

The Senate

Finance and Public Administration
Legislation Committee

Budget estimates 2015-16

June 2015

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Membership of the Committee

Members

Senator Cory Bernardi (Chair)	LP, SA
Senator Katy Gallagher (Deputy Chair)	ALP, ACT
Senator the Hon Joseph Ludwig	ALP, QLD
Senator Bridget McKenzie	NAT, VIC
Senator Janet Rice	AG, VIC
Senator Dean Smith	LP, WA

Senators in attendance

Senators Bernardi (Chair), Gallagher (Deputy Chair), Ludwig, McKenzie, Smith, Bushby, Cameron, Collins, Conroy, Dastyari, Ketter, Lambie, Lazarus, Marshall, McAllister, McLucas, Moore, O'Neill, Peris, Rhiannon, Seselja, Siewert, Waters, Wong, Wright, Xenophon

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Chapter 1

Budget Estimates 2015-16

1.1 On 12 May 2015 the Senate referred the following to the Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee (the committee) for examination and report:

- Particulars of proposed expenditure in respect of the year ending on 30 June 2016.
- Particulars of certain proposed expenditure in respect of the year ending on 30 June 2016.
- Particulars of proposed expenditure in relation to the parliamentary departments in respect of the year ending on 30 June 2016.
- Particulars of proposed additional expenditure in respect of the year ending on 30 June 2015.
- Particulars of certain proposed additional expenditure in respect of the year ending on 30 June 2015.¹

1.2 The 'Particulars' documents relating to proposed additional expenditure and certain proposed additional expenditure for the year ending 30 June 2015, did not relate to portfolios for which the committee has oversight.

Portfolio coverage

1.3 The committee has responsibility for examining the expenditure and outcomes of the following:

- Parliament;²
- Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio;
- Finance Portfolio; and
- Cross Portfolio Indigenous Matters.

Portfolio Budget Statements 2015-16

1.4 The Portfolio Budget Statements 2015-16 for the parliamentary departments, the Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio and the Finance Portfolio were tabled in the Senate on 12 May 2015.³

1 *Journals of the Senate, No. 92, 12 May 2015, p. 2561.*

2 As a matter of comity between the Houses neither House inquires into the operations of the other House. For this reason, neither the annual report of, nor the proposed expenditure for, the Department of the House of Representatives is referred to a Senate committee for review.

3 *Journals of the Senate, No. 92, 12 May 2015, pp 2561-2562.*

Hearings

1.5 The committee held public hearings on 25-29 May 2015. The parliamentary departments were examined on 25 May, the Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio (excluding Indigenous matters and the Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General) was examined on 25 and 26 May, the Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General was examined on 27 May, the Finance Portfolio was examined on 27 and 28 May, and the Cross Portfolio Indigenous Matters hearing was held on 29 May 2015.

1.6 The committee took evidence from the President of the Senate, Senator the Hon Stephen Parry, and the following Ministers accompanied by officers of relevant departments and agencies:

- Senator the Hon George Brandis, Attorney-General, representing the Prime Minister;
- Senator the Hon Mathias Cormann, Minister for Finance, and also representing the Prime Minister;
- Senator the Hon Michaelia Cash, Assistant Minister for Immigration and Border Protection, and Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women;
- Senator the Hon Michael Ronaldson, Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Special Minister of State; and
- Senator the Hon Nigel Scullion, Minister for Indigenous Affairs.

1.7 The committee expresses its appreciation for the assistance of the President, Ministers and the officers who appeared.

1.8 Over the course of the hearings, the committee took evidence from the following departments and agencies:

Parliamentary departments

- Department of the Senate
- Parliamentary Budget Office
- Department of Parliamentary Services

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

- Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (including the Office for Women and excluding Outcome 2 – Indigenous)
- Independent National Security Legislation Monitor
- Office of the Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security
- Australian National Audit Office
- Australian Public Service Commission
- Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman
- Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General

Finance Portfolio

- Department of Finance
- ASC Pty Ltd
- ComSuper
- Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation
- Australian Electoral Commission

Cross Portfolio Indigenous Matters

- Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (Outcome 2 – Indigenous)
- Department of Health (in relation to Indigenous Health issues)
- Northern Land Council
- Tiwi Land Council
- Office of Township Leasing
- Indigenous Land Corporation
- Aboriginal Hostels Limited
- Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations

