

Senate Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates

2017 - 2018

Division/Agency: Budget Policy Division
Question No: 163
Topic: Budget Glossies
Reference: Hansard page 76 (29 May 2017)
Senator: Gallagher, Katy

Question:

Senator GALLAGHER: So your area is not really responsible? Questions on this are not really for you. Is that right? I had some questions about when the glossies went. If it is Corporate—

Senator Cormann: If we know, we will help.

Senator GALLAGHER: Did you know?

Mr M Brennan: Yes. We probably do not have the list here, but from my recollection two glossies went to the printer on Saturday night and two went on Sunday night.

Senator GALLAGHER: Who has final sign-off for the glossies?

Senator Cormann: These are documents of the government.

Senator GALLAGHER: So does a minister sign them off before they go?

Senator Cormann: In the end, for the documents that have both the Treasurer's and my name on them, we both give final sign-off. The glossies have a similar process.

Senator GALLAGHER: So that is ministerial, basically. Once you have signed off there are no other changes that can happen to those documents?

Senator Cormann: This is in relation to the text. Treasury, as I understand it, will fact check and make sure that all the numbers are right all the way through to the end. But, as far as the text is concerned, we provide final sign-off. That is right.

Senator GALLAGHER: I think last week, you or your department said there were five consolidations—

Senator Cormann: These are done through Finance.

Senator GALLAGHER: Right. They are. If I was to ask when the final one was done, that would have to be done—

Senator Cormann: That would be a question for Finance.

Senator GALLAGHER: It has taken until 5 o'clock to refer me back to Finance!

Senator Cormann: I am happy to take it on notice and get an answer through Finance.

Answer:

The Department of Finance has advised the final consolidation finished on 4 May 2017.