

Senate Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates

2017 - 2018

Division/Agency: Social Policy Division

Question No: 276

Topic: GAP Taskforce meeting dates

Reference: Hansard page 54 (29 May 2017)

Senator: Gallagher, Katy

Question:

Senator GALLAGHER: It was, from my reading of it, though, looking at pretty significant changes to the way a large area of Commonwealth expenditure was being spent. No alarm bells went off to alert your masters to what was being discussed?

Mr M Brennan: It was only discussed in the most general terms.

Senator GALLAGHER: You then tell me that you have attended four meetings?

Ms V Wilkinson: Actually I think I said three, but I recall—

Senator GALLAGHER: But then Mr Brennan went to one, so you went to one together?

Ms V Wilkinson: I went to one with Mr Brennan. Sorry; I think it was actually two. I think we were invited to a third, but we did not attend.

Senator GALLAGHER: When was the first one?

Ms V Wilkinson: I do not know when the GAP task force started, but the first time that Treasury attended was, I think, early spring. We can come back to you. It was late winter, early spring last year.

Senator GALLAGHER: So 12 months ago or so?

Ms V Wilkinson: Yes.

Mr M Brennan: We will check the date.

Senator GALLAGHER: If you could take that on notice, that would be good.

Ms V Wilkinson: Yes.

Answer:

The inaugural meeting of the Global Access Partners (GAP) Taskforce on Hospital Funding was held on 9 June 2016.

The second meeting was on 14 December 2016 and the third meeting was on 28 March 2017 (not attended by Treasury).