIRO Redundancies	<p>The budget papers reveal that CSIRO will receive once-off funding of \$32.2 million for 2013-14 to help fund redundancies. Please provide the eligibility criteria for accessing this funding, whether any limitations apply, whether the staff member being made redundant has been formally notified in financial year 2013-14 for CSIRO to access this funding and whether redundancies formally commenced after 30 June 2014 will be able to access the funding.</p>	Written Question Received 17.06.14		

BI-194	Carr	CSIRO	CSIRO Laboratories	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How does CSIRO plan continue it's local, national and international irrigation research if the Griffith Laboratory is closed, will the affected staff be redeployed to other areas of CSIRO or will they be made redundant and how long has CSIRO been developing a plan to close the laboratory? 2. Is CSIRO is considering a plan to close down or reduce its presence at the Parkville Laboratories in Melbourne? 3. How does CSIRO plan continue it's local, national and international marine and climate research if the Aspendale Laboratory is closed, will the affected staff be redeployed to other areas of CSIRO or will they be made redundant and how long has CSIRO been developing a plan to close the laboratory? 	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-195	Carr	CSIRO	CSIRO Education Staff	How many staff currently employed in CSIRO education are forecast to lose their jobs under the new structure and how many Australian primary school students will miss out on science education in schools as a result of changes to CSIRO's education unit?	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-196	Carr	CSIRO	CSIRO Staff Breakdown by Site	Please list the number of staff per CSIRO site in both ASL and headcount terms.	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-197	Carr	CSIRO	CSIRO Budget & Restructure Effects on Staffing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In relation to the CSIRO restructure - Innovation Organisation Reform - announced in April 2014 please answer the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What is the effect on staffing levels of the restructure? b. Please outline the sites impacted by the restructure and the number of positions per site impacted. c. Please outline the states impacted by the restructure and the number of positions per state impacted. d. Please outline the staffing profiles of each division and flagship both pre and post restructure. 2. In relation to impacts of budget cuts to CSIRO's appropriation announced in May 2014, and the annual directions statement please answer the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What is the effect on staffing levels? b. Please outline the sites impacted and the number of positions per site impacted. c. Please outline the states impacted and the number of positions per state impacted. d. Please outline the staffing profiles of each division and flagship. 	Written Question Received 17.06.14		

BI-198	Carr	ANSTO	Nuclear Medicine Project	What is the ANSTO Nuclear Medicine project? What are its key timelines and milestones? Please supply its funding profile.	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-199	Carr	Questacon	Science for Australia's Future	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the elements of the Science for Australia's Future budget measure? Please describe the activities and outcomes envisaged for each element. 2. What is the funding profile for each element of Science for Australia's future? Include the following elements: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Prime Ministers Prizes for Science b. National Science Week c. Strategic Science and Communication Program d. Questacon Smart Skills National Technology Learning program e. Questacon Equity of Access program f. Questacon foundation 3. For Opening opportunities through Science for Australia's Future please provide: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The 2013-14 updated budget outcome for this program b. Current forward estimates for 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 c. What the breakdown of these estimates is between administered and Departmental costs? d. How many FTE staff positions are allocated to the running of Opening opportunities through Science for Australia's Future? 	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-200	Carr	Corporate	Organisational Charts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please provide an updated organisation charts for CSIRO, CSIRO Divisions, Flagships and Enterprise Services following the Innovation Organisation Reform process 2. Please provide and updated organisation chart for ANSTO 3. Please provide and updated organisation chart for AIMS 	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-201	Carr	Skills Division	Government Response to ASQA Reports	<p>ASQA recently completed three reports into Marketing and advertising practices of Australia's registered training organisations; Training for aged and community care in Australia and Training for the White Card for Australia's construction industry.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When will the Government be responding to these reports? 2. What is the reason for the delay in responding to these reports? 	Written Question Received 17.06.14		

