

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
 FINANCE PORTFOLIO

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
1	ASC Pty Ltd	General	Gallacher	Workforce Planning	<p>Mr Lamarre: The total workforce today, including contractors, subcontractors, ASC, employees, apprentices and so on are 1,543.</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: Can you break that down into permanent employees, apprentices, contractors and subcontractors?</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: There are 1,193 full-time employees and 345 contractors and subcontractors. Within the 1,193 permanents there are 25 apprentices.</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: How does my addition go? I have 1,569 and you have got 1,543.</p> <p>Mr Lamarre: Would you ask your question again?</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: At 28 February we had 1,231 and 338.</p> <p>Mr Lamarre: That must have been missing subcontractors at the time.</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: Are we going up or down? That is what I am trying to work out.</p> <p>Mr Lamarre: We have not gone up, no. The number you quoted earlier—1,200-and-some-odd—I do not believe included subcontractors. We today have 1,193, and so far this year we have had 53 employees laid off. Forty of those have been voluntary reductions.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: This is specifically on the AWD program? You are not asking about the ASC overall. Is that right? I am just clarifying here.</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: I am just trying to reconcile the figures. The earlier figures were 1,569, and the figures you have today are 1,543.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: But this is specifically in relation to the air warfare destroyer program, right? I am just making that very clear because there are, of course, also a large number of employees on the ASC submarine maintenance program.</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: We are talking about shipbuilding capacity, yes. We will work through that. You do not agree with the numbers you gave us in February?</p> <p>Mr Lamarre: No, actually I do agree with the numbers I gave you in February. As I stated earlier, it did not include subcontractors at least. We would have to get back to you on notice on the specific difference between now and then.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Pages 4, 5
2	Finance	2/2.1	Gallacher	ANI Assets and Liabilities	<p>Senator GALLACHER: What would be the current value of assets and liabilities held by Australian Naval Infrastructure Pty Ltd?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I suspect that might be commercial-in-confidence—this is consistent with what Senator Wong used to say when I asked questions about market values and the like. We will take it on notice and see to what extent we can assist you. There are clearly some commercial sensitivities here. We are also in the process of—</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: This is why we have estimates: to get the stuff that you do not put in your press releases or that we cannot read in the paper.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: It is written up as not for publication—for example, the volume and the value of the specific additional infrastructure investment—because there are some commercial negotiations that will have to happen in order to give effect to this. We do not want to weaken the position of the Commonwealth and we do not want to weaken the position for taxpayers in those negotiations. Page 10 Senate Wednesday, 24 May 2017</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: So your answer is that you do not want to weaken it or that you want to take it on notice?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We will take on notice—</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: The current value of assets and liabilities.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: to make a judgement on what we can sensibly provide you—in an abundance of helpfulness—but bearing in mind that there are some commercial sensitivities which are on the grounds of public interest immunity that has, of course, long been recognised by the Senate. There are some sensitivities, but we will give you as much as we can responsibly provide to you.</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: I am not sure how an asset, formally set up with liabilities and assets, can avoid reporting assets and liabilities to the taxpayer at some stage.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We will provide on notice what we can provide you.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: The subsequent question, which you will presumably take on notice, is: what does that include—the current value of the assets and liabilities?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: It will obviously be part of the answer.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Pages 9, 10, 18
3	ASC Pty Ltd	General	Xenophon	Unsolicited proposals to build	<p>Senator XENOPHON: Let us talk about something that was under your purview when you took office in September 2013. The</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
 FINANCE PORTFOLIO

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
				ships - ASC	<p>budget papers indicate that \$270 million will be spent this coming financial year on a supply ship being built in Spain, and we know that the ASC made an unsolicited proposal to do a hybrid build between the South Australian ASC shipyard and a Korean shipyard—three for the price of two. That is something you acknowledge the government did not take up even though the ASC clearly had the capability to have a significant amount of local build which could have arrested the valley of death we are now in.</p> <p>Senator Cormann:The truth is that, firstly, these sorts of procurement decisions—and the one you are now talking about—are Defence portfolio decisions.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We are here as the ASC, as potential suppliers, not as the part of government that makes procurement decisions. I again note that, unlike the previous government, we have committed to 54 ships being built in Australian yards—which is 54 more ships than the previous Labor government did over a six-year period.</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: We are dealing with job losses, and the budget papers indicate \$270 million will be spent in Spain on Spanish jobs to build a supply ship—when the ASC made an unsolicited proposal showing it had the capability to do a hybrid build with South Korea for that supply ship. Mr Lamarre, can you confirm that there was an unsolicited bid in relation to the supply ship?</p> <p>Mr Lamarre: I am sorry, I cannot. This was before my time, in 2014. . I believe we might have answered on notice at one point in the past, but I would be able to check the details.</p>	2017, F&PA Committee, Page 11
4	Finance	2/2.7	McAllister	Future Fund earnings – underlying table data	<p>Senator McALLISTER: These are from the budget pack, Minister?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: This is part of the presentation that the Treasurer and I made around the country after the budget. I am sharing that with you. That is something that we have presented around Australia at budget breakfasts and budget lunches. The next graph—</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Can I suggest, before we move on from this very helpful graph—</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I am always keen to be helpful.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: I know. Is the underlying data for these charts available?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I will have to take that on notice but am happy to see what we can do to assist you there.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: What is the assumption in these charts of the return for the department?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: What it says at the bottom in the note is that the liability matching charges assumes calibration of drawdown to match assets and liabilities. Once the target asset level has been reached—if you want to go into more specifics on it, as we have indicated before, we probably have to take that to Treasury in terms of their medium- and long-term forecasts, but given the conversation we had about the Future Fund earlier I thought that you would find this helpful. If we look at the gross and net debt chart—and I think this is a number that you have asked for—you see that in the 2017-18 budget the number is slightly above the 2016-17 MYEFO line, and principally that is because of our decision not to start the drawdown on the Future Fund from 2020-21, so there is an additional debt impact, which means there is an additional public debt interest impact, though that is more than covered by the expected additional earnings. The number that you are looking for, which I would like to think we will be providing on notice over the next few days, is the gap between the two lines.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Page 26
5	Future Fund Management Agency	General	McAllister	Hospitality Budget and Events - Future Fund	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Mr Mann, can you provide a breakdown of the hospitality budget for the Future Fund.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: In doing that, would you be able to itemise alcohol separately?</p> <p>Mr Mann: Sure.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Mr Mann: We had the 10-year anniversary dinner last December. That is the only one that comes to mind.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: What was the cost of the anniversary dinner?</p> <p>Mr Mann: We would need to take that on notice.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: That would be good. Could you also break down the events that took place, so that so that we</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Page 27, 28

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
 FINANCE PORTFOLIO

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
					understand when that hospitality was provided and for what purpose.	
6	Future Fund Management Agency	General	McAllister	Meetings with Government Ministers or their Officers – budget day	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Mr Mann, could I ask you to provide on notice any meetings which took place between either members of the board of the Future Fund or staff of the Future Fund with government ministers or their officers on budget day?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: On budget day? I can tell you now, as far as I am concerned, none.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: In relation to yourself.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: In relation to myself but in relation to everybody else, I will take that on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Page 29
7	CSC	General	McAllister	Pillar Administration – delayed payments	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Back to <i>The Canberra Times</i> again. On 9 May there was a report that thousands of public servants had not been paid their super on 9 March, 23 March or 6 April and that the money was not allocated until 10 April. That same media report says that Pillar Administration, who it said is contracted by you to manage the payments, is responsible for that. I wonder if you can explain why those payments were delayed.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: When were you first made aware that there was a problem?</p> <p>Mr Carrigy-Ryan: I will take that on notice and get back to you. My involvement with this issue is from March-April this year, but some of my people may have been advised that there were some issues of a more minor note of the same ilk earlier on, and I will need to check that out.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Yes. It is quite an important question. I am interested in understanding. There were three problems, on 9 March, 23 March and 6 April, and it is not resolved until 10 April. I am interested to understand when Pillar first uncovered the problem and when they advised you, and any actions that you subsequently undertook having been advised. For example—let's stick with your involvement rather than the involvement of your organisation—I think you said you were first advised in late March or early April?</p> <p>Mr Carrigy-Ryan: I would need to check my notes on that. What I have been getting for the last month or more is a daily report on the remediation of all of those. I have been in constant contact with the chief executive of Mercer in the Asia-Pacific on the issue. We have had numerous meetings with Pillar to remediate the issues, so there has been a lot of activity going on. I think I said to you before that, on the accounts, the position has been resolved. These issues have been resolved.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Did you advise the minister when you learned of the delayed accounts?</p> <p>Mr Carrigy-Ryan: Yes, we advised the minister. I cannot tell you the exact date.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I remember that I was advised. I will get the date.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Did you advise the members of the delay to their payments?</p> <p>Mr Carrigy-Ryan: Yes, there is material—there is advice that was put on the website. Again, I will get you the date that that was put on the website.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: You did not email them or anything?</p> <p>Mr Carrigy-Ryan: No, but I will find that out. You ask me. I have a lot of staff who deal with this. I also have an organisation that I am contracted with to find out. I will find it out. I cannot tell you off the top of my head.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Ms McNaughton, have you got any idea about whether anything—any communication in addition to placing a note on a website—was issued to members?</p> <p>Ms McNaughton: I would have to check. I cannot tell you off the top of my head.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We have already taken it on notice.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Okay. One of your spokespeople has said publicly that since transition there have been some issues allocating contribution payments to members' accounts. Have there been any issues other than the ones we have canvassed in the last few minutes?</p> <p>Mr Carrigy-Ryan: I will need to take that on notice and get back to you. Obviously you are talking about issues of major import. The only other issue that I am aware of—but I will check every issue for your edification—is in a few insurance premiums. There was some issue with a few insurance premiums and the correct deductions being made for that insurance premium. But I will get the detail and provide it to you.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Pages 35, 36, 37
8	Finance	1/1.1	McAllister	Wage Cost Indices	<p>Senator McALLISTER: So what is the forecast for public sector wage growth over the next two years?</p> <p>Dr Camilleri: We do not make a forecast for public sector wage growth. Agencies get their departmental funding. They are indexed by the WCIs, which are calculated as we have explained. How that is split between wage costs—wages and salaries—and other costs is up to the agencies. They just get one envelope.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Pages 46

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
 FINANCE PORTFOLIO

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
					<p>Senator McALLISTER: On notice could you provide a summary of each of the wage cost indices that are in use and how they are calculated?</p> <p>Dr Camilleri: Yes.</p>	
9	Finance	1/1.1	McAllister	2012-13 MYEFO Measures	<p>Senator McALLISTER: I just wondered about the status of some measures previously outlined in previous budgets and midyear forecasts. Can someone give me an update on the status of the 2012-13 MYEFO measure: private health insurance rebate—indexing the government's contribution.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: This is a 2012-13 MYEFO measure so that is a Gillard government measure.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: That is correct.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We will have to take that on notice. I do not have visibility of some of this.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: The revenue that came from that is still in the budget</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: It was implemented, I think.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Yes, it was.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We will take it on notice.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: What about the 2012-13 MYEFO measure: private health insurance rebate—removal of rebate on lifetime health cover loading?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I will take that on notice.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: What about the 2012-13 MYEFO measure: fringe benefits tax—removal of concessional treatment of in-house fringe benefits if accessed through a salary sacrifice arrangement?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We will take that on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Pages 48
10	Finance	1/1.1	McAllister	2013-14 Budget Measures	<p>Senator McALLISTER: In 2013-14, there was a budget measure; superannuation reforms—higher concessional contributions cap.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: That is obviously well and truly a Treasury responsibility, but I am happy to take that on notice in the spirit of helpfulness.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: That is exactly what I would like to do. Could you provide the status of the 2013-14 budget measure 'superannuation reforms, extending the normal deeming rules to new superannuation account based income streams'; the 2013-14 budget measure 'personal income tax, net medical expenses tax offset phase-out'; the 2013-14 budget measure 'excise and excise equivalent customs duty, index tobacco excise to average weekly ordinary time earnings'; the 2013-14 budget measure 'Medicare Benefits Schedule, realigning indexation with the financial year'; and the 2013-14 budget measure 'import processing charge, ensuring full cost recovery'. If we could get an update on the status of those measures.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We will, and we will also explain, as appropriate, what any revenue or savings have been allocated to, because one of the things that Labor did was allocate savings or revenue measures several times over. We will provide a comprehensive update for you</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Pages 48 and 49
11	Finance	2/2.5	Griff	Procurement	<p>Senator GRIFF: I would like to ask a question about the big four—not the big four banks but the big four consulting companies, those being Deloitte, Ernst & Young, KPMG and PricewaterhouseCoopers.</p> <p>Senator GRIFF: ...Can Finance, perhaps on notice, provide me with the total government money that went to these four companies over each of the past three financial years?</p> <p>Mr Sheridan: Yes, we can provide that information on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Pages 50
12	Finance	2/2.5	Griff	Procurement	<p>Senator GRIFF: Okay. The Commonwealth Procurement Rules recognise the need to level the playing field. Can you give me any sense of what Finance is doing in this space to encourage SME consultants?</p> <p>Mr Sheridan: SMEs are generally well represented in procurement statistics. Typically, in the order of 60 per cent of contracts by volume of the 70,000 we get each year go to SMEs. About 30 per cent by value, generally speaking, go to SMEs. In the context of smaller businesses, about 30 per cent by volume go to small businesses—that is, businesses with fewer than 20 employees—and about 10 per cent or 11 per cent by value go to those small businesses. Of the 10,000-odd or 11,000-odd</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Pages 50

