

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2015

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Australian Public Service Commission

Outcome/Program: 1.1

Topic: Speeches

Senator: LUDWIG

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Question:

Senator LUDWIG: So you are not able to then say how many times, on what dates or at what events you have delivered speeches? Can you provide that to the committee?

Mr Lloyd: I possibly could.

Senator Cormann: What is the public interest?

Senator LUDWIG: As a commissioner, he is the head of an organisation that represents the Australian Public Service and provides leadership to the public service.

Senator Cormann: And he does a fine job.

Senator LUDWIG: The public service can look to those speeches as to how it should measure itself and its performance and they play a very pivotal role. Otherwise you would not have a person fulfilling that role.

Senator Cormann: But the number of speeches given? Is that something that you want us to take on notice?

Senator LUDWIG: I cannot identify one speech at this time that has actually been delivered in a form which is digestible by the broader public service to be able to then look up and take leadership from. So the next best I can do is ask how many times speeches have been given to at least assure myself that speeches are being given to provide that form of leadership to the Australian Public Service. Otherwise I might think you could get away with being a mushroom. I do not think that is the case.

Senator Cormann: If you think it is important, we will assist you with that information. I am sure there are many fine speeches that have been given by the commissioner since he has taken up his role

Answer: As at 25 May 2015, the Australian Public Service Commissioner has given 21 speeches.

The Commissioner and the Australian Public Service Commission use a variety of communication mediums. These include speeches, website, social media, media statements and interviews.