				<p>3. Does the Department consider that it now needs to respond to these reports and address recommendations as a matter of urgency – both for the protection of students, particularly vulnerable students, and also to retain confidence in the sector?</p>			
BI-202	Carr	Skills Division	'Earn or Learn' Policy	<p>1. Has it been anticipated that when entering into training under the government's 'Earn or Learn' requirements for financial assistance, that a young person is likely to incur upfront fees or have to undertake a debt depending on the level of training?</p> <p>2. Is the Government aware that, as one State example, the proposal in New South Wales could see 40 per cent of students facing fee rises of more than \$500 and fees of up to \$4000 for basic certificates? (Sun Herald, page 36, 18/5/2014).</p> <p>3. In contributing to the government's 'earn or learn' policy, did the Department model the potential cost of training to young people?</p> <p>4. If yes – what were the results of this modelling? If no – why was the decision taken not to assess this impact and who made this decision?</p> <p>5. In the Australian on 27 May Jobs Australia CEO David Thompson said that there will not be enough training places for young people – does the Department agree with this assessment? If not, how has it arrived at this conclusion? If the Department of Industry is unable to provide advice, can the Department liaise with the Department of Employment in order to obtain this information?</p> <p>6. Under the earn or learn policy a young person under 30 is therefore required to immediately find employment or enter into study. Does this mean:</p> <p>a. They must undertake study regardless as whether it is at a lower level than their current qualifications?</p> <p>b. The length of time for the course they enrol in and the hours required to study may prohibit their ability to look for work.</p> <p>c. Is the policy intention that while they are studying they no longer look for work?</p> <p>d. If they are supposed to look for work while studying, is the expectation that on finding a job they quit the course, thereby wasting the money they paid and disrupting the class in which they have been enrolled?</p> <p>e. If the expectation is they focus on completing the course, at the end of the course will the six month exclusion from payment start again?</p> <p>f. If it does, is this policy locking young people into a cycle of study for study's sake and interfering with their capacity to find work?</p> <p>7. Kevin Andrews told The Australian people under 30 must acquire skills linked to the labour market in order to receive Youth Allowance when they are prevented from receiving the dole (Hobby courses out of bounds under 'earn or learn', Aus, 27/5/2014):</p>	Written Question Received 17.06.14	Part transfer to Dept. of Social Services on 1 July 2014 for questions: 2, 3, 4, 6 7 (e), (f) (g)	

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Does the Government have a list of eligible courses? b. If so, will the list be published so that students can make informed decisions? c. Will participation in language, literacy and numeracy courses be accepted for 'earn or learn' purposes? d. How often will the list be updated? Will courses be considered for addition at the request of education providers or will the government undertake periodic surveys? e. If a person has a higher level qualification, are they expected to do any training, even at a lower level? If they aren't, what are they supposed to do if there is no higher training in their relevant field? How does the Minister intend to ensure that they are not just doing training for training's sake? f. Will the Department of Industry or the Department of Employment publish a list of courses that are considered "hobby courses"? g. Will appearing on the list of "hobby courses" be able to be appealed by an education provider? h. The Australian article listed cooking and aromatherapy as two courses that people would be 'banned' from under the learn or earn arrangements because they "hobby" courses – isn't learning how to cook pretty fundamental to the hospitality sector and becoming a chef? Why is cooking "banned"? 			
BI-203	Carr	Enterprise & Skills Connect Division	Green Army Program	<p>The response to Question AI-147 (4) Additional Budget Estimates (February 2014) stated that participants in the Green Army program would have access to individual training programs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has the Department provided any costing analysis to the Minister on the cost of devising individual training programs? 2. How many people does the Green Army program plan to train? 3. What funding has been allocated per person? 4. If this is a matter for the Environment Minister or the Department, can Industry liaise with Environment to provide an answer? 5. Has a Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Industry and the Department of Environment been drafted for the Green Army program? Can a copy be provided? 6. Which particular skills sets will be targeted under the Green Army program? Has the Government considered targeting skills shortage areas – either by industry or geographic regions? If so, which skills shortage areas are under consideration? If this is a matter for the Environment Minister or the Department, can Industry liaise with Environment to provide an answer? 	Written Question Received 17.06.14		