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
 FINANCE PORTFOLIO

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
					<p>companies we deal with each year, probably about 8,500 are SMEs. So SMEs are well represented in Commonwealth procurement.</p> <p>Senator GRIFF: Would that be true of consultants?</p> <p>Mr Sheridan: I would have to check the extent that we would know that. I am not sure that we know, because of the way we get the information, what percentage of consultancy contracts go to SMEs. But we could take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator GRIFF: If you could take that on notice, even to determine spend over the last three financial years, it would be appreciated.</p>	
13	Finance	1/1.1	Gallagher	Budget Savings	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: In terms of achieving a surplus of one per cent of GDP, with the tax to GDP cap in place, what kind of savings or expenditure reductions would be required to achieve that surplus by 27-28—if you were to hit that one per cent?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: This is another one of those questions: 'Can you please deliver the 2018-19 or the 2019-20 budget for us now?' I am not in the position to deliver the 2018-19 or 2019-20 budget now. If I can refer you to the papers again; everything is openly and transparently set out in the budget papers. If you go to page 3-16, the second-last paragraph actually talks about the fact that:</p> <p>The medium-term projections indicate that although progress has already been made on the budget repair task, there is more work required in the future, noting that projections over the next ten years are subject to considerable uncertainty. It then refers to chart 2, which we have talked about. It says:</p> <p>The Government's budget repair strategy is designed to deliver sustainable budget surpluses building to at least one per cent of GDP as soon as possible, consistent with the objective of achieving surpluses on average over the course of the economic cycle. But 'more work has to be done', and that is of course a conversation that we will have in the context of future budget updates and budgets.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: So when you use the words, 'there is more work required in the future', are there any figures that underpin that line?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: The graph is there. And the graph shows you that we are getting to obviously a surplus by 20-21 and that is a surplus of 0.4 per cent as a share of GDP in 20-21. Incidentally, on net operating balance terms, by 20-21 we are projected to achieve a surplus of 0.8 per cent by 20-21. But that is just by the by. There is a gap between the projected surplus over the medium term and the one per cent target. That is there for everyone to see openly and transparently.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: And I am saying: do you have any idea what the savings required to achieve that would be, based on the modelling that you have available to you?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We have not released specific numbers in relation to this. But I can take on notice to see if we are able to assist you with that.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Pages 53
14	Finance	2/2.1	McAllister	Minister's Delegations under PGPA Rule 2014	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Have there been any changes to the minister's delegations under the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Rule 2014?</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: I might need some assistance with that. We do not believe so. Not that we are aware of.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We will check on notice and get back to it.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Pages 55
15	Finance	1/1.1	Gallagher	Net Debt since 2016 Election	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: Can I go now to a few questions around debt. I would like to start looking at net debt since the 2016 election. I am looking at Budget Paper No. 1, page 7-6.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Net debt is projected to peak in 2018-19, the year after next, at 19.8 per cent as a share of GDP.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: At \$375 billion—is that right?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: \$375 billion in dollar terms in 2018-19. It is projected to come down from 2018-19 onwards both in dollar terms and as a share of GDP. It is projected to reach 8.5 per cent as a share of GDP by the end of the medium term in 2027-28.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Is there a dollar figure for 2027-28?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: There is, but I might have to take that on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Pages 61
16	Finance	1/1.1	Gallagher	Debt Projections	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: That would be useful. The Pre-election Economic and Fiscal Outlook compared across 2016-17—although we are not doing that in this budget, are we? Even if you look at it from 2017-18 through 2018-19 to 2019-20, there has been a deterioration from what was published in the Pre-election Economic and Fiscal Outlook to the budget. Can you explain that? You are having to borrow more, and I just want to know why.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Pages 61, 62.

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
 FINANCE PORTFOLIO

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
					<p>Senator Cormann: To the extent that there is a deterioration, obviously we have previously reported some of that in the Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook in 2016-17. In this budget, one of the major decisions that we have made—and we discussed that earlier today—is that we would not start to draw down from the Future Fund, which impacts on the gross debt number. In terms of net debt, net debt is projected to continue to improve over the medium term, falling to around 8.5 per cent, as I have indicated. This is around 0.6 per cent of GDP lower than projected at the 2016-17 MYEFO.</p> <p>On this, I actually tabled a graph earlier which shows you both gross and net debt.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: I was not here for that session.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We went through that at that.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: You have done debt already, have you—with the Future Fund?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Related to the Future Fund, yes.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Okay.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Again, debt projections technically are a matter for Treasury. I do not have those graphs with me anymore. I am at a disadvantage.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: These ones? So in the 2018-19 year, between the PEFO and this budget, it looks to me like you are going to have to borrow \$18.4 billion more at budget time than you were estimating at the Pre-election Economic and Fiscal Outlook. So you think that is related to the Future Fund drawdown?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: No, the Future Fund impacts on gross debt. What I am saying to you is that compared to the expectations at MYEFO, which we worked through at the last estimates in February, the position over the medium term has actually improved, because we are now projected to reduce net debt as a share of GDP to 8.5 per cent by 2027-28, which is 0.6 per cent of GDP lower than we expected at the time of MYEFO. The graph that I previously tabled shows you how the net debt trajectory in the 2017-18 budget compares with the 2016-17 budget. It shows you that fundamentally. In terms of the specific reasons behind it, I refer you to fiscal—</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Could you take that on—</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I am happy to take it on notice.</p>	
17	Finance	2/2.1	McAllister	ARTC Budget Impact	<p>Senator McALLISTER: What is the cost of the project in total, from a departmental expense perspective?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: The departmental expenses are laid out on page 189. The total expense across both Finance and the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development is \$20 million in 2017-18—\$15.4 million, \$5.7 million and \$11.1 million are all the forwards—so that is just under \$60 million.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: My question is: does it have a budget impact beyond the forward estimates?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: You would expect that a project of this nature, which is not going to be completed over the period of the current forward estimates, will continue to require some involvement from both the finance department and the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development—although as you have previously noted, that involvement, in particular when it comes to Finance, is more substantial at the beginning and less as the project gets on track. Pardon the pun.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: What is the profile of the investment?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: You mean the equity investment?</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Yes.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Mr Edge might be able to assist you there, although I suspect some of those decisions—</p> <p>Mr Edge: No, we have not published it.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We will take it on notice to see if there is anything we can help you with.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Page 63.
18	Finance	2/2.1	McAllister	ARTC dividends	<p>Senator McALLISTER: You mentioned the need for the ARTC to borrow against its own balance sheet to pursue the project.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: And against the value of this asset that they are building.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: And against the value of the asset that they are building, and the equity injection that is being provided. Will the government provide any additional support to underwrite that borrowing in the form of a guarantee, a letter of comfort, or any other kind of support?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We have not made any such decisions. We have not made any decisions to do any of these things.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator Cormann: ... But our position at present is that we believe the project is fully funded on the back of a combination of \$8.4 billion worth of equity from the Commonwealth, further borrowings from access through the Australian Rail Track Corporation and a public-private sector funding component.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Page 67.

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
 FINANCE PORTFOLIO

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
					<p>Senator McALLISTER: And your view that it is fully funded through these three mechanisms is not contingent on the provision of further support of the kind I just described—</p> <p>Senator Cormann: No, that is right. Our view that this is the case is based on firm advice from the external consultants that provided us expert advice in relation to this project.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Who were they, by the way? I am sure this has been revealed previously, but—</p> <p>Senator Cormann: It is Macquarie.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Does this have an impact on ARTC's dividends to the Commonwealth?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Over time, it will improve them, I would expect.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: What is the profile of that? Do we have a projection for that?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I will have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Can you take it on notice in relation to the medium term as well as the forwards?</p>	
19	Finance	1/1.1	McAllister	National Rail Program	<p>Senator McALLISTER: ... Can we confirm the total funding for the National Rail Program that was announced in the budget.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Ten billion dollars.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: It is \$10 billion?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Yes.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: What is the time period over which the \$10 billion figure will be delivered?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: It has been allocated over the medium term, but, in the end, because this is infrastructure funding, these sorts of profiles—</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: So over the decade?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Yes, over the decade. These sorts of profiles can be adjusted depending on the speed with which projects come on stream. The decisions that we have made so far, bearing in mind that there has not been a specific decision in relation to a specific project, are indicative based on our expectations of when projects are likely to come on stream.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: So we do not know what projects they are but we think \$200 million of them will come on stream in 2019-20?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: That is an indicative expectation. We have a fair idea of projects that are in the pipeline around Australia and we have a fair expectation as to what projects might be submitted for consideration as part of this \$10 billion program. Many of them still have to go through the business case process, and obviously there is a timetable involved there.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Okay. Is it your expectation that the \$10 billion will be used for grants funding or do you envisage other mechanisms?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: This is an allocation for grant funding; this is not an equity allocation.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Loans?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: This particular program—</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: The \$10 billion program we are talking about here.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: This is a grants program.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: It is a grants program exclusively?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Yes, that is right.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Can you provide a year-by-year profile? Can you provide a profile of the \$10 billion as you modelled it? I appreciate that it is indicative. These things move around, as do all things, in the medium term.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I will take that on notice, yes.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: You cannot provide it now?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: No.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: You must have it with you.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Budgets are four-year programs and we are reviewing the four-year forward estimates. I will have to take it on notice if you want me to give you a profile over a ten-year period. Incidentally, I believe that Infrastructure took that on notice for precisely the same reason yesterday.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Page 67, 68.
20	Finance	2/2.1	Kitching	NBN Cash Flow	<p>Senator KITCHING: What was NBN's cash flow estimated to be in 2025?</p> <p>Mr Edge: I might have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: That would be great, thanks. What was NBN Co's EBITDA in 2025?</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Page 71.

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
 FINANCE PORTFOLIO

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
					Senator Cormann: We will take that on notice to see whether we can assist you with that.	
21	Finance	2/2.1	Kitching	NBN Capital Contingency Pool	<p>Senator KITCHING: How much funding does NBN have remaining in its capital contingency pool?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I will have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: We understand this pool is down to somewhere between \$1.5 and \$2 billion. Is that Finance's understanding?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: No. We will take that on notice. I am not going to provide commentary on understandings.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Page 73.
22	Finance	1/1.1	Gallagher	Higher Education	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: ... In terms of higher education, I will ask some questions around Budget Paper No. 2, pages 81 to 84. If we can get a bit more detail—I think this would probably have to be on notice—on the impact of each individual measure in the two higher education reform measures' descriptions, as there are outlined, in total and for each year of the forward estimates in fiscal balance and underlying cash. Shall I keep going? You have not told me no yet.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We will take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: You have not told me no. I am waiting for you to say no.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: If you want to have answers in the committee—it is an Education question. But if you want to put it on notice, it would be helpful, as always.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Okay, all right: the total savings arising from the efficiency dividend of 2½ per cent on the Commonwealth Grant Scheme for the years 2018 and 2019, the extension of the demand-driven funding system to sub-bachelor places, the cessation of loadings for enabling courses, the impact of moving New Zealanders and permanent residents from Commonwealth supported places to full fee places, changes to HELP repayments and indexation arrangements, cuts to the Commonwealth supported places for postgraduate students, measures associated with reform to the Higher Education Participation and Partnerships Program and extension of the Commonwealth support for work experience in industry units. That would be useful.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Okay.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Page 75, 76.
23	Finance	General	Gallagher	Labour Hire	<p>Senator KITCHING: I would like to ask about the Department of Finance's use of labour hire. Does the department use any labour hire companies to source departmental staff?</p> <p>Ms Hartland: Yes, we do, but in terms of the detail, I would have to take that notice.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Do you use labour hire agreements?</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: We might have to take that on notice. We talked before about the Service Delivery Office recently joining the department, so we just need to check with them.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: How long has the department used labour hire companies?</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: Can we answer that on notice, also?</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: On notice: how many staff are employed under those arrangements? Are they the only people working within the department under the labour hire agreement? How many staff are employed by the department as contractors?</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: The answer to that is 95.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Who authorised the use of labour hire companies?</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: Can we take all that on notice as a suite? I am not actually sure that we even use them, so who authorised them might be a bit premature.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: On notice: is the minister aware of the reliance on these labour hire arrangements?</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: To staff under these Labor hire arrangements receive as much training and security clearance as permanent staff?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: That is a question that assumes an answer to the first question, which we have taken on notice. So we will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: To staff under these arrangements receive the same pay and conditions as permanent staff?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: The same applies.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Do these temporary staff have access to the same systems and databases?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Why don't you just give us the whole list of questions and we provide answers to them on notice?</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Is this a concern from a security perspective? Does this impact productivity at the department, if staff employed by labour hire arrangements are unable to access the required resources to do their job? I will put those on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Page 76, 77.