Review of the Cross Portfolio Indigenous Matters hearing

1.9 The committee notes the early completion of the Finance Portfolio by the dinner break on the second day of examination which may be due to the privatisation of Medibank Private and its removal from the Finance Portfolio. The committee believes that the reduced number of agencies may facilitate an early start to a discrete examination of Indigenous matters during the next Budget Estimates week in 2016 consistent with the ‘separate time’ for the cross portfolio estimates hearing on Indigenous matters as set under the Standing Order of the Senate of 26 August 2008. The committee notes that Additional Estimates and the Supplementary Budget Estimates rounds, which run over two days, may not allow for the cross portfolio estimates hearing on Indigenous matters to begin during those hearings, so they would still be held on a separate day unless otherwise agreed by the committee.

Recommendation 1

1.10 The committee recommends that when the Senate sets the dates for the 2016 Estimates hearings that the ‘separate time’ for the cross portfolio estimates hearing on Indigenous matters not be restricted to the Friday of each estimates week.

Questions on notice and Hansard transcripts

1.11 The committee has set 10 July 2015 as the date for the return of answers to questions on notice arising from the Budget Estimates 2015-16 hearings. This information, together with the Hansard transcripts of proceedings of hearings, are published on the committee's website at:

http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Senate_Estimates/fapacte/estimates/bud1516/index

Note on references

1.12 References to the estimates Hansard are to the proof Hansard; page numbers may vary between the proof and the official Hansard transcript.

Chapter 2

Parliamentary departments and portfolio issues

2.1 This chapter lists some of the key issues raised for each department and agency examined during the committee's hearings on the Budget Estimates 2015-16.

Parliamentary departments, 25 May 2015

Department of the Senate

- Senate car park – allocation of car parks, increased use since the introduction of paid parking in the parliamentary triangle, and introduction of security officers at the entrance (pp 4-6)
- Security upgrade capital works in Parliament House – consultation with the department; Parliament House Security Taskforce, including membership, role, governance, and interaction/consultation with the Security Management Board (pp 6-7, 13, 18-26)
- Use of Presiding Officers' suites for political fundraising events (pp 7-8)
- Implications for the department of the new leadership structure for the Australian Greens in terms of resourcing (p. 8)
- High workload in the Committee Office – resourcing, additional funding from the contingency reserve, and management (pp 9-11)
- Use of videoconferencing facilities to support the work of Senators, particularly for committee responsibilities (pp 11-12)
- Resolution of the Senate requiring that advice on security matters that go to the President are also countersigned by the Usher of the Black Rod or another Senate officer as a safeguard of the Senate's interests in matters of security (pp 13-14, 25-26)
- Update on the department's plans to commemorate the 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta (pp 14-15)
- Staff morale and absenteeism (p. 15)
- Comcare premiums (pp 16, 27)
- Budget night event in the Speaker's suite (p. 17)
- Processes for the decision to introduce Australian Federal Police patrols in the Senate wing (pp 17-18)

Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO)

- Update on agency response times to requests by the PBO for information for the preparation of costings (pp 27-29)
- Tender for a new purpose-built system to track workflows (p. 29)

- Costing guidelines and the timeframes used for the preparation of costing policies (pp 29-30, 38-39)
- ORIMA Research survey of stakeholders – provision of senators' and staffers' emails, cost, anonymity of respondents, and application of/compliance with the *Privacy Act 1988* (pp 30-34)
- Work plans (pp 35-36)
- Additional funding in the Budget (p. 36)
- OECD Committee of Fiscal Affairs Working Party No. 2 on Taxation Policy and Statistics – update on activity (p. 36)
- *National fiscal trends* report and the reference to the Commonwealth's decision to change the indexation arrangements for Commonwealth funding of hospitals and schools (pp 37-38)
- Reliability rating assessment for policy costings (pp 39-41)
- Compliance with Guidance No. 01/2013 regarding the costing of policy proposals at the request of a parliamentarian or political party that are attributed to another parliamentarian or political party (pp 42-44)

Department of Parliamentary Services (DPS)