BI-204	Carr	Skills Division	Trade Support Loans Legislation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is it the Government's policy that apprentices and school based apprentices under the age of 18 will be eligible for a Trade Support Loan? 2. If yes, what protections will the government put in place for children being offered, in effect, up to \$20,000 credit? 3. In the Trade Support Loans Bill 2014 the government proposes to pay apprentices via monthly instalments. What was the reason for this decision? Does the Government consider that this will make it harder for apprentices to purchase expensive equipment and not use the funds as an extension of their wages? 4. Can the Department provide updated information of the numbers of apprentices in each Federal electorate? 5. On 2 June 2014 in Estimates, the Government advised that it was looking to outsource Trade Loan Support debt. What has the Department done to date to progress this? Does the Government have a forward program to progress the outsourcing of Trade Support Loan debt? 6. Can the Government clarify whether a concessional rate of interest will be charged on the loans or whether the loans will be indexed? 7. Given the current discussion about recouping HELP debts, will the Department pursue collection of Trade Support Loans from overseas based apprentice graduates or deceased estates? 8. The introduction of legislation for the Trade Support Loans was listed in the Draft Daily Program on Thursday, 29 May 2014 and then subsequently not introduced, what was the reason for withdrawing the legislation on 29 May 2014? Were any changes made between Thursday and the tabling of the legislation? If so, what were they? 9. Has the government done any assessment of the impact of apprentice loans particularly for younger apprentices on their ability to access credit for car or home loans? 10. Following the Minister's recent comments about apprentices using the Tools for Your Trade (axed in this year's budget) for 'tattoos and mag wheels', will there be an approved list of items that apprentices are allowed to buy with the loan? What will the approvals process be? 11. What evidence does the government have regarding the use of Tools for Your Trade funds being used on 'tattoos and mag wheels'? How many occurrences? How many Tools for Your Trade grants were given out last year and how many reports were there that these were used for tattoos and mag wheels? 12. Will there be any protections for apprentices who may be pressured by their employer to take out the loan to purchase tools or a vehicle to undertake their work? Under the Tools for Your Trade program an employee may have purchased these items with the grant, whereas now they will need to undertake a debt. Has 	<p>Written Question Received 17.06.14</p>		
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				<p>any consideration been given to supporting apprentices and their employers negotiating these issues, especially as the Apprentice Mentoring Program has been abolished?</p> <p>13. Are there any current legally binding contracts between current apprentices, employers and the federal under the Tools for Your Trade program?</p> <p>14. Take the case of an apprentice who generates a debt during their apprenticeship through Trade Support Loans and then goes on to study at university where they access FEE HELP, generating additional debt.</p> <p>a. Would that person be required to pay both debts simultaneously or will the debts be bundled?</p> <p>b. If the debts are bundled will all of the debt attract the FEE HELP interest rate or will the debt incurred through the Trade Support Loan still be “interest free”?</p>			
BI-205	Carr	Skills Division	Kickstart Program	In answering Question AI-143 (2), Additional Budget Estimates (February 2014), the Department stated that advice had been provided to the Minister about the Kickstart program. Did that advice model reintroducing the KickStart apprentice program or did it provide options for increasing/decreasing incentive payments for apprentices?	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-206	Carr	Skills Division	Joint Group Training	Is Joint Group Training funding under review? Can you provide an update of the current review of Joint Group training? Have recommendations been developed for the future of Joint Group Training? Have the recommendations been provided to the Minister? Have any decisions been made?	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-207	Carr	VET Reform Taskforce	ACTU Involvement in Skills Workshops	<p>In answer to Question AI-141 in Additional Budget Estimates (February 2014), the Department confirmed that the ACTU had written to the Minister on 4 March 2014. The ACTU had previously written to the Minister on 25 September 2013 and received a response on 7 November 2013. During the Additional Budget Estimates in February, the Department advised that invitations for the first round of Skills Workshops were issued to stakeholders who had written to the Minister.</p> <p>While understanding that the ACTU was subsequently invited to participate in future rounds of workshops, can the Government advise why the ACTU was omitted from the invitation list for the first round of Skills Workshops? Was this a deliberate omission or an oversight? Was the ACTU on any draft invitation list submitted to the Minister’s office for consideration?</p>	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-208	Carr	VET Reform Taskforce	Skills Workshop Attendees	In answer to Question AI-28 in Additional Budget Estimates (February 2014) the department advises that attendees at the meeting with Minister Macfarlane on 29 January 2014 included: industry peak bodies and employer groups, VET sector peak bodies, Industry Skills Councils, Group Training Network and Australian Apprenticeship Centres. Can a full list of attendees be provided?	Written Question Received 17.06.14		

BI-209	Carr	Enterprise & Skills Connect Division	Closure of Skills Programs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What was the basis for deciding which skills programs would be abolished? 2. Were these programs subject to independent reviews? If not, how was it determined which should go? 3. If they have had reviews of their success or failure will these be made publicly available? 4. Can the Minister/Department outline the specific failings of the programs above that resulted in the government's decision to cease them? 	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-210	Carr	Enterprise & Skills Connect Division	Industry Skills Fund	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Under the Industry Skills Fund, will companies be able to apply for funding for training that is only Language, Literacy and Numeracy Training? 2. CEO of the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Kate Carnell has expressed concern about budget cuts and advised that she will express concerns to government. Has Ms Carnell expressed any concerns to the government about the operation of the Industry Skills Fund or the \$1 billion in skills programs that have been cut? 3. How will foundation skills needs of existing workers linked to business needs be addressed in the future? 4. CEO, Graham Wolfe, of the Housing Industry Association have criticised the narrow focus of the ISF in terms of sectors covered (health and biomedical products; mining, oil and gas equipment technology and services; and advanced manufacturing, including defence and aerospace) of which construction is not one. (http://www.fcta.com.au/apprenticeship-funding-changes-announced-federal-budget/) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Why isn't construction included? 5. Will new industries be added through time? 6. What is the process for adding new industries? Can this be done by way of nomination by individual businesses or industry bodies? 7. How will the co-contribution by business for grants under the Industry Skills Fund be calculated? 8. On what basis will the "sliding scale" be determined? Employment, turnover, other? 9. Will the sliding scale vary by industry? Will there be flexibility for negotiation by individual enterprises, if so how will that be managed and will that be publicly available? 10. In total, how much is expected to be contributed by small and medium enterprises to the Industry Skills Fund? 	Written Question Received 17.06.14		