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
 FINANCE PORTFOLIO

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
24	Finance	1/1.1.	Gallagher	Dividend Income Increases: Non-Taxation Revenue	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: In non-taxation revenue, the dividend income jumps in 2018-19 and 2019-20. I think there is a note that accompanies it—note 5. Could you explain that movement for me—the dividend income increasing?</p> <p>Dr Helgeby: Can we be clear which table and which numbers you are pointing to?</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: I am just trying to cross-reference it. In terms of the dividend income, I think note 5 shows increased dividends from other public sector entities in 2018-19 and 2019-20.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Actually, in 2018-19 and 2019-20 it is probably more consistent with 2016-17. It is a bit lower in 2017-18.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: This is what I am asking about, basically—the variation. And then it goes right down again in 2020-21.</p> <p>Mr Greenslade: I think the major driver of that would be dividends from the RBA, but I am not sure of the precise—</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Could you maybe come back to us on that?</p> <p>Mr Greenslade: I will take that on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Page 77, 78.
25	Finance	1/1.1.	McAllister	NDIS	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Similarly, can I ask why Finance loses money—if you go to page 153 in Budget Paper No. 2, it indicates that the department loses money for three years as part of the finalisation of transition arrangements.</p> <p>Mr Hunt: I can fill you in on that. It is due to the Western Australian National Disability Insurance Scheme and the changed arrangements, which change funding flows for the DisabilityCare Australia Fund, and there is a slight impact on reduced management fees.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: You might have to take a step back. So you were previously receiving management fees associated with the former arrangements?</p> <p>Mr Hunt: With the DisabilityCare Australia Fund, and we will continue to, but they are marginally reduced because of the change in the flows into and out of the DisabilityCare Australia Fund.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Because they are expressed as a proportion of flow?</p> <p>Mr Hunt: I am not exactly sure how they work, but I think they are a proportion of the funds.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Perhaps you could confirm that by the end of the night.</p> <p>Mr Hunt: We can provide that on notice.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Thank you.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Page 77, 78.
26	Finance	2/2.1.	Gallagher	Efficiency Savings	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: Ms Huxtable, just going back to the preface of Budget Paper No. 4, there are a series of questions I would like to ask. There is a paragraph on page 1 which says: ... the Smaller Government Agenda, Contestability, Operation Tetris, and the Efficiency Dividends have generated efficiencies of around \$7.6 billion in savings. I am just wondering—and I will accept taking it on notice—if those could be itemised for us.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Yes, we will take that on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Page 81.
27	Finance	2/2.1.	Gallagher	Contingency Reserves	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: Who has responsibility for the contingency reserve?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: It is part of the consolidated fund.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Treasury, ultimately.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: No, it is the budget. Finance and Treasury are jointly responsible for the budget papers, but it is not a specific allocation to a specific agency.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Is that going to continue? There has been \$48 million, I think, of the modernisation fund that has been allocated to the national institutions this year. I have just spent the morning talking to them about it. How much of the \$500 million modernisation fund has now been determined via various projects?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: All of it has been allocated.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: All of it has been allocated in this budget?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Yes. As of this budget, all of it has been allocated.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: That is those 4 dot points on page 2, is that right?</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: Yes, that is right.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: And they have been allocated over various years, depending on the nature of the project and its capital and operational requirement?</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: Yes, it is a three-year allocation to 2019-20. But, obviously, the profiles will vary depending on the projects.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: To put all that together, you would have to work through various agencies.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Page 83.

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
 FINANCE PORTFOLIO

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
					<p>Senator Cormann: If that is a way of asking the question, 'Can you give us a list of all of the measures that are funded out of this?' then that—</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: I will. If I cannot find it easily, yes, I will have someone else find it for me.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We will take that on notice. I am sure we can assist you with that. I remember seeing a list as part of the government deliberations, so it should not be hard for us to get back to you.</p>	
28	Finance	2/2.1	Gallagher	Modernisation Fund	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: The modernisation fund. Was there a standard set of criteria?</p> <p>Dr Helgeby: There were slightly different criteria for the two streams. The Transformation and Innovation Stream, which was the \$350 million stream, had to look at transformative potential: would it deliver something significantly different from what would have been the case in the absence of the investment; potential for collaboration; and ability to benefit across the APS. So, in general, it was about investments where there would be benefits beyond one agency into multiple agencies—not necessarily all entities, but across that. In the other stream, the \$150 million stream on sustainability, the focus was on sustainability and capacity, and, therefore, the key interest was whether an entity had a reform program or agenda, and how an investment would impact positively on that.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Okay. Who made the decisions? I presume there were more applications than there were funds available.</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: There were. There was an initial shortlisting process—an assessment of applications against the criteria. That was undertaken by a secretary's committee, comprising: myself; Mr Parkinson; Dr Bruniges from the education department; John Lloyd, the Australian Public Service Commissioner; and Ramez Katf, the Chief Information Officer from the ATO. The initial shortlisting process occurred, then those projects went through a further development, and then there was a second meeting and the outcome of the secretary's consideration was recommendations to government in respect of projects to be funded.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: And the government accepted 100 per cent of the recommendations that came out of that process.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: That is why you have secretaries, I guess, isn't it, to make those good decisions? Do you have a figure on what bids came in versus the resourcing available?</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: We might have to take that on notice; I cannot remember that off the top of my head.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Page 85.
29	Finance	1/1.1	Gallagher	Application of Decentralisation Criteria to APVMA	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: With the criteria that is listed on page 4—and I think you have referred to it as robust and structured—going on the first relocation to be implemented by this government, how would that criteria apply to the APVMA move?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: You are now going into the portfolio responsibilities of the minister for agriculture. But if you want me to take it on notice, I am happy to.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: If you could. My question is: apply the criteria that you have outlined in your statement, in your preface on budget paper No. 4, to the APVMA relocation and see whether it stacks up.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Sure.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: I honestly cannot see how it would meet any of those three criteria, but I remain to be persuaded by the good officers of Finance in their response.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Page 88.
30	Finance	2/2.1	Gallagher	Decentralisation agenda and scope	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: So the decision to have these plans and business cases returned by entities who are potentially going to be relocated was a cabinet decision as well?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: It is. That is right.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: It all went through. So, presumably, there was consultation with agencies, submissions, consideration of advice to ministers, discussions—</p> <p>Senator Cormann: It went through the appropriate process, yes.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Is there department in charge of it?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Well, the portfolio in charge is Infrastructure and Regional Development.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Okay, so they have overall carriage of it.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Yes, that is right. Our involvement is as I have previously outlined.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: And it is non-policy areas, so what is in scope and what is out of scope for this?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I think you are inviting us to pre-empt decisions here.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Well, you are saying it is only—</p> <p>Senator Cormann: That is right.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: It must be non-policy areas—must be exempt based on what you said.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Page 89.

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
 FINANCE PORTFOLIO

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
					<p>Senator Cormann: Yes. And we will take on notice to see whether we can provide you with a list of relevant examples.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Okay. Presumably, the exempt areas are not having to put together any advice to Senator Nash on how and whether they could move.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Areas that are clearly not suitable for this program.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Can you give me those?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I have already taken it on notice.</p>	
31	Finance	2/2.2	Gallagher	Functional and Efficiency Reviews	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: Will the government be releasing the functional and efficiency reviews, including those where the savings have been factored into the forward estimates?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: The functional and efficiency reviews?</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Yes.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: They are part of the deliberative cabinet process, and, consistent with the approach of all governments, we do not release deliberative cabinet documents.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Is there a way that you could identify that \$5 billion in savings without releasing the functional and efficiency review? What constitutes that figure?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I will take that on notice, and we will see what we can do.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Page 92.
32	Finance	1/1.1	McAllister	National Housing Financing and Investment Corp	<p>Senator McALLISTER: If it can be provided before we wrap up this estimates hearing, that would be terrific. We are here until tomorrow afternoon. Then on page 169, the establishment of the National Housing Financing and Investment Corporation—</p> <p>Senator Cormann: That is the Department of the Treasury, but go ahead.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Similarly, it is just about the treatment of whether it is expenditure or whether some of it is going to be—</p> <p>Senator Cormann: What is reflected here is expenditure, but the objective is to set up this corporation to operate an affordable housing bond aggregator. There will be a back end to this. But, like the funding here, that is funding to the Department of the Treasury for the purpose of establishing this corporation.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: What are they going to be doing with these resources? What is \$18 million going to be used for in 2020-21?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Treasury will be able to explain that to you in great detail.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Perhaps they will, but I am interested because the capital has been broken out in the next financial year at just \$4.8 million, but then you have this much larger sum going to Treasury as an expenditure item.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: This is going to the Treasury portfolio.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Yes, to the Treasury portfolio.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: The reason it has been allocated to the Treasury portfolio is in the context of, initially, the establishment and then the expected costs of operating the National Housing Finance and Investment Corporation so it can provide an affordable housing bond aggregator.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: So it is anticipated that that is actually the funding required for the operation of that entity rather than the funding required for the bond aggregation product?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: It is both. Treasury will be able to give you that detail. That is the allocation for this measure. How it is broken up between administration and program funding—Treasury will be able to explain that to you.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Are you able to provide the staffing allocation for that, though?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Yes, we will take that on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Page 98, 99.
33	Finance	1/1.1	Gallagher	Number of Green Briefs	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: Okay. How many green briefs, roughly, would be produced between MYEFO and the budget?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We will have to take it on notice. Obviously, you can say—</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: You are all laughing, so it is a lot.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: There are a couple of hundred budget measures—sorry?</p> <p>Unidentified speaker: Do you know it roughly?</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: I used the number last week, and I cannot remember what it is.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We will get it to you. It is obviously several hundred.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Page 104.
34	Finance	1/1.1	Gallagher	ERC Meeting numbers	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: How many Expenditure Review Committee meetings would normally be held, say, between MYEFO</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
 FINANCE PORTFOLIO

