Senate Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates

2017 - 2018

Division/Agency: Commonwealth-State Relations Division

Question No: 182

Topic: Council on Federal Financial Relations **Reference:** Hansard page 58-59 (30 May 2017)

Senator: Dastyari, Sam

Question:

Senator DASTYARI: And what is the relevant body we are talking about here?

Senator Cormann: It is the Council on Federal Financial Relations.

Senator DASTYARI: Apologies for my ignorance here, Minister. How regularly does that

meet? Is that a body that meets quarterly, twice yearly, annually?

Senator Cormann: It meets twice a year. Senator DASTYARI: Are they set meetings?

Senator Cormann: These are meetings that are scheduled twice a year.

Ms Mrakovcic: I believe it is twice a year.

Senator DASTYARI: This may be already available on their website.

Senator Cormann: These are publically—people are aware when they make statements. Senator DASTYARI: If you want to take it on notice and point me to the right direction for where I can find the information—but I assume there is one in the first half of the year and one in the second half of the year, obviously?

Senator Cormann: Broadly speaking, yes.

Senator DASTYARI: The next meeting of this, obviously, considering the diaries of the people involved, would already be set?

Ms Mrakovcic: I honestly do not know. It falls under Fiscal Group with Commonwealth-state relations, but I am happy to take that on notice.

Answer:

The Council on Federal Financial Relations generally meets biannually. The last meeting was held on 24 March 2017.