- Incident of 'tailgating' in the House of Representatives car park (pp 46-47)
- Car parking arrangements for pass holders at Parliament House, including access, capacity, and recent increase in parking numbers in the Senate car park (pp 47-50, 53-54, 57-58)
- Paid parking in the public car park at Parliament House – pricing policy, revenue raised, and expenditure (pp 50-58)
- Levels of shift work of security staff (pp 58-59)
- Processes around the termination of the former secretary of DPS [the Parliamentary Service Commissioner attended for part of these questions] (pp 45, 59-63)
- Processes for the appointment of a new secretary of DPS (pp 63-64)
- Impact on the department of the new leadership structure for the Greens in terms of resourcing (p. 64)
- Budget allocations since 2013-14 (pp 64, 74-76)
- Parliamentary Library – staffing, location of staff, configuration of office space, and collection storage (pp 64-66)
- Cleaning contract with Limro Cleaning Services Pty Ltd – variations to the contract (pp 66-74)
- Security upgrade capital works – capital funding, moral rights consultation (pp 77-81, 87-90)
- Maintenance work in the Speaker's suite (p. 82)

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- Arrangements for hospitality for functions in the Presiding Officers' suites (pp 82-83)
 - Maintenance work in the Prime Minister's suite (pp 84-86)
 - Group 1 priority works in the Parliamentary precinct (pp 100-101)
 - Work on ministerial lunch room to change functionality to enable it to be used for a meeting room and funding allocation (pp 101-102)
 - Progress on the Central Reference Document and the Conservation Management Plan (p. 103)
 - Location of switchboard staff (pp 103-104)
 - Recruitment of ongoing staff and reduction in external contractors (pp 104-105)
 - Comcare claims and premiums (pp 105-106)
 - Staff turnover (p. 106)
 - DPS legal expenses (pp 106-107)

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio, 25 May 2015

Independent National Security Legislation Monitor (INSLM)

- Status of the Monitor's security clearance and continued use of 'acting' title (p. 93)
- Update on inquiry into the operation of section 35P of the *Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Act 1979* (pp 93-94, 96-97)
- Planning for next inquiry on the recommendations of the COAG review concerning control orders (p. 95)
- Planning for preparation of the next annual report required by 31 December 2015 (p. 95)
- Priorities and future referrals (pp 95-96)
- Staffing and resources (p. 97)
- Jurisdiction of the INSLM to examine complaints about the conduct of the Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security (pp 98-99)

Office of the Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security (IGIS)

- Concerns around the independence of the IGIS as expressed in some submissions to the INSLM inquiry into section 35P of the ASIO Act (pp 108-109)
- Role of the IGIS under the *Archives Act 1983* concerning provision of evidence to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal and the Information Commissioner in relation to exemptions to disclose documents (p. 111)
- Role of the IGIS in relation to confirming compliance to the order of the International Court of Justice that the Australian government return

documents seized during an Australian Security Intelligence Organisation raid on the office of lawyer Mr Bernard Collaery (pp 110-114)

- Impact of amendments to national security laws on the work of the office, including staffing requirements (pp 116-117)

Australian National Audit Office (ANAO)

- Transition process for the new Auditor-General (p. 118)
- Audit program on government advertising (p. 118)
- Timing of the release and findings of performance audit entitled *Management of Smart Centres' Centrelink Telephone Services* (pp 118-120)
- Status of enterprise bargaining at ANAO (pp 120-121)
- Staffing (p. 121)
- Funding levels and application of the efficiency dividend (p. 122)

Australian Public Service Commission

- Pay offer to Department of Human Services employees in comparison to the cost of living index (pp 123-124)
- Average level of Australian Public Service pay offers (p. 124)
- Accuracy of claims made in Community and Public Sector Union published information (pp 123-127)
- Status of enterprise agreements and the Australian Public Service and Australian Government Public Sector Workplace Bargaining Policy (pp 127-129, 132-133)
- Speeches delivered by the Australian Public Service Commissioner since beginning his term (pp 130-131)
- Unscheduled absences in the Australian Public Service (pp 131-132)
- Status of investigation into the leak of information concerning military pay (p.132)

Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman

- Amendment to the agency's outcome statement (p. 135)
- Transfer of staff from the Private Health Insurance Ombudsman (p. 135)
- Expenditure on travel and accommodation (pp 135-136)
- Number of Freedom of Information complaints (p. 136)
- Transition of tax complaints to the Inspector-General of Taxation (p. 136)

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio, 26 May 2015

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C)

Outcome 1

- Clearance process for answers to questions on notice (pp 3-4)
- Paid Parental Leave Scheme – policy development process, integration of the national and state schemes, and role of the Department in developing relevant budget measures (pp 6-12)
- Department's enterprise agreement, including existing parental leave arrangements, workplace culture survey, transition arrangements for promoted or newly recruited staff (pp 12, 38-41)
- Office of Best Practice Regulation
 - Role related to Process Post-Implementation Reviews (pp 17–19)
 - Regulation Impact Statement related to *QANTAS Sale Act 1992* (p. 20) Paid Parental Leave Scheme (pp 20-21) and foreign investment by Treasury (pp 21, 23-24)
 - Publication and effectiveness of Regulation Impact Statements (pp 20, 22)
- Provision of the confidential volume of the Interim Report of the Royal Commission into Trade Union Governance and Corruption to the Prime Minister's Office (pp 21-22)
- Budget preparation process (p. 24)
- Departmental advice on the establishment of a possible inquiry into iron ore (pp 25-26)
- Free trade agreements with China, Japan and Korea (p. 27)
- Appointment of a former Chief of Staff to a former Defence Minister to the position as Chief Executive Officer of DCNS Australia (p. 27)
- Publication of an audit report related to the Air Warfare Destroyer Project (pp 30-36)
- Dialogue with the Japanese Government on the future submarine program (pp 36-37)
- Unauthorised and inappropriate use of the coat of arms (pp 42-43)
- White Paper on Developing Northern Australia - delay, costs, and policy development process (pp 44-46)
- Northern Australia Taskforce
 - challenges in raising funds for development projects (p. 47)
 - cost-benefit analysis for investments (p. 47)
 - Nullinga Dam project and the upgrade of the Hann Highway (p. 49)
 - Pivot North report (pp 50-51)
 - process of fund allocation and loan facility (p. 52)
- Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper – reporting date and costs (p. 53)

- Reform of the Federation White Paper (p. 53)
- Tax White Paper – staffing costs (pp 54, 56)
- COAG leaders' retreat – agenda, location, costs and guest list (pp 56-58)
- Prime Minister's trip to New York in 2014 and associated costs (pp 58, 60-62)
- Removal of Australian citizenship of terrorist sympathisers (p. 59)
- Conservation management and progress on the refurbishment of The Lodge (pp 63-65)
- Kirribilli House (p. 65)
- Menus and guest lists for all official functions (pp 66-67)
- Prime Minister's trip to Europe in 2015 – travelling party, itinerary, protocols related to greeting the Prime Minister on overseas trips, purpose and outcomes of trip (pp 67-73)
- Sir John Monash Centre – details of the designer, purpose of the building and funding (p. 74)
- Expenditure on photographic equipment for the Prime Minister's Office and details of use (pp 86-89)
- Offer of resignation of the Chief of Staff to the Prime Minister (p. 89)
- Cabinet processes (pp 90-91)
- Review into cyber security – cyber threats and their economic cost and the membership of the expert panel (pp 91-93)
- National Ice Taskforce - staffing arrangements, operation and progress (pp 96-97, 112-113)
- Australia's application for a seat on the United Nations Human Rights Council (p. 114)
- Guidelines on the purchase and the usage of the Australian flags (pp 116-118)
- Costs associated with an Australian Federal Police and Australian Defence Force morning tea held on 26 October 2014 (pp 118-119)
- Guidelines on the use of the Prime Minister's website (p. 119)
- Use of Admiralty House for Prime Ministerial events (p. 119)
- Costs associated with two Christmas receptions held in 2014 (p. 120)
- Cost of the guest-of-government visits (pp 122-124)
- Comcar expenditure for the visit of the Prime Minister of the Netherlands (p. 125)
- Appointment of the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister on Counter Terrorism, including staffing and funding (pp 125-130)
- Public Data Project (p. 131)