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
					and the budget— Senator Cormann: We will have to take that on notice. It is not generally the quantity of meetings but the time spent on individual meetings. Senator GALLAGHER: You can give me the hours spent as well, if you like.	2017, F&PA Committee, Page 105
35	Finance	1/1.1	McAllister	CBMS-R	Senator McALLISTER: In this period where this first module goes live, are you hoping to engage all agencies simultaneously? Do they all switch it on on 27 July and start entering their data? Mr Sheridan: Without getting into the very fine detail, we will open it initially for a small number of agencies for a short period to make sure those things work. Then we will open it for the rest of them. As you pointed out, there is a very limited time frame in order to do that work, so we cannot slow it down, particularly. Senator McALLISTER: Who is going first? Mr Sheridan: The department will and some other agencies. Senator McALLISTER: And you cannot nominate those for me here? Mr Sheridan: I would have to take that on notice.	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Page 109
36	Finance	2/2.1	McAllister	AusGov Boards	Senator McALLISTER: Great. How many staff are currently assigned to AusGovBoards? Mr Sheridan: A very small number. We would really need to take it on notice. Senator Cormann: We will take the specific number on notice. ...	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Page 111
37	Finance	2/2.1	McAllister	Vetting or Accuracy of AusGov Boards	Senator McALLISTER: On 20 March the member for Goldstein, Tim Wilson, was still listed on AusGovBoards as a member of the Human Rights Commission despite having resigned more than a year ago. Senator Wong asked the Attorney-General why that was the case. His answer, which was in Senate question on notice 417, said: 'The Department of finance maintains the ausgovboards.gov.au website. This, therefore, is a question for the Department of Finance.' Senator Cormann: Yes, it was all our fault. If there was an oversight, we apologise. I am sure it will have been fixed by now. Senator SMITH: Tim Wilson is hardly the shy, retiring sort. It would be very easy to find out where he went! Senator GALLAGHER: But is it? We have just heard that the information comes to Finance from the portfolio agencies. Does Finance have a vetting or accuracy check on information that is on AusGovBoards. Mr Sheridan, it seems to me that the description you have outlined is one of maintaining software, not content. Mr Sheridan: We maintain the platform. The information generally comes from agencies. In terms of when specific things occurred, I would need to check; I do not know particularly. In that particular instance, I do not know whether information was provided and when. Senator GALLAGHER: Could you follow that up for us? Mr Sheridan: Yes.	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Page 111
38	Finance	General	Gallagher	Shared Services Centre costs	Senator GALLAGHER: What was the operational budget for the shared services centre? It was cost recovery from the clients, wasn't it? Ms Huxtable: In respect of the period before we took responsibility for it, you would really need to ask the Department of Employment. Senator GALLAGHER: So you do not have any of that information? Ms Huxtable: I am not aware of that. We went through a machinery of government process in the normal way, where we negotiated with Employment and Education in respect of the functions to be transferred. We could provide information about that element and the cost of those. Senator GALLAGHER: That would be useful. Ms Huxtable: Can we take that on notice? I am not clear on that exactly. Obviously we have the ASL that we have discussed, and then there would be other supply costs in addition to that.	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 10
39	Finance	1/1.1	McAllister	Financial Framework	Senator McALLISTER: Honestly, I am actually asking for an explanation of what the checks and balances are, and if we could step through those— Senator Cormann: And I have just explained that to you. Senator McALLISTER: It does not provide the information I am looking for. If we could just step through the process, it	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 15, 16

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
 FINANCE PORTFOLIO

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
					<p>would be useful, because I do not understand how granular Finance is examining the expenditure of departments as they draw down on their appropriations.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: ...In terms of more discretionary spending, there are rules and protocols around the capacity for departments to move money between outcomes, for example. We can take on notice the detail of that, but there is some discretion within departments to move money within an outcome.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: I am interested in the department's role in all of this. The Department of Finance's strategic direction statement commences with the sentence: The key purpose of the Department ... is to support the Australian Government's ... objectives and public sector improvement, through responsible expenditure and oversight. I am trying to understand what oversight the department is actually providing. I understand that the Audit Office has an oversight role and that there are legislative constraints, but it strikes me that your function within this system is oversight. I am trying to understand how that is performed.</p> <p>Dr Helgeby: We take overall responsibility for the system within the framework—and what I mean by that is the elements of the system—within which the parliament, the government and the Constitution have authorised us to operate. At the end of the day, there are responsibilities in the system for agencies. There are responsibilities for the Department of Finance. Your question really is about, in one sense: what is the nature of the level of detail that you are wanting to explore? That will determine whether it is a question in the agencies or a question in Finance.</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: Just tell us what you do.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Yes, it is really about you.</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: To be honest here, I think we have answered a lot of the question to the best of our ability. We have said there are frameworks, rules, processes, roles and responsibilities. We can put that on notice into a framing piece, if you wish—if that would assist.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Actually, writing that down would be terrific, so let's agree that we will approach it that way.</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: I think you will find that the combination of all of those things—the purpose of that—is to precisely deliver the purpose statement as you read it.</p>	
40	Finance	1/1.1	McAllister	Movement of funds between programs	<p>Senator McALLISTER: I will move quite quickly through the remainder of questions around this issue. You mentioned earlier that agencies require ministerial approval to move funds between programs within a single budget year. What happens if an agency makes a decision to move funds between programs without approval? What are the consequences?</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: There are thresholds in which that operates. I can provide on notice exactly stepping out the thresholds. This will be a part of the engagement that the agency advice units have with the departments in terms of advising them of the thresholds of their responsibilities and the like, and ensuring that the appropriate approvals occur.</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 16
41	Finance	1/1.1	McAllister	Monthly Financial Statements	<p>Mr Greenslade: Yes. The production of the monthly financial statements is quite a tight process, not long after the end of the month. I think something like from the 10th to the 15th of the following month the agencies will put information into the system and we then will analyse that. We go through a consolidation process and bring all the agencies' data together. We have a target of getting that information to the Minister for Finance within 21 days, on average, after the end of the month.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: So the target is 21 days. Then how many days after that does the minister normally release it?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Normally by the end of the month. We can take it on notice to give you the past track record. From memory, I think that there is a period during the year when the release gets delayed. That is when you get close to the budget and budget updates.</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 16, 17
42	Finance	1/1.1	Gallagher	Snowy Hydro	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: ...What is the role for Finance? When did you become aware of the expansion? How did you become aware of the government's plans to expand the Snowy Hydro?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: This has just been part of the normal budget process. This was obviously one of the proposals that were considered by the government through the budget process. Finance provided the usual advice in the context of the budget process.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: I think PM&C in estimates confirmed that they became aware on 7 March.</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 17

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
 FINANCE PORTFOLIO

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
					Senator Cormann: We will have to take on notice specific dates. This has gone through the normal cabinet process. There were aspects of it that were considered by the energy subcommittee of the cabinet. Ultimately things were considered by the Expenditure Review and the cabinet as appropriate. But, in terms of specific dates, I would have to take that on notice.	
43	Finance	General	Cameron	Contractors	Senator CAMERON: Can you give me a breakdown of what companies you have engaged as contractors? Ms Hartland: I would have to take it on notice. Senator CAMERON: Can you give me details of the number of contractors, what area those contractors are engaged in, what contracting companies are supplying these contractors, and whether Plutus Payroll has a role in that engagement. ... Senator CAMERON: Ms Huxtable, how many of the contractors engaged in your department are here on what was 457 visas? Ms Hartland: We would have to take that on notice.	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 21, 32
44	Finance	General	Cameron	Cost-benefit of IT contractors	Senator CAMERON: I will just finish on this. Secretary, can you give us details of the cost-benefit analysis that you have looked at and done in relation to the use of IT contractors in your department? Ms Huxtable: We can take that on notice. But in terms of when we get more information about the contractors who we have used we can provide information on the assessment processes that were gone through to determine that that was an appropriate engagement.	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 33
45	Finance	2/2.5	Gallagher	Security Clearances	Senator GALLAGHER: Can government contracts require that the contractors already have security clearances? ... Senator GALLAGHER: We will come back to that, because I think it is an issue. Perhaps in the meantime Finance can get some guarantees that the procurement rules in this regard are being followed by agencies. Mr Sheridan: I am quite sure that the procurement framework is being followed by agencies in this regard, otherwise people would complain about it—in a formal sense—and those complaints would be dealt with. Senator GALLAGHER: You have not had complaints in this regard? Mr Sheridan: Not as the procurement coordinator. Senator GALLAGHER: Around security clearances specifically? Mr Sheridan: I do not believe I have had such complaints. I would need to take that on notice. But I do not believe there have been any in that regard.	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 34, 35
46	Finance	1/1.1	Gallagher	Streamlining Financial Statements	Senator GALLAGHER: The department has been streamlining its financial statements. ... Senator GALLAGHER: It is really about why this decision was made and what information has been omitted. I know there have been assurances that quality of information and transparency have not been jeopardised through this change, so it is a discussion around that. Dr Helgeby: There is an accounting standard that essentially tiers entities. So this is an entity-level issue and not a whole-of-government issue. It tiers entities and essentially says that if an entity does not undertake certain kinds of activities then it does not have to account as if it did undertake those activities. For example, if it did not undertake any work in financial instruments, it would not need to disclose that it does not undertake work in financial instruments. That is largely where the changes are. But for anyone who does undertake financial instruments they have to disclose them in full, as before, and at the whole-of-government level there is full disclosure. Senator GALLAGHER: When is this decision taken? Did you just automatically adopt the accounting standard? Dr Helgeby: That is right. We follow the accounting standards. Senator GALLAGHER: So it is not a decision outside of that? Dr Helgeby: That is right. The accounting standards move in a particular direction. Occasionally they give you options, but we follow the accounting standards. Senator GALLAGHER: I have been hit by accounting standards before! Could you take on notice to provide what information is no longer provided in the financial statements for Finance? Dr Helgeby: For the Department of Finance? Senator GALLAGHER: Yes. Dr Helgeby: Yes, we will take that on notice.	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 35, 36

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
 FINANCE PORTFOLIO

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
					<p>...</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: In terms of financial statements, this does then create differences across the agencies. How many tiers are there?</p> <p>Dr Helgeby: Two.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: So there are two different arrangements, depending on where you sit. In the annual report, I think there is a reference, in relation to the streamlined template, that 'the department is leading the way for the public sector'. Do you know what the references to?</p> <p>Dr Helgeby: Do you have a page number?</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: No, I don't. Perhaps if you could just take that on notice. I will try to get the page number for you. I will leave it there. I will try to find the page number, and perhaps you could just answer on notice on what 'leading the way for the public sector' means.</p>	
47	Finance	General	McAllister	Subscription to the Department of Finance website	<p>a)</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Does the website allow you to subscribe to receive updates on latest publications?</p> <p>Mr Sheridan: I would have to check that. I provide the platform rather than the site itself.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Is there anyone here who can help?</p> <p>Mr Sheridan: I could check very quickly.</p> <p>Ms Hartland: I am being told it does not. We will double-check.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: That is also my view. I was just checking whether I had got it wrong.</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: We will have to take it notice. ...</p> <p>b)</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Okay. So why would the Department of Finance construct a website that does not allow us to subscribe to information from the Department of Finance?</p> <p>Ms Hartland: I expect it is just a lag. We are currently looking at the website, both the intranet and the internet. I would have to take it on notice, because it might be part of a next process for it. I do not know.</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 36, 37
48	Finance	2/2.5	McAllister	Support for the Minister's Website	<p>Ms Hartland: I am being told we provide the platform for the minister's website.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Is that the govCMS platform?</p> <p>Mr Sheridan: I would need to take that on notice. I am not sure.</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 37
49	Finance	2/2.2	Gallagher	Red Tape Repeal	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: The last red tape repeal day was in 2015. I not that the Cutting Red Tape website has not been updated since March 2016, the Quit the Red Tape website I think was updated in December 2016.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: But this is in the Prime Minister's portfolio. This is PM&C.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: I was going to ask you as a member of the executive is the red tape repeal day still policy of the government.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: It is not in my area of portfolio responsibility. I will take it on notice and see whether I can assist you.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: On the previous red tape repeal bills, people did have to generate ideas through individual departments. My question is: does Finance have legislative drafting going on for a red tape repeal?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We have contributed to these processes from time to time as appropriate. I have already taken on notice that there is anything else I can add to that.</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 42
50	Finance	2/2.5	Gallagher	Value of Contracts on AusTender	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: ...What is the overall value of reported contracts on AusTender? What is the overall value of consultancy contracts on AusTender expressed as a dollar amount?</p> <p>...Also, what was the overall value of contracts on AusTender for each year from 2010-11 to this financial year?</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 44
51	Finance	2/2.5	McAllister	Secure mobile communications	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Have staff from many agencies registered for it?</p> <p>Mr Sheridan: I am concerned about the level of security involved. I would rather take that on notice, if we could.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Is the Prime Minister's office using the application?</p> <p>Mr Sheridan: I do not know directly, and I would rather take that on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 46