				<p>11. Can you explain what is to be covered under the term in the Budget ‘health and biomedical products’? Does the term “health” cover the entire health sector?</p> <p>12. If it doesn’t include health generally, this is a significant and growing sector with workforce development needs. Will this sector be excluded from applying for ISF grants?</p> <p>13. Will the child care, aged care and disability sector industries which also have growing workforce development needs. Will they be eligible to apply for funding under ISF?</p> <p>14. The Budget description of the ISF seems to exclude significant sectors, particularly in the service industry (e.g.: tourism and ICT). Is there are reason for these sectors not being included?</p>			
BI-211	Carr	Enterprise & Skills Connect	Industry Skills Councils	<p>In answering Question AI 146 from Additional Budget Estimates (February 2014) the department advises that the Minister has been provided with briefings on future funding agreements for and membership of the Industry Skills Councils?</p> <p>Is the government planning to restructure Industry Skills Councils? Have any consultations been held? Have any options been provided to the Minister?</p>	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-212	Carr	Skills Division	Commonwealth Involvement in the VET Sector	<p>In answering Question AI-144 Additional Budget Estimates (February 2014), the Department advised that there were no proposals to remove Commonwealth involvement from the VET sector. The Commission of Audit was subsequently released and states “The Commission believes it would make sense for the Commonwealth to pull back from its involvement in vocational education and training, with a view to providing full policy responsibility to the States”.</p> <p>Has the government asked for proposals or models for new divisions of responsibility between the Commonwealth and the States? Will the Minister be responding to the Vocational Education and Training recommendations and statements in the Commission of Audit? Will that be made publicly available? If so, when?</p>	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-213	Carr	AWPA	AWPA Reports being Conducted	<p>Australian Workplace and Productivity Agency provided reports to government on future and emerging skills needs? Now that AWPA has been relocated back to the Department, what reports are currently being conducted at present? Will they be released and, if yes, when will they be released?</p>	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-214	Carr	Skills Division	National VET Equity Advisory Council	<p>On 3 April 2014 it was decided by the inaugural meeting of the COAG Industry and Skills Council to dissolve the National VET Equity Advisory Council. Will there be a new Ministerial advisory body to advise Ministers on access and equity? If not, who will be responsible for providing advice to Ministers on these issues? Will reports such as the National Report on Social Equity in VET 2013 continue to be provided? Will they be released publicly? Will there still be a focus on access and equity?</p>	Written Question Received 17.06.14		

BI-215	Carr	Skills Division	National Skills Standards Council	<p>On 3 April 2014 it was decided by the inaugural meeting of the COAG Industry and Skills Council to dissolve the National Skills Standards Council (NSSC) and its ongoing functions were to be delegated to industry representatives and officials through the Industry and Skills Council Advisory Committee. It was decided that the Commonwealth would consult with states and territories on the composition and role of the Committee and that the new Committee would begin functioning in mid-2014.</p> <p>a. Have consultations between the Commonwealth and states and territories taken place? If yes, what are the outcomes of these consultations? Who was involved in the consultations? Has advice been provided to the Minister?</p> <p>b. In the Budget, \$8,662,000 was allocated for the NSSC from 2013-2018. Can the Department clarify what this funding will be used for?</p>	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-216	Carr	Skills Division	Government Funding for Training	<p>1. Are there any proposals for public providers to be allocated funding for 'thin' markets where it is impossible to compete with private providers where disadvantaged learners are at risk of missing out completely on relevant training?</p> <p>2. Is the Government proposing to provide funding for older workers who may be employed now but will need to retrain in other areas if they are to work until they are 70?</p>	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-217	Carr	Skills Division	Disabled Australian Apprentice Wage Support Program	Does the Government have any proposals to abolish the Disabled Australian Apprentice Wage Support program?	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-218	Carr	Questacon	Inspiring Australia Name Change	What was the rationale for changing the name of Inspiring Australia to Science for Australia's future?	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-219	Carr	CSIRO	CSIRO's Involvement in CRCs	<p>1. How many Co-operative research centres is CSIRO involved in? What is the nature of the involvement?</p> <p>2. Can CSIRO list its level of investment in each co-operative Research Centre?</p> <p>3. Was CSIRO involved in any bids, or was considering involvement in any, for the 17th round of the CRC Program which has now been cancelled? If yes, please list the bids.</p>	Written Question Received 17.06.14		
BI-220	Carr	CSIRO	CSIRO Education Centres	<p>1. Has CSIRO made any decisions about the future of CSIRO Education Centres? If yes, what is that decision?</p> <p>2. How many CSIRO Education Centres are there? Please list the centres.</p>	Written Question Received 17.06.14		