- International Building Partner Capacity training mission in Iraq (p. 132)
- Gift declarations by the Prime Minister (p. 132)
- Redevelopment of the department's website (p. 132)
- Business Advisory Council – role, meetings and staffing (pp 133, 135)
- Number of Freedom of Information requests and response rates (p. 133)
- Use of the Prime Minister's VIP aircraft for travel to Melbourne on 22 March 2015 (p. 134)
- Role and work of a Research Unit in the Prime Minister's office (p. 134)
- Termination of the former Secretary of the Department of Agriculture (p. 135)
- Parliament House Security Taskforce (p. 137)

Office for Women

- Role of the office in developing the Paid Parental Leave Scheme (pp 98-100)
- Organisational structure and staffing (pp 100-102)
- Domestic violence issues raised during the 39th COAG meeting:
 - Advisory panel membership (pp 101-103)
 - Strategy plan and priorities (p. 103)
 - National Domestic Violence Order (DVO) Scheme (pp 105-107)
 - National awareness campaign (p. 108)
 - Funding on domestic violence related issues (p. 109)
- Partnership with the Australian Institute of Company Directors on the Women's Leadership and Development Strategy program (p. 103)
- Costs of Australian delegation attending the 59th session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (p. 104)
- Role of the Office in ensuring that companies that seek government tenders meet the workforce gender diversity requirements (pp 107-108)
- Role and achievements of the Our Watch program (p. 111)
- Project with UnitingCare Australia to create long-term employment pathways for women in the community and aged sectors (pp 111-112)

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio, 27 May 2015

Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General

- Preservation and maintenance of vice-regal properties, including the capital measure budget allocation of \$7.9 million (pp 3-8)
- Hospitality expenditure (pp 8-9)
- Impact of the efficiency dividends on the office (p. 9)
- Order of Australia – increase in nominations and awards, number of women nominated and success rate, and order of precedence (pp 9-11, 14)
- Staff turnover (pp 11-12)

- Use of the Rolls-Royce Phantom VI (p. 13)
- Update on the tender process for new kitchen equipment (pp 13-14)
- Plans to commemorate Her Majesty The Queen's forthcoming milestone as the longest-reigning monarch (pp 14-15)

Finance Portfolio, 27 May 2015

ASC Pty Ltd (ASC)

- Air Warfare Destroyer (AWD) project (pp 18-26, 34-46, 52-68, 70-73)
 - Processes for the preparation of the forensic audit report, leak of forensic audit report, ASC briefing audit findings
 - Announcement of a limited tender process to either insert a managing contractor into ASC or to further enhance ASC capability through a partnering arrangement
 - Reforms implemented to improve shipbuilding capacity
 - Extent of cost overruns in the program that can be attributed to factors beyond the control of ASC
 - Use of contingency funding
 - Invitation list to the launch of HMAS Hobart on 22 May 2015
 - Timing of the joint media statement
 - Compatibility of the proposed reforms announced in the limited tender process with the Commonwealth's Government Business Enterprise Governance and Oversight Guidelines
- Future submarine project – timeframe for delivery of submarines and whether some submarines may not be built in Adelaide, visits to the ASC by delegations of the potential international partners, procurement processes and whether the economic benefits of a local build is taken into account (pp 26-34, 47-51, 68-70)
- ASC staff code of conduct and confidentiality requirements regarding use of information or data that is accessed by employees while working at ASC (pp 51-52)
- Breakdown of ASC staff across shipbuilding, submarine and maintenance business (pp 66-67)

ComSuper and Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation (CSC)

- Work being done to facilitate the merger of ComSuper and CSC (pp 73-74)
- Update on the amounts held in the funds and membership levels (p. 74)
- Processes for managing ongoing complaints after the merger (p. 75)

Department of Finance (Finance)

Corporate

- Change in departmental outcome structure (pp 75-76)
- Graduate program, including new promotional videos (pp 76-78)

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- Staffing levels (pp 78-79)
 - Contracts in relation to the AWD project, including Greenhill & Co Australia Pty Limited and Ashurst (pp 80-83)
 - Enterprise bargaining process (pp 84-86)