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
 FINANCE PORTFOLIO

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
52	Finance	2/2.5	McAllister	Ministerial Communications Interdepartmental Committee	<p>Mr Sheridan: Finance has a responsibility to provide the ministerial communications network. That includes mobile communications. The previous system was a 2G network solution, and in 2015, when the 2G network was closed down by suppliers, we were asked, in discussions between agencies, to see if we could provide an alternative solution, and we provided one at 'protected'.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: What is the forum in which these discussions take place? If you have got responsibility for providing the ministerial communications network, is there a governance body that sits over the top of that?</p> <p>Mr Sheridan: There is an interdepartmental committee, yes.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Who sits on that?</p> <p>Mr Sheridan: I am not sure of the security classification of some of those things, and I would like to take that on notice if I could, please.</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 46
53	Finance	2/2.2	Gallagher	Modernisation Fund	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: We did quite a bit of this last night with the modernisation fund, but I have a few follow-up questions around it which we did not get to last night. On BP2, at page 75, there is a mention of an additional 60 agencies consolidating their human resource systems into one of six corporate service hubs. Could I get a list of those 60 and—</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We took that on notice yesterday.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: What about the six corporate service hubs that are linked to these 60?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Somebody asked us yesterday.</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: I think I talked about it.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: The short answer is, yes, we will provide the details.</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 46-47
54	Finance	General	Gallagher	Behavioural Economics	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: I am not going to ask you about the project itself or the program, I am asking: do you have Finance staff working on behavioural economics?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We were been consulted as part of the exercise.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Which area of Finance was it?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Working on is different to being consulted on. Working on implies—</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Who is being consulted? What area of Finance?</p> <p>Dr Helgeby: I think it is fairly wide. For example, in my area, there would have been some discussions.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: So it would be in your area?</p> <p>Dr Helgeby: They are the ones I am aware of. Whether or not they consulted other areas—</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Why do we not take it on notice whether we can give you some more detail on that.</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 48
55	Finance	1/1.1	Gallagher	Reduction of departmental expenses	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: ...I refer to BP 4, page 4 under the heading An efficient and responsive government is a paragraph that states: ... departmental expenses ... as a proportion of total GGS expenses decreased from 8.5 per cent in 2007-08 to 7.1 per cent in 2015-16, and is expected to further decrease over the current budget and forward estimates period to 5.6 per cent by 2020-21.</p> <p>Does that include the savings which, I think, you have taken on notice to come back to me on?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: This reflects everything that is part of the budget forecast—anything reflected in the 2017-18 budget estimates.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: So it is the efficiency dividend?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Every policy position as at budget 2017-18 is reflected in that graph.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Can you identify the various cost centres which deliver this reduction in departmental expenses as a proportion of government expenses, identified—</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We will have to take it on notice to assess how we can best assist you there. That is not a straightforward question.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: You will take that on notice?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Yes.</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 48-49
56	Finance	1/1.1	Gallagher	Total savings in government expenses	<p>Senator Cormann: That is right. This is departmental expenses as a percentage of total government expenses. What this really shows is that the proportion of government administration costs, as a proportion of overall government expenditure, is becoming less. So our administration is getting more efficient and lower in cost, as a proportion of overall expenditure.</p> <p>...</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 49

**FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
FINANCE PORTFOLIO**

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
					<p>Senator GALLAGHER: Surely you have booked the savings across that period of time, particularly in this budget, across the forward estimates, and I am asking: what is the dollar value of that?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: And we have taken that on notice.</p>	
57	Finance	1/1.1	Gallagher	Sunset dates for new Commonwealth Bodies	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: There is a sentence which talks about the Commonwealth governance policy requiring sunset or review dates to be set for the creation of new Commonwealth bodies. So I am asking: who is captured by that statement—what agencies?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We will have to take on notice any examples, but the government's policy, as part of our smaller government agenda, is that that is the standard that ought to be applied. But we will take on notice which new bodies are captured by that.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: And also when their sunset or review dates come up?</p> <p>Dr Helgeby: On the Finance website there is a thing called the Australian Government Organisations Register, and it provides searchable information about individual entities which does include sunset dates, where those are known.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Can you search on the basis of whether or not an entity has a sunset date?</p> <p>Dr Helgeby: That is probably beyond my—</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: My guess is that you cannot, but—</p> <p>Dr Helgeby: I will take that one on notice. I will have to go and have a look at it.</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 50
58	Finance	2/2.1	Gallagher	Cost of review of new Commonwealth bodies	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: That is what it says in the budget document, yes. Could you also, on notice, provide me with any costs of the review and assessment of new Commonwealth bodies—if there are any; there may not be.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We will take that on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 51
59	Finance	1/1.1	Gallagher	Costing of APVMA's IT upgrade	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: On that, as part of the APVMA's move there was an allocation in the budget of almost \$30 million. It might have been in the MYEFO. APVMA were due to come back with a measure to support the significant IT upgrade that is required to assist their relocation. Has finance been involved in costing that measure?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We will have to take that on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 55
60	Finance	General	Kitching	Commission of Audit recommendations	<p>Senator KITCHING: Could I ask about the Commission of Audit. Obviously, that ceased in March 2014, but are any of the recommendations still being implemented?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: If there is anything being implemented, would you be able to list what is?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Obviously, it is a matter of looking back at the recommendations and matching that up with government policy. I have taken it on notice.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Are any recommendations still under consideration?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: It is the same question.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Not being implemented but under consideration—it is just broader.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: I am asking you to take it on notice, look at the Commission of Audit report and then see whether there have been any changes in the position of the government in relation to any of the recommendations that report outlines.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We will see what we can do—</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 55 - 56
61	Finance	2/2.1	Kitching	New entities	<p>Senator KITCHING: On smaller government, have there been any new entities created this budget?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We will have to take that on notice. The short answer is yes. For example, the Regional Investment Corporation is one example; there would be others.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: I am happy for you to take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: The Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority is another example. So why don't I assist you by taking it on notice and provide you with a list.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Could you also do that for the last budget?</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 56
62	Finance	1/1.1	Kitching	ASL offsets	<p>Senator Cormann: The way this works—and we had this discussion yesterday—is that the government has a commitment to keep the overall non-Defence ASL at or below 2006 or 2007 levels. We manage that across the whole of the Public Service</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee,

**FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
FINANCE PORTFOLIO**

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
					based on government priorities. There is an offset rule in place. If an agency wants to engage in a new activity, in the first instance the request is for them to seek to do that by reprioritising within existing resources, essentially providing ASL offsets, in order to undertake that additional work. On some occasions, that is not possible, and in that context there is a process in place where agencies can apply for dispensation from the offset rule, but across the whole of the government in aggregate we certainly manage things such that we can continue to maintain our commitment in relation to overall non-Defence ASL numbers. Senator KITCHING: Which agencies have applied to have dispensation? Senator Cormann: This is part of the deliberative processes of cabinet. I will take it on notice and assess to what extent we might be able to assist you, but it is something that is part of the cabinet-in-confidence budget process.	page 56-57
63	Finance	General	Kitching	APS Media Monitoring costs	Senator KITCHING: The QON numbers are F63 and F87. In response to the QON, the department revealed it spent about another \$164,000 from October to February, on top of the nearly \$379,000 on media monitoring services between 1 January 2016 and 18 October 2016—that is in F63. Do you know how much is spent on these services across the Public Service? Senator Cormann: We will have to take that on notice.	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 57
64	Finance	General	Kitching	Media Monitoring - duplication	Senator KITCHING: I agree with you. Is there any duplication of media monitoring undertaken by the Department of Finance compared to the parliamentary departments or the Department of the Treasury? Ms Huxtable: I think we would have to take that on notice. We would not know what their search criteria were or the like.	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 57
65	Finance	General	Kitching	Media Monitoring – keyword search	Ms Hartland: That is right. As the secretary said, it is through Isentia, which I think most organisations probably use. Yes, it is based on a number of keywords. For a central department like this, where you range across a whole range of areas, the number of keywords that we have is probably larger than for some other departments as well. Senator KITCHING: Is it possible to get the keyword searches? Senator Cormann: We will take that on notice and see whether we can.	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 57
66	Finance	2/2.1	Gallagher	ASIC registry scoping study	Senator GALLAGHER: All right. Have you released the total cost of the ASIC registry scoping study? Senator Cormann: It was published on AusTender. Senator GALLAGHER: The total cost? Senator Cormann: Yes. We have previously answered questions on this several times, but I will take it on notice again, and we will provide it on notice again.	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 59-60
67	Finance	2/2.2	Gallagher	Modernisation Fund - bids	Senator GALLAGHER: That was going to be my next question. I think in response to a previous question on notice you have answered that an IT upgrade could be in the order of \$100 million. There is nowhere in this budget that that is dealt with? Senator Cormann: No. In this budget, we have not made a decision in relation to an additional investment in ASIC registry IT infrastructure, but obviously this is now something that we will have to consider into the future. Senator GALLAGHER: Okay. Were they eligible to put in a bid for the modernisation fund? Ms Huxtable: We can take that on notice. Senator GALLAGHER: Okay, you can take that on notice.	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 59-60
68	Finance	2/2.1	McAllister	Australian Hearing – scoping study cost and departmental resources	Senator McALLISTER: I understand that the government has announced that it will retain ownership of Australian Hearing. However, over successive estimates hearings, we have been awaiting the outcomes of a prolonged process of deliberation about the ownership arrangements for Australian Hearing. Can I get the total cost of the scoping studies that were undertaken to review the ownership arrangements for Australian Hearing. Senator Cormann: Again, in terms of the cost of the scoping study, that was something that, of course, was published before on AusTender and has previously been published. I will take that on notice in terms of providing that information again. . On what we have done over the past year—or a bit more than a year, I think it started in February—I am just going to go through my website. In February 2016 I announced that the government would be going through an evaluation process, because we had received an unsolicited approach from a consortium led by the Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children alongside Cochlear Ltd and Macquarie University with a proposal for the transfer for Australian Hearing into non-government ownership—to them. We have worked with them over an extended period, but in the end the consortium decided not to proceed. ... Senator McALLISTER: ...Are you able to provide an estimate of what departmental resources have been allocated to this	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 60-61

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
 FINANCE PORTFOLIO

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
					process? Senator Cormann: I will take that on notice.	
69	Finance	2/2.2	McAllister	Digital Transformation Agency – departmental expenses	<p>a)</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Just to come back around—I am sorry to keep doing this—to DTA, I notice that, on page 27 of the portfolio budget statement, the Digital Transformation Agenda is listed as a departmental expense for Finance. Can anyone explain why it is listed there? It is under program 2.5.</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: We might have to take that on notice. I understand the chief financial officer is unwell and has had to go home, so perhaps we could take that on notice. I do not immediately know the answer to that.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: I will spell out what am interested in so that in taking the question on notice you may be able to address these issues also. It is listed as the Digital Transformation Agenda. I think that we have previously been advised that the Digital Transformation Agenda is the responsibility of Prime Minister and Cabinet.</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: It is.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: The agency, yes.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Are the agency and the agenda the same thing?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: The agenda goes across the government, and the agency is the agency.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Is the agency responsible for the agenda?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: The agency is the lead agency in driving the agenda across the whole of the government, but there are some transitional arrangements, obviously, in terms of the machinery of government related changes that have involved transferring some of the responsibilities from Finance to the Digital Transformation Agency.</p> <p>b)</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: ... I would like to understand which minister is responsible for oversight of expenditure—whether it is the Minister for Finance or Minister Taylor or the Prime Minister himself—given that the agenda is the responsibility of the DTA and, as we have been previously advised, the DTA is accountable to Minister Taylor and the Prime Minister. I am just interested in what role Minister Cormann is playing in the delivery of this and what oversight he has in practical terms over this expenditure.</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: We will take that on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 61
70	Finance	2/2.3	McAllister	Lodge renovations	<p>Senator McALLISTER: In previous estimates we have discussed The Lodge renovations, and I want to check on the status of that. Have any additional changes, modifications or renovations been required in The Lodge since the Prime Minister moved into the building in January 2016?</p> <p>Ms Hall: I do not have with me the detail of any of the works undertaken since the current Prime Minister moved into The Lodge. There have been a number of ongoing maintenance works, but I am happy to provide that on notice to give you an accurate answer.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Can I confirm the final cost of the renovations?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We will take it on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 61-62
71	Finance	2/2.3	Gallagher	John Gorton Building Upgrade	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: Do you know: any updated costs on the project to date, what the likely completion date is and any changes that have been made to the original project plan?</p> <p>Ms Hall: I have not got the cost to date with me, but we can probably trying to get that before the end of the session.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Have there been any variations to the original project plan?</p> <p>Ms Hall: I would have to take the detail of contract variations on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 66
72	Finance	2/2.5	McAllister	Whole-of-government travel costs	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Is it possible to update the committee on the whole-of-government travel bill to date for this financial year?</p> <p>Mr Sheridan: I would have to take that on notice because I do not have that figure. We usually do this at the end of the financial year, so I do not have a figure for the financial year to date. I would need to take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: In doing that, can you please—on notice—provide a breakdown by portfolio and then by agency of the total travel spend.</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 66-67

