

# Chapter 1

## Overview

1.1 On 9 May 2017, the Senate referred the following documents to the committee for examination and report in relation to the Industry, Innovation and Science and Treasury portfolios:

- Particulars of proposed expenditure in respect of the year ending on 30 June 2018 [Appropriation Bill (No. 1) 2017–2018];
- Particulars of certain proposed expenditure in respect of the year ending on 30 June 2018 [Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 2017–2018]; and
- Particulars of proposed expenditure in relation to the parliamentary departments in respect of the year ending on 30 June 2018 [Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) Bill (No. 1) 2017–2018].<sup>1</sup>

1.2 The committee is required to report to the Senate on its consideration of 2017–18 Budget Estimates on 20 June 2017.<sup>2</sup>

### Portfolio allocation

1.3 The committee has responsibility for examining the expenditure and outcomes of the Industry, Innovation and Science and Treasury portfolios.<sup>3</sup>

### Portfolio Budget Statements (PBS) 2017–18

1.4 The Portfolio Budget Statements (PBS) 2017–18 for the Industry, Innovation and Science Portfolio and the Treasury Portfolio were tabled in the Senate on 9 May 2017.<sup>4</sup>

### Hearings

1.5 The committee held hearings on 29–31 May and 1 June 2017 to hear from the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science and the Department of the Treasury in relation to all outcomes as well as from relevant portfolio agencies.

1.6 The following outcomes and agencies appeared before the committee for the Treasury portfolio:

- Department of the Treasury—Secretary, Macroeconomic Group and Corporate Group;
- Department of the Treasury—Fiscal Group;
- Department of the Treasury—Structural Reform Group;

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1 *Journals of the Senate*, No. 39, 9 May 2017, pp. 1311–1312.

2 *Journals of the Senate*, No. 12, 7 November 2016, p. 378.

3 *Journals of the Senate*, No. 2, 31 August 2016, p. 76.

4 *Journals of the Senate*, No. 39, 9 May 2017, pp. 1311–1312.

- Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise Ombudsman;
- Department of the Treasury—Revenue Group;
- Australian Taxation Office;
- Inspector-General of Taxation;
- Department of the Treasury—Markets Group;
- Australian Prudential Regulation Authority;
- Australian Competition and Consumer Commission with the Australian Energy Regulator;
- Australian Office of Financial Management;
- Australian Securities and Investments Commission;
- Productivity Commission;
- Superannuation Complaints Tribunal;
- Commonwealth Grants Commission; and
- Australian Bureau of Statistics.

1.7 The following outcomes and agencies appeared before the committee for the Industry, Innovation and Science portfolio:

- Anti-Dumping Commission;
- Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation;
- Office of Innovation and Science Australia;
- IP Australia;
- Australian Institute of Marine Science;
- Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation;
- Office of the Chief Scientist;
- Department of Industry, Innovation and Science—Programme 3: Cross-portfolio;
- Department of Industry, Innovation and Science—Programme 1: Supporting Science and Commercialisation;
- Department of Industry, Innovation and Science—Programme 2: Growing Business Investment and Improving Business Capability; and
- National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority.

1.8 The committee thanks the Ministers and officers who attended the hearings for their assistance.

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## **Questions on notice**

1.9 In accordance with Standing Order 26, the committee has drawn the attention of the Departments and their agencies to the agreed deadline of Thursday, 27 July 2017 for the receipt of answers to questions taken on notice.

1.10 As the committee is required to report to the Senate before responses to questions are due, this report has been prepared without reference to any of these responses.

1.11 Responses to questions on notice and additional information provided to the committee are tabled in the Senate and uploaded to the committee's website.

## **Public interest immunity claims**

1.12 On 13 May 2009, the Senate passed an order relating to public interest immunity claims.<sup>5</sup> The order sets out the processes to be followed if a witness declines to answer a question. The full text of this order has previously been provided to departments and agencies and was incorporated in the Chair's opening statement at the commencement of each hearing.

## **Record of proceedings**

1.13 This report does not attempt to analyse the evidence presented to the committee over the four days of hearings. However, it does include a brief explanation of the main issues that were raised during the examination of each portfolio.

1.14 Copies of the Hansard transcripts and documents tabled at the hearings are available on the committee's website.

## **Note on Hansard page referencing**

1.15 Hansard references throughout this report relate to the Proof Estimates Hansard. Please note page numbering may differ between the proof and final Hansard.

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5 *Journals of the Senate*, No. 68, 13 May 2009, pp. 1941–1942.