Outcome 1

- Costing methodology in relation to the families child care package and small business package announced in the budget (pp 86-88)
- Accounting treatment of Future Fund earnings in the budget papers and the inclusion in the medium term projections of the underlying cash balance (pp 88-94)
- Budget Overview and Budget ‘glossies’ – level of Finance involvement in the preparation of documents (pp 94-95)
- Accounting treatment of provisions in the contingency reserve for policies not proceeded with, including in relation to the policy reversal of the Paid Parental Leave Scheme (pp 96-98)
- Contingency reserve and treatment in the budget bottom line, including decisions taken but not yet announced (pp 99-100)
- Questions on a range of 2015-16 budget expense measures, including:
 - Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme – increase in the safety net thresholds on 1 January 2019 (pp 101-102)
 - Families Package – child care – Workforce Participation Stream (pp 102-104)
 - Developing Northern Australia – Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility (pp 104-106)
 - Social Security Assets Test – rebalance asset test thresholds and taper rate (pp 106-108)
 - Growing Jobs and Small Business – Youth Employment Strategy – revised waiting period for youth income support (p. 108)
 - Removing Double-Dipping from Parental Leave Pay (pp 109-112)
 - Rationalising and Streamlining Health Program (p. 112)
 - Smaller Government – Health Portfolio (p. 112)
 - Attorney-General's Portfolio – efficiencies (pp 112-113)
 - Smaller Government – Education and Training Portfolio (p. 114)
 - Industry Grant Programs – reduced funding (pp 114-115)
 - Disaster Relief (p. 116)
- Efficiency dividend, including initiatives that have an indexation pause (p. 115)
- Modelling which underpins the parameter and other variations incorporated into the budget (pp 117-120)
- 20 fastest-spending programs in the budget (p. 121)
- Agencies exempt from the efficiency dividend (pp 121-122)

- Commonwealth contribution to the Australian Capital Territory Government 'Mr Fluffy' asbestos remediation program (pp 122-123)
- Statement of risks (pp 123-125)
- Central Budget Management System (pp 125-126)

Finance Portfolio, 28 May 2015

Department of Finance

Outcome 2

- Gateway review processes (pp 4-7)
- Reforms under the public governance framework relating to reporting on key performance indicators (pp 7-8)
- Public sector redundancies and size of the federal public sector (pp 8-13)
- Moorebank Intermodal Terminal Project (pp 14-17)
- Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines – consideration of economic and social benefits of procuring locally manufactured goods (pp 17-18)
- New Indigenous Procurement Policy – monitoring of targets (pp 18-20)
- Update on Finance's planned office relocation and consolidation at 1 Canberra Avenue (pp 20-23)
- Policy on the utilisation of Commonwealth leased office space in the Australian Capital Territory, known as 'Project Tetris', and Finance's role in the Department of Immigration and Border Protection's accommodation tender (pp 23-30, 57-58)
- Divestment of properties in the Parliamentary Triangle (pp 30-33)
- Transfer of lot 202 of Malabar Headland from the Commonwealth to the state of New South Wales for use as a national park (pp 33-37)
- Update on the remediation work at The Lodge (pp 37-38)
- Reform of Defence Housing Australia (pp 39-41)
- Scoping study on options for future management, operations and ownership of Australian Rail Track Corporation (pp 41-43)
- Australia Post reforms and the effect of efficiencies on jobs (pp 43-44)
- Commercialisation of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission registry function (pp 47-49)
- Digital Transformation Agenda, including officers transferring to the newly established Digital Transformation Office (pp 49-51)
- Contestability program – functional and efficiency reviews of Department of Health and Department of Education (pp 44-47)
- Enterprise Resource Planning Systems (pp 51-52)

- Scoping study on Intra Government Communications Network (ICON) (pp 51-54)
- Achievement of key performance indicator for Program 2.2 of 'Improving Whole-of-Government ICT' (pp 54-56)
- Budget measure concerning whole-of-government procurement arrangements – ICT products and services (pp 58-60)
- Medical Research Future Fund (pp 61-63)
- Asset Recycling Fund (pp 63-64)
- Government Campaign Advertising – processes for appointments to the Independent Communications Committee and remuneration, campaigns initiated under the interim and new *Guidelines on Information and Advertising Campaigns by non-corporate Commonwealth entities* and approval processes (pp 64-71)