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
 FINANCE PORTFOLIO

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
				 Senator McALLISTER: I see. That is useful. Could I ask on notice—and I appreciate that this is not something that you can provide now—to have a total cost of travel across government, including costs associated with flights, accommodation and car hire for each financial year from 2013-14 onwards? Mr Sheridan: Would it be okay to say 'limited to those three things', because they are the ones we have centrally? We do not have anything else, just those three. Senator McALLISTER: Thank you.	
73	Finance	2/2.5	Rhiannon	Whole of government travel - flights to Christmas Island, Papua New Guinea and Nauru	Senator RHIANNON: I have some questions about travel expenses. Department of Finance figures show the bill for the whole-of-government travel system totalled a bit over \$420 million. Senator RHIANNON: How much was spent on flights to Christmas Island, PNG and Nauru? Senator Cormann: We will have to take that on notice.	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 68
74	Finance	2/2.5	Rhiannon	Travel patterns	Senator RHIANNON: ... 'Is it correct that the department receives report on travel patterns, and if that is the case, can they be released?' Mr Sheridan: We do not receive reports on travel patterns; we receive all the travel data. That is where that \$427 million figure came from. We have all the flight data. Senator RHIANNON: In that is it collated that there were so many trips to this destination, as well as the amounts? Mr Sheridan: It can be collated. Senator RHIANNON: Has it been collated? Mr Sheridan: Not in the normal context. We would normally do that in the context of an approach to market where we want to establish with providers a particular way of doing something. Senator RHIANNON: Can that data be released to the committee? Senator Cormann: We will take on notice and assess what we can sensibly release without an excessive diversion of resources. We will consider what we can sensibly provide?	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 68
75	Finance	2/2.5	Kitching	GBE access to whole-of-government travel arrangements	Senator KITCHING: I just want to clarify: if any government-owned business accesses the whole-of-government travel arrangements, do they pay a fee for that, or is it just accepted that they can? Is it just an option that they have? Mr Edge: Mr Sheridan might have a little more detail, but they would access the arrangement on the same basis as any of the other Commonwealth agencies, I would imagine. Mr Sheridan: I would have to take on notice whether any of them do and what the arrangements are. I am not sure.	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 69
76	Finance	2/2.5	Kitching	Copy Paper	Senator KITCHING: Are you aware of any other Commonwealth departments or agencies that have recently switched to Australian-made copy paper? Mr Sheridan: I would have to take that on notice.	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 72
77	Finance	2/2.5	Kitching	Economic Benefits	Senator KITCHING: I want to ask about 10.30, the new economic benefit test. Since 1 March, how many procurement arrangements above the \$4 million threshold have been considered using the new economic benefit test that was legislated last November? Mr Sheridan: I do not know the answer to that. Senator KITCHING: I am happy for you to take it on notice. Mr Sheridan: I am not sure that I could give you a sensible answer anyway. Senator Cormann: On notice we will assess to what extent we can, and if we cannot we will explain why we cannot. Senator KITCHING: I am happy to ask again at the next estimates. Could you find out in the meantime if there have been any of those arrangements arrived at under that new test? Have any other procurement arrangements not proceeded because they did not meet the economic test of the new procurement rules? Senator Cormann: That goes to the same issue. We will take it on notice. Senator KITCHING: Have any procurement arrangements that did not meet the economic benefit assessments been subsequently reassessed or retested with modifications? Senator Cormann: We will add that to the list. Senator KITCHING: Have any that did not pass the economic assessment subsequently re-enter the procurement process with	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 72-73

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
 FINANCE PORTFOLIO

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
					<p>contracts for less than \$4 million? Senator Cormann: The same. Senator KITCHING: How are agencies assessing economic value? I am happy for you to take that on notice. What guidelines are they using? Senator Cormann: The guidelines would be the Commonwealth Procurement Rules as amended. The revised rules came into effect on 1 March 2017. They are public—they are on our website. I think I tabled them in the Senate during the debate towards the end of last year. The guidance is published, too. Senator KITCHING: What I would really like to know, I guess, is what economic value has been created. I realise that it is quite early on, but what economic benefit has been created? Senator Cormann: Essentially, it is less than three months since the revised Commonwealth Procurement Rules have come into effect. Senator KITCHING: I understand that it is early. Senator Cormann: We will see what we can do to assist, but it might be that we have to revisit this down the track.</p>	
78	Finance	2/2.5	Kitching	Small Business Procurement	<p>Senator KITCHING: I am happy for you to take these on notice as well. In relation to small business, can you outline what the government's procurement policies are for small business? I assume they are on a website. Senator Cormann: We will see what we can do. Senator KITCHING: Is there any support given to small businesses to apply for government contracts? Senator Cormann: Those are probably things that go beyond Finance, but we will take it on notice. Senator KITCHING: Why has the proportion of government contracts being awarded to SMEs fallen? Senator Cormann: I am not sure that I accept that proposition. Mr Sheridan: The percentage changes from year to year, and it is affected greatly by the small numbers of very expensive contracts that might be above those margins. If in a particular year we get an \$8 billion contract or at \$10 billion contract, that can significantly change the percentage just that year. Senator Cormann: So the outcome can be distorted from year to year because of one-off events. Senator KITCHING: In 2011-2012, for example, it was 39 per cent, but in 2015-2016 it was 24 per cent. But it may just depend on what is being procured in a particular financial year. Senator Cormann: That is right. Senator KITCHING: If you can, would you be able to have a look at that and see whether there were any factors that skewed those percentages? Ms Huxtable: We will do what we can. Senator KITCHING: Would you be able to provide on notice for the period 2007-2008 through to 2015-2016 the numbers and percentages of contracts awarded to SMEs and the numbers and percentage of contracts awarded to small enterprises? Senator Cormann: We can do that.</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 73
79	Finance	2/2.5	Farrell	Tax Integrity Public Information Campaign	<p>Senator FARRELL: Okay. I have some questions about the tax integrity public information campaign. The government has provided \$8.1 million in the budget—and I will quote from the budget—'to communicate the government's key tax integrity measures' and 'demonstrate Australia's international leadership in addressing multinational tax avoidance'. My first question, Ms Powell, is: will this campaign be processed through the Independent Communications Committee? ... Senator FARRELL: Has that particular campaign, the one I referred to, come to the committee yet? Ms Powell: Yes, it has. Senator FARRELL: So you would have, in your files, the target audience? Ms Powell: We would have that detail. Senator FARRELL: Okay. Ms Powell: We can provide on notice the detail that was provided to the ICC. The most up-to-date detail would be better.</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 77
80	Finance	2/2.5	Farrell	Cabinet Service Delivery and Coordination Committee	<p>Senator FARRELL: I understand that in addition to the Independent Communications Committee there is a cabinet Service Delivery and Coordination Committee that oversees government advertising. Is that correct? Senator Ryan: If you put your questions on notice, I will get them answered through PM&C, because all cabinet procedural questions, within the rules of what is disclosed and otherwise, are the responsibility of Prime Minister and Cabinet. I am happy</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 79

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
 FINANCE PORTFOLIO

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
					<p>to take the questions on notice.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Okay. My first question, then, is: is there a cabinet Service Delivery and Coordination Committee that oversees government advertising? Is that correct?</p> <p>Senator Ryan: I am happy to take—</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: No, I understand: you will take it on notice.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator McKENZIE: The committee is taking on notice whether it exists.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Yes.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: I have been here a while with Senator McKenzie, and she knows that to be true. In May 2016, Senator Cormann said it was chaired by Christopher Pyne. Can you tell us why the chair was changed? My next question is: when did the chair of this committee change? Did Minister Pyne resign from that position voluntarily? Minister Dutton has said that people should not read news from certain news outlets. Is this the sort of person who should be leading the government's advertising campaign? Do you believe the bias of the minister is an issue? And finally, Minister Dutton said that Fairfax was waging a jihad on the government. Do you think that sort of mentality is appropriate to a person leading the government's advertising campaign? That completes my list of questions on notice, and that completes my questions on the current outcome.</p>	
81	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell	MOP(S) Staff Salaries	<p>Senator FARRELL: I thank the minister for providing the breakdown of each classification. I would like to clarify whether all MOP(S) Act staff are paid according to the published salary bands</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Do you know how many people are paid outside the provisions of the agreement?</p> <p>Mr Ford: We will take that on notice, Senator.</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 81
82	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell	Remuneration – Prime Minister's Chief of Staff	<p>Senator FARRELL: There was a report in <i>The Australian</i> on 23 November last year that said Mr Turnbull was paying Mr Clarke a salary of \$691,200. Is that correct?</p> <p>Senator Ryan: Generally in this committee we have not answered questions about the salaries of individual staff members. We have not confirmed or denied salaries or done anything to identify what individuals were paid.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator Ryan: I will take it on notice to look at past practice and what the various rules are regarding this. I have given some thought to it when I have received questions on notice in this area.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: I just want truthful answers. That is all I ask and expect from the minister and I am sure that you will give me those. Mr Clarke's salary appears to \$430,000 above the highest salary provided under the enterprise agreement covering staff. Firstly, is t the case? If it is the case, why? We are also advised that the former Prime Minister's chief of staff, Peta Credlin, earned \$394,487 as chief of staff to the Prime Minister. Is that accurate? How did Mr Clarke get a \$300,000 pay rise for the same job that Ms Credlin was doing? What was the rationale behind the difference in payment? What was the justification? Did Mr Clarke work longer hours than Ms Credlin? Did he have a different set of, say, key performance indicators to Ms Credlin? Was he more qualified than Ms Credlin for the role? On what date did Mr Clarke start receiving the annual salary of \$691,200? It is an unusual figure to pick and, if it were to be the case, I am wondering whether it was the same salary that he might have been earning as the chief of the communications department. Is that true? When was the Department of Finance first alerted to the fact that Mr Turnbull wanted Mr Clarke to receive a \$300,000 pay rise on top of the salary of the previous chief of staff? For clarity, was this request made when he assumed the role of acting chief of staff or did it begin when he was appointed in November 2015? Did the Prime Minister personally contact the department about this matter? If the answer to that question is yes, is this a common practice? Did Mr Clarke make his own representations to Finance about his pay rise? Again, if the answer to this question is yes, is that a usual set of circumstances? If the answer to both of those last two questions was no, if it was not Mr Clarke or Mr Turnbull who sought the pay rise, who was it? Are there any records of emails, memos or phone calls about the pay rise? If yes, can copies be provided?</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: It was quoting your Prime Minister, and your Prime Minister said: Mr Clarke's remuneration had been a matter of public record.</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 81, 82, 83, 90

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
 FINANCE PORTFOLIO

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
					<p>Can you tell us where on the public record— Senator Ryan: If you can provide a copy of the article, I will take that on notice as well and add it to the other questions.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Thank you, Chair, for allowing us to circulate this report which I will now refer to. You can see there that it says: Responding to criticism from Ms Credlin, Mr Turnbull yesterday said Mr Clarke’s remuneration had been a matter of public record. It is in the third paragraph there. Can you please advise us where the information is on the public record? ... Senator FARRELL: ... I understand the Prime Minister has a new chief of staff by the name of Greg Moriarty. ... Senator FARRELL: Can you advise us what his total remuneration is? Senator Ryan: I will take that on notice, but probably, for the same reason as before: I generally have not provided remuneration advice regarding individual staff. I will take it on notice, and if there is a precedent— ... Senator FARRELL: We tried to get some answers from his department and they referred us to you. We are not getting very many answers, but we live in hope. Given that you have taken the matter on notice, Minister, can I ask you to take a few other issues in relation to this on notice, if you are happy to provide them. Does his total remuneration include allowances or any additional salary provided by any other department? If so, what allowances does Mr Moriarty receive? If that is not the case, is he being paid more or less than Mr Clarke? Does Finance know the salary of the highest ranking staff member in the government, and, in relation to that, are there any other employees of Senator Cormann's office on salaries outside the normal pay bands that apply to ministerial and personal staff? Are there any other staff, including chiefs of staff, that are paid above the published bands for ministerial staff? If the answer to either of those questions is yes, how many staff, and what are they being paid? Is this normal practice now for ministerial staff to be paid outside the bands? How many ministerial staff are now paid outside the band, and where are they located?</p>	
83	Finance	3/3.1	Watt	Printing and Communication Expenses – James Ashby	<p>Senator WATT: The questions I had related to some media reports about taxpayer funding that had been paid to either Mr James Ashby or companies under his control—I think his personal companies—for printing and communication expenses. ... Senator WATT: No, but there have been a lot over the last few weeks. What has your department done to ensure that those claims by Mr Ashby are correct and that he is not, in fact, profiteering out of this? ... Senator WATT: In light of the revelations we have heard this week, those recordings, could I ask your department to review those invoices? I understand that, if it were across the board and across every single invoice, that would be a massive amount of work. But, given we have heard these recordings now, I wonder whether it would be wise to ensure that Mr Ashby's claims are true? Senator Ryan: The best we can do is take your question on notice—noting that I am not sure if the department has the expertise or capacity to answer the question.</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 87-88
84	Finance	3/3.1	Watt	Investigation of certifications from Senators or Members	<p>Senator WATT: Have there been instances in the past where certifications from senators or members have been investigated? I am new here, but I imagine there would have been. Ms Hartland: I will take that on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 88
85	Finance	3/3.1	McAllister	Remuneration - Prime Minister’s Chief of Staff	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Before we go on, Senator Farrell, can I ask a follow-up question? Minister Ryan, you have indicated that you will take the request for the dollar figure of Mr Moriarty's salary on notice so that you can review the privacy concerns associated with the release of that information. Can I ask you, though: is Mr Moriarty being paid within the ordinary pay scale that is ordinarily applied to staff within the Prime Minister's office or is he being paid, as was the previous chief of staff, on a special arrangement? Senator Ryan: I genuinely do not know. I will take that on notice. ...</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 90-92