Outcome 3

- Temporary non-standard home bases (p. 71)
- *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* enterprise agreement negotiations (pp 71-72)
- Coalition Advisory Service – role of Finance and staff numbers (pp 73-74)
- Tax White Paper Unit – allocation of staff to the Treasurer (pp 74-75)
- Budget expense measure – Simplifying Parliamentary Budgets (p. 75)
- Impact of the announced increase in stamp prices on parliamentarians' communication budgets (pp 76-77)
- Budget capital measure – IT security enhancements for Parliamentarians (pp 77-78)
- Statement of Standards for ministerial staff – requirements on conduct of ministerial staff post-employment (pp 79-82)

Australian Electoral Commission (AEC)

- Provisional budget allocation for each election and party funding (pp 82-83)
- Senate voting reform (pp 84-87, 90-91)
- Processes for detection of multiple voting (p. 85)
- Staffing, graduate program, redundancies, and update on enterprise agreement (pp 87-89)
- Discrepancies between donor returns and party returns (p. 89)
- Compliance review program (p. 91)
- Process for counting the Senate vote (pp 91-92)
- Update on prosecutions relating to multiple-voting offences from the last federal election (pp 93-94)

Cross Portfolio Indigenous Matters, 29 May 2015

Northern Land Council (NLC)

- Reviews into internal governance and service delivery and associated reforms following the release of ANAO audit report No. 16 2014-15 Audit of Financial Statements of Government Entities (pp 4-5)
- Improvements since Additional Estimates 2014-15 hearings in corporate governance, financial auditing, compliance and risk management processes as well as processes put in place to meet annual reporting timelines (p. 5)
- External assistance provided to improve governance and financial arrangements (p. 7)
- Process to elect members of the Northern Land Council's Full Council (p. 8)

Tiwi Land Council

- Process by which members are appointed to the Tiwi Land Council (p. 10)
- Economic development opportunities (p. 10)
- 2004 head lease between the Tiwi Land Trust and Port Melville Pty Ltd and subleasing arrangements (pp 11-12)
- Assisting traditional owners with the development of employment strategies (p. 14)
- Harvest for the Tiwi Plantations Corporation to begin in June (pp 14-15)
- Environmental concerns regarding the port (p. 15)
- Employment opportunities (pp 16-17)

Office of Township Leasing

- Development of township lease model which provides community members with the choice of private home ownership (pp 17-18)
- Two townships (Pirlangimpi on the Tiwi Islands and Gunbalanya in Arnhem Land) are the subject of leasing negotiations (p. 18)
- Assisting to identify economic development opportunities (p. 18)

Indigenous Land Corporation

- ILC Response to the report tabled by the Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee following its inquiry into the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Amendment (A Stronger Land Account) Bill 2014, introduced into the Senate as a private senator's bill by Senator Rachel Siewert
- Purchase of the Ayers Rock Resort and servicing the ongoing debt as a result of the purchase (p. 20)
- Requests for investigation into the purchase of the resort and investigations to date (pp 20-21)
- Restructuring the debt (p. 23)

- Revenue and occupancy forecasts from the due diligence providers Grant Samuel in relation to the purchase of the resort (p. 23)
- Financing the purchase of the resort (p. 24)
- Geographic location of staff and ensuring efficiency (pp 24-26)
- Positions made redundant since 2013 and costs (p. 28)

Aboriginal Hostels Limited

- 71 per cent of staff are Indigenous (p. 29)
- The discontinuation of the Corporate and Community Partnerships Program, transitional arrangements and the Indigenous Advancement Strategy tender process (pp 29-31)

Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations

- Western Desert Lands Aboriginal Corporation examination process (p. 34)
- Prescribed Bodies Corporate – rules and accounting requirements (p. 35)

Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome 2- Indigenous

- Redundancies (pp 36-37)
- Remote Community Advancement Network – staffing, accommodation, and housing divestment strategy (pp 37-38)
- Indigenous recruitment and retention policy (pp 38-39)
- Indigenous Advancement Strategy (IAS) – additional funding allocation, processes for the grant funding round, and gap analysis (pp 39-46)
- Update on Remote Jobs and Communities Program reforms (pp 46-49)
- Indigenous Rangers Program (pp 49-50)
- Indigenous Protected Areas Program (pp 50-51)
- Learn Earn Legend! program and the reapplication process for existing service providers under the IAS (p. 51)
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Health Issues

Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet and Department of Health

- Indigenous Australian Health Program funding (pp 54-55)
- Funding of chronic disease measures (p. 55)
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- National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan (pp 57-59)

- Renal patient care (pp 59-60)
- Petrol sniffing – actions against retailers only stocking standard unleaded fuel under the *Low Aromatic Fuel Act 2013* (pp 60-61)
- Tackling Indigenous smoking measure – funding, review, redesigned program and staffing (pp 61-63)

Senator Cory Bernardi
Chair

Appendix 1

Departments and agencies under the Committee's oversight

Parliamentary Departments

- Department of the Senate
- Parliamentary Budget Office
- Department of Parliamentary Services

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

- Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
- Australian National Audit Office
- Australian Public Service Commission
- Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal (APSC secretariat)
- Independent National Security Legislation Monitor
- National Australia Day Council
- Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman
- Office of the Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security
- Office of National Assessments
- Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General
- Remuneration Tribunal (APSC secretariat)

Indigenous agencies

- Aboriginal Hostels Limited
- Aboriginal Land Commissioner
- Anindilyakwa Land Council
- Central Land Council
- Indigenous Business Australia
- Indigenous Land Corporation
- Northern Land Council
- Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations
- Office Township Leasing
- Outback Stores Pty Ltd
- Tiwi Land Council

- Torres Strait Regional Authority
- Wreck Bay Aboriginal Community Council

Finance Portfolio

- Department of Finance
- Australian Electoral Commission
- ComSuper
- Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation
- Future Fund Management Agency
- Australian River Co Ltd
- ASC Pty Ltd

Appendix 2

Tabled documents

Monday, 25 May 2015

Parliamentary departments

- Department of the Senate: Comcare Premiums 2004 to 2015
- Department of Parliamentary Services: Limro Cleaning Services Pty Ltd contract with Department of Parliamentary Services, Schedule 5, Paragraphs 2-4, Wages and Conditions

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

- Senator Cory Bernardi: Australian Council of Trade Unions Wages Report - June 2012, Community and Public Sector Union graphic regarding Department of Defence, Community and Public Sector Union flyer entitled 'EA stripped back to the bone'

Tuesday, 26 May 2015

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

- Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet: Organisational chart
- Senator Cory Bernardi: Document entitled 'Position Vacant - Australian Minister for Women'
- Senator the Hon Penny Wong: Article entitled 'Credlin slides back into box seat', Weekend Australian, 16 May 2016 p. 1
- Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet: Photographic equipment purchased for the Prime Minister's Office since 11 February 2014
- Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet: Press Release, President Françoise Hollande, 27 April 2015; Joint Statement Prime Minister of Australia and President of the French Republic, 28 April 2015
- Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet: Business Advisory Council membership

Wednesday, 27 May 2015

Finance Portfolio

- Senator the Hon Mathias Cormann: Australian Standard: Project performance measurement using Earned Value, AS 4817-2006
- Senator the Hon Mathias Cormann: Budget Treatment of Future Fund costs in the Australian Government Budget and Financial Documents

Thursday, 28 May 2015***Finance Portfolio***

- Department of Finance: Personal Classifications as at 1 May 2015; Establishment Variances – Government, 1 February to 1 May 2015; Personal Positions as at 1 May 2015
- Senator the Hon Michael Ronaldson: Article entitled 'Conroy and Wong lead the charge as Labor goes to war with itself', *The Australian*, 28 May 2015, p. 12

Friday, 29 May 2015***Cross Portfolio Indigenous Matters***

- Senator Nova Peris OAM: Letter from traditional landowners of Tiwi Islands to Tiwi Land Trust, concerning the consultation process related to a development proposal
- Tiwi Land Council: Extracts of articles from *The Tiwi - News for Traditional Owners*, a publication by the Tiwi Land Council
- Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet: Indigenous Advancement Strategy Grant Round - Organisations Recommended for Funding on 4 March 2015
- Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet: Tiwi Land Council membership