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
 FINANCE PORTFOLIO

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
					<p>Senator McALLISTER: I am asking a separate question, which is about the level of knowledge of the department. Is the department aware of whether or not the band system is being applied in the case of the Prime Minister's chief of staff? I am not asking them to give us the answer, whether it is or is not; I am asking: does the department know? Is this knowledge held by the department?</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: It is not information that I have.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: How can that possibly be the case?</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: It is the case. It is not information that I have.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: So the department which oversees ministerial and parliamentary services and ministerial staff, on an evening set aside to discuss ministerial staff, is unable to tell us whether or not they hold this information?</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: The minister has taken the question on notice, and we will see what we have and what is able to be provided.</p>	
86	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell	MOP(S) Salaries	<p>Senator FARRELL: I am just guessing. I have been advised that Minister Porter's chief of staff, Cheryl Gwilliam, is paid above the salary band. Is that accurate?</p> <p>Senator Ryan: I will take that on notice.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Again, I have a couple of extra questions to add to that. What is her total remuneration, including allowances? Is the total amount of this remuneration paid by Finance? Are there any other agencies contributing to this salary?</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 92
87	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell	Members and Senators Support Unit	<p>Senator FARRELL: Can you tell us what this unit, the Members and Senators Support Unit, does.</p> <p>Senator Ryan: The Members and Senators Support Unit works to the Whip—in the House of Representatives, Ms Marino. I do not have a great deal to do with it. I can take it on notice and provide you with information if you have specific questions.</p> <p>....</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Who is the head of the unit?</p> <p>Senator Ryan: Honestly, I will take on notice.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Do we know who the senior officer or staffer of the unit is?</p> <p>Senator Ryan: I could ask Ms Marino and come back to you.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Yes. Do you know what the total remuneration of that staffer is?</p> <p>Senator Ryan: I might answer one question but not the other.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: As I think you said, the parliamentary directory lists him as working for the Chief Government Whip, Nola Marino. When you are doing your inquiries, could you explain how he can be head of the support unit as well as chief of staff to Ms Marino? Can you advise us as to where Mr Hrycek is based?</p> <p>I have been advised that he is based in Ipswich in Queensland. Can you advise if Mr Hrycek has an approved non-standard home base?</p> <p>Senator Ryan: I can check if I have approved.</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 93-94, 95
88	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell	Taxi fares – Mr Hrycek	<p>Senator FARRELL: ... Can you tell us how much Mr Hrycek has spent on taxi fares in the past 12 months to travel between Ipswich and Brisbane Airport. Can you confirm Mr Hrycek is paid a chief of staff salary and flies business class when he travels to and from Canberra. I am advised that Mr Hrycek is employed on a full-time basis but may, in fact, only be working three days a week. Can you tell us about Mr Hrycek's employment contract. Is he employed to work a full week or is he employed on a part-time basis? Can you tell us who signed off on Mr Hrycek's contract, and whether it deviates from any standard MOP(S) Act employment contracts.</p> <p>Senator Ryan: As I have said, particularly given the document you have just handed out to us, Senator Farrell, I will take all those questions on notice, given that we do not have individual information here—</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 96
89	IPEA	General	Farrell	Parliamentarian Enquiries	<p>Senator FARRELL: How many inquiries has the new agency received from parliamentarians?</p> <p>Ms McGregor: We can get that on notice. I do not think that we have split it in that way at the moment.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: That is 30 a day. How long does it take you to handle an inquiry?</p> <p>Ms McGregor: It depends on the nature. I do not know that we would have an average. I can take that on notice and have a</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 99-100

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
 FINANCE PORTFOLIO

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
					<p>look.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Yes, that would be quite a common event. How many responses have been provided?</p> <p>Ms McGregor: I think probably all of those queries have been responded to. They have all been responded to.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Are you sure?</p> <p>Ms McGregor: I think most would have been. I can take that on notice and check as well, but Mr Frost is telling me yes.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: And you will have a look at the average time taken to respond?</p> <p>Ms McGregor: Yes, and the time would depend on the nature of the inquiry.</p>	
90	IPEA	General	Farrell	Travel approval for parliamentarians	<p>Senator FARRELL: Yes. There is one question I thought of in relation to that when we were dealing with the bill. If you ask a particular question and you get a binding ruling that says, 'Yes, this is permissible conduct,' how would it ever come up that you had not satisfied the rules? If you have the binding ruling and you have followed the binding ruling, how would it ever emerge that there would be a question mark over that and you would then be found not to have been within the rules?</p> <p>Ms McGregor: That, again, would depend. In terms of the rulings, I think in the legislation the process is actually that you would be seeking that post the event. That is the first thing to know about those, but the other thing is that any—</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Hang on a moment. Just to be clear on that, say I want to travel to Sydney tomorrow to do something and I want to know whether what I am intending to go to is within or without the rules. Are you saying I cannot get a ruling on that in advance of my travel?</p> <p>Senator Ryan: I have a subtly different recollection, but I will check and come back to you.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: I fully understand that, but I thought Ms McGregor was saying something different—that I could not get a binding ruling in advance of my travel. I understood that you could do that.</p> <p>Senator Ryan: I will take that on notice. Perhaps I have something in front of me. I will come back to you.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: It is a relatively crucial point.</p> <p>Senator Ryan: As I said, I will take it on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 101
91	Finance	3/3.1	Watt	Printing by the Member of Bowman	<p>Senator WATT: What are the rules exactly around federal MPs using their printing and communications entitlement to support the campaigns of state MPs or candidates?</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator WATT: I would just like to table a copy of a survey that has been distributed, I presume within his electorate, by the member for Bowman, Mr Andrew Laming. When you see that document you will see that Mr Laming's mail-out uses the Commonwealth crest in the letterhead, and included in the mail-out is a questionnaire entitled, 'Local politics: who do you support?' Among other things Mr Laming uses what I presume is a taxpayer-funded document to ask his constituents if they like their local mayor, councillor, state member and federal member, and it also asks, 'Which way do you currently lean: LNP, One Nation, Labor/Greens?'—because I presume in Mr Laming's mind that is one party. Does that appear, on its face, to comply with the regulations about the use of the printing and communications entitlement?</p> <p>Ms Baker: On the face of it that appears to be within the printing and communications entitlement.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Ms Baker: Sorry—I am not aware that Mr Laming used his printing and communications entitlement to produce this document. It may not be Commonwealth funded.</p> <p>Senator WATT: I have not actually been through this process yet, being a new senator, but my understanding is you normally would seek Finance approval before—</p> <p>Ms Baker: You can seek preapproval, or you can use your print and communications entitlement, and it is checked post printing. So you can get preapproval prior to something being printed.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Do you know whether preapproval was sought for this particular piece?</p> <p>Ms Baker: I am sorry; I do not.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Could you take that on notice, please.</p> <p>Ms Baker: Yes.</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 103-104
92	AEC	General	Watt	Compliance review of One	Senator WATT: When did that compliance review of One Nation's finances start?	Hansard Proof, 25 May

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
 FINANCE PORTFOLIO

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
				Nation	<p>Mr Rogers: I do not have that date in front of me. Mr Pirani may.</p> <p>Mr Pirani: No, I do not have that particular date.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Can you take that on notice, please? The compliance review is still underway?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: In the interests of accuracy, I am going to take that on notice as well—to check whether that has been superseded by the actions I have mentioned this evening.</p> <p>Senator WATT: I understand. You will take on notice whether that review is still underway. Unless you can give me the answer now, could you please also take on notice when you expect that review to be completed?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: We will.</p>	2017, F&PA Committee, page 106-107
93	AEC	General	Watt	AEC investigation	<p>Senator WATT: Have you or anyone within the government ever requested that the AEC investigate the matters concerning the plane?</p> <p>...</p> <p>Mr Rogers: Again, I come back to my statement that the delegate of the Commissioner has issued notices, and that is where we are at the moment.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator WATT: Would you expect that once this investigation is concluded you will issue a public report?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I will take that on notice, and I will see which way that ends up.</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 118
94	AEC	General	Rhiannon	AEC review of political donations	<p>Senator RHIANNON: On another matter, does the AEC review, as part of compliance reviews, party websites for how parties solicit donations?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I think I have to take that on notice. Let me make a general statement. We undertake a range of activities when we undertake a compliance review using the powers available to us under the Electoral Act. Whether we, to rephrase what you said, conduct a review of party websites to see how they solicit donations—my gut feel would probably be no, but I will take that on notice and confirm. If there is a specific instance you would like to raise with us, I am happy to look at it.</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, page 120
95	Finance	3/3.1	Leyonhjelm	Positions, Salaries and Costs - MOPS Employees	<p>For each year from 2014 until the most recent year for which data are available, please provide:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Total MOPS Act employee positions and numbers, as well as a disaggregation by classification, type (personal/electorate), party (government/opposition/other) and working hours (full time/part time/casual); 2. MOPS employee salary ranges, the number of instances where salaries beyond those ranges are paid, and employee allowance levels; 3. Total MOPS employee payroll related costs, as well as a disaggregation that includes salaries, allowances and employee superannuation contributions; 4. Total MOPS employee travel related costs, as well as a disaggregation that includes fares and travelling allowance; 5. Total MOPS employee 'other' administrative costs; and 6. Any other related information to provide context as necessary. 	Written
96	CSC	General	Lambie	Military Superannuation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please confirm that Class A and Class B Military Superannuation benefits which are paid to wounded, injured or ill veterans may be ceased or modified, based on the recovery of the veteran, up to the age of 55. 2. The Family Law Act 1975 allows an eligible person to request Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation (CSC) to provide certain information about a Member's superannuation account via a Family Law Court Form 6 declaration. Please confirm that the information requested in relation to an Invalidity Military Superannuation recipient is the same as information requested in relation to a person in receipt of a lifetime benefit. 3. Please confirm that the Superannuation Complaints Tribunal (SCT) applied the determination – <i>Family Law (Superannuation) (Provision of Information – [Fund]) Amendment Determination 2016</i> as registered in the Federal Register of legislation on 15 November 2016. Has this action has ensured that an Invalidity payment has been treated in the same way as a lifetime benefit. 4. Please confirm that a Military Superannuation Invalidity payment is a pension as defined in Reg 1.06 para 9A of the Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Regulations 1994. 	Written

**FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
FINANCE PORTFOLIO**

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
					<p>5. Please confirm the following information:</p> <p>a. The number of former defence members who are currently in receipt of invalidity payments under MSBS – numbers to be provided according to Class A and Class B classification.</p> <p>b. How many reviews (on average) are conducted per year in relation to the medical status of Class A and Class B recipients</p> <p>c. How many Invalidity Reviews have been conducted since 2005</p> <p>d. How many members have had their classifications reduced as a result of these reviews</p> <p>e. How many Family Law Court Form 6 declarations have been processed through the Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation (and applicable to MSBS) since 2005.</p>	
97	Finance	2/2.5	Carr	Departmental Car Leasing and Buying	<p>Is it still a policy of the Department of Finance that Commonwealth departments and agencies must lease or buy Australian-made cars wherever possible?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If so, is this policy under review? Please provide a detailed summary of the review, including the process, timelines and decision points. • If not, when did this policy change? Please specify when the changes occurred, how they were instigated and a detailed outline of the changes. 	Written
98	Finance	2/2.5	Carr	Australian made copy-paper	<p>For each Australian Government department and/or government agency, can the Department of Finance please provide an updated breakdown of the percentage of Australian made copy paper purchased in the 2016-17 financial year to date. Please include information on volumes, a breakdown of country of origin, the supplier and the percentage of recycled content. In addition, what was the total percentage of Australian made copy paper purchased by the Australian Government in the 2016-17 financial year to date?</p>	Written
99	Finance	2/2.5	Carr	Requirement for tenderers to complete Australian Industry Participation plan	<p>Are you aware of changes to the requirements for tenderers to complete Australian Industry Participation (AIP) plans, a procurement-connected policy, made by the Department of Industry in 2015?</p> <p>Was the Department of Finance consulted about these changes?</p> <p>If the Department of Finance was consulted, please provide a summary of the consultation process and advice provided by the Department of Finance.</p>	Written
100	Finance	2/2.5	Carr	Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines	<p>In relation to the guidelines issued by the Department of Finance for the new Commonwealth Procurement Rules: did Finance take any advice from the Minister's office in respect of these guidelines? What advice did the Minister's office provide?</p>	Written
101	Finance	2/2.5	Carr	Procurement of goods under investigation by the Anti-dumping Commission	<p>As part of ongoing improvements to Commonwealth procurement policies, has the Department of Finance given any consideration to restricting the Commonwealth's procurement of goods under investigation by the Anti-dumping Commission, where the Commission has found evidence of dumping and material injury to Australian industry, before dumping duties are imposed?</p>	Written
102	Finance	1/1.1	McAllister	Departmental expenses	<p>Provide a list of all departmental expenses across all Government department / agencies / offices that the Department of Finance collates or holds information.</p>	Written
103	Finance	General	McAllister	Departmental plants and gardens	<p>In QoN F76 from February the Department appears to have not spent any money on plants or gardens. Does the Department have any plants or gardens?</p>	Written
104	Finance	General	McAllister	Websites (F94) - Additional Estimates 2017	<p>In QoN F94 from February the Department said it would be an unreasonable diversion of resources to provide an answer, however other agencies provided an answer to part of the question. Why couldn't Finance answer this question?</p>	Written
105	Finance	1/1.1	McAllister	Subscriptions to the International Development	<p>In Budget Statement 7 (P 7-6) there is a change to the treatment of subscriptions to the International Development Association and Asian Development Fund, could you explain the change?</p>	Written

**FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
FINANCE PORTFOLIO**

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
				Association and Asian Development Fund		
106	Finance	2/2.6	McAllister	Defined Benefit Schemes	Budget Statement 7 (P 7-21) notes that defined benefits schemes will not be open to new members from 1 July 2016. Are there any defined benefit schemes remaining?	Written
107	Finance	2/2.5	McAllister	Whole of government travel	For the financial year 2016/2017, detail all travel for Department travel across all Australian Government departments, agencies and offices. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals). Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel. What travel is planned and budgeted for in financial year 2017/2018?	Written
108	Finance	General	McAllister	Enterprise Bargaining Agreements	Please list all related EBAs with coverage of the department. Please list their starting and expiration dates. What is the current status of negotiations for the next agreement/s? Please detail.	Written
109	Finance	1/1.1	McAllister	Defence Operations Payments	In Budget Statement 3 (P 3-32) there is an increase in payments from Defence operations. – What is the profile of this? – Is this usually treated as a variation? Or as a measure? Why were these treated as a variation? Did the Government not make a decision?	Written
110	Finance	General	McAllister	Media training services	For the financial year 2016/2017, please provide the following information for all media training services or any other public appearance training (including training for the purpose of officials appearing at senate or other committee hearings including estimates hearings) purchased by each department/agency detail: a) Total spending on these services b) an itemised cost breakdown of these services c) The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification d) The number of employees who have utilised these services and their employment classification e) The names of all service providers engaged f) the location that this training was provided For each service purchased from a provider listed above, please provide: a) The name and nature of the service purchased b) Whether the service is one-on-one or group based c) The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification (provide a breakdown for each employment classification) d) The total number of hours involved for all employees (provide a breakdown for each employment classification) e) The total amount spent on the service f) A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package) Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide: a) The location used b) The number of employees who took part on each occasion c) The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification) d) Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location, including all costs associated with travelling and staying at the location	Written
111	Finance	General	McAllister	Storage, shredding and disposal of official documents	a. Have any reports, budget papers, statements, white papers or report-like documents printed for or by the department been pulped, put in storage, shredded or disposed of? b. If so please give details; name of report, number of copies, cost of printing, who order the disposal, reason for disposal c. How many documents (include the amount of copies) have been printed for the financial year to date?	Written

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
FINANCE PORTFOLIO

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
					<p>d. How many of these printed documents were also published online?</p> <p>e. Did the Department/agency use external printing services for any print jobs for the financial year to date</p> <p>f. If so, what companies were used? How were they selected?</p> <p>g. What was the total cost of this printing?</p>	
112	Finance	2/2.5	McAllister	Taxi costs	For the financial year 2016/2017, detail all travel for Department travel across all Australian Government departments, agencies and offices the costs of taxis for the financial year to date? Provide a breakdown for each business group in each department/agency. What are the reasons for taxi costs? Has any department/agency paid for any taxi costs for or associated with travel by Ministers or their staff, if so, list and provide costs, to and from destinations and the reasons for travel.	Written
113	Finance	2/2.5	McAllister	Government owned cars	For the financial year 2016/2017, detail all travel for Department travel across all Australian Government departments, agencies and offices for the financial year to date: How many cars are owned by each department/agency? Where is each car/s located? What is the car/s used for? What is the cost of each car in total? How far did each car travel for the financial year to date? How many cars are leased by each department/agency? Where are the cars located? What are the cars used for? What is the cost of each car for the financial year to date? How far did each car travel for the financial year to date? For both owned and leased vehicles, who has access to each car, list.	Written
114	Finance	2/2.5	McAllister	Hire cars	For the financial year 2016/2017, detail all travel for Department travel across all Australian Government departments, agencies and offices for the financial year to date: How much did each department/agency spend on hire cars for the financial year to date? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency. What are the reasons for hire car costs?	Written
115	Finance	2/2.5	McAllister	Ride Share Vehicles	For the financial year 2016/2017, detail all travel for Department travel across all Australian Government departments, agencies and offices for the financial year to date: How much did each department/agency spend on travel using ride share vehicles for the financial year to date? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency, including cost. List the location (by state) of each use of ride share vehicles and the date the ride share was used.	Written
116	Finance	General	McAllister	Freedom of Information	The following questions relate to requests made pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (the Act). For the financial year 2016/2017, how many requests for documents under the Act have been received? For how many has a redacted document been provided? Does the Department consult or inform other Departments or Agencies when it receives Freedom of Information requests? If so, detail each occasion. Has the Department consulted or informed the Minister's office about any Freedom of Information requests it has received? If yes, detail each occasion	Written
117	Finance	2/2.5	McAllister	Re-issued Tenders	List any tenders that were re-issued or issued multiple times for the financial year to date: Why were they re-issued or issued multiple times? Were any applicants received for the tenders before they were re-issued or repeatedly issued? Were those applicants asked to resubmit their tender proposal?	Written
118	Finance	General	McAllister	Market Research	List any market research (defined broadly as any formal research undertaken to assess the opinion of those external to the	Written

**FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
FINANCE PORTFOLIO**

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
					<p>department) conducted by the department/agency for the financial year to date:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. List the total cost of this research; b. List each item of expenditure and cost, broken down by division and program. c. Who conducted the research? d. How were they identified? e. Where was the research conducted? f. In what way was the research conducted? g. Were focus groups, round tables or other forms of research tools used? h. How were participants for these focus groups et al selected? 	
119	Finance	General	McAllister	Contractor Payments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. For the financial year 2016/2017, what has been the average time period for the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors, consultants or others? b. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in under 30 days? c. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 30 and 60 days? d. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 60 and 90 days? e. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 90 and 120 days? f. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in over 120 days? g. For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency for the financial year to date? h. Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined? 	Written
120	Finance	General	McAllister	Staffing Profile	What is the current staffing profile of the department/agency?. Provide a list of staffing numbers, broken down by classification level, division, home base location (including town/city and state).	Written
121	Finance	General	McAllister	Recruitment	How many ongoing staff were recruited for the financial year to date? What classification are these staff? How many non-ongoing positions exist or have been created for the financial year to date? What classification are these staff? For the financial year to date, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?	Written
122	Finance	2/2.	McAllister	Grants	Provide a list of all grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants for the financial year to date. Provide the recipients, amount, intended use of the grants, what locations have benefited from the grants and the electorate and state of those locations. Provide details of the recipients, the amount, the intended use of the grants, what locations have benefited from the grants and the electorate and state of those grants.	Written
123	Finance	3/3.1	McAllister	Ministerial office fit outs	<p>For each Minister in the Finance portfolio please provide the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Excluding standard electorate office provisions, what Department of Finance office infrastructure is allocated to each Minister at their home base office, including hard wiring and IT equipment if any? - Is there additional Ministerial equipment installed in each Minister's electorate office? - What was the cost for this installation? - When was it installed? - What office space was each Minister allocated in addition to his electorate office space allocation upon becoming Minister? 	Written

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
 FINANCE PORTFOLIO

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
124	All	General	Farrell	Market Research	<p>For the 2016-17 financial year, what was the total amount spent by the Department on market research (either as a whole contract or as part of a contract)?</p> <p>For each contract for market research in 2016/2017, can you please provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The subject of the market research; • The supplier; • Whether the supplier has been engaged previously and if so, for which contracts; • The total value of the contract; • The term of the contract (time); • The date that the decision was taken to seek market research on the topic; • The date the contract was opened to tender or selection process; • The date the supplier was engaged; • Whether the contract was subject to a tender process, including whether there was a full, partial or closed tender process; • Does the supplier exist on a pre-approved supplier list, if so, when were they added to that list; • Whether the Minister, or the Minister's Office, requested that the research be conducted; • Whether the Minister approved the decision to conduct market research; • Whether the Minister approved the contract with the supplier; • Whether the Minister or the Minister's office was consulted on questions asked; • Whether the Minister or the Minister's office received a copy of the market research; • If the decision to conduct research was initiated by the department or agency, was the Minister or their office consulted before the decision was taken to conduct research, if so – in what form did that consultation take (written, verbal other); • If the decision to conduct research was initiated by the department or agency, did Minister or their office make any amendments or changes to the Department's proposal for market research to be conducted, if so, what changes and to what aspects were they made; • At any stage in the life of the proposal to conduct market research were other departments or agencies consulted? • At any stage in the life of the proposal to conduct market research were other Ministers, or the Prime Minister consulted? • At any stage in the life of the proposal to conduct market research did the expected cost change, if so how? • At any stage in the life of the proposal to conduct market research did the scope, questions or supplier of the research change? • Have any topics or questions of market research been conducted and subsequently conducted again by the same or different supplier? 	Written
125	CSC	General	McAllister	Member complaints	<p>Senator McALLISTER: And that is what I am trying to understand. In terms of the current profile of complaints, you described a range of factors that tend to drive complaints.</p> <p>Mr Carrigy-Ryan: I have not got them with me. I can get a breakdown for our PSSap scheme, which is probably more typical in terms of the industry, given the nature of the benefit, and give you what the current top 5 is in that regard.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: That would be very helpful, thanks.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Pages 33
126	Finance	1/1.1	Gallagher	Energy Supplement unlegislated savings	<p>Senator Cormann: There is. I refer to it as the energy supplement measure. There is the abolition of the energy supplement. We have legislated some of it through the omnibus savings bill. There is still a significant component of that measure outstanding. You might recall that in the 2016-17 budget, from memory, we provided for that to be allocated to the National Disability Insurance Scheme Savings Fund—that is right. That remains in the budget. It is in the 2016-17 budget—</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Do you have the figure of what that saving is?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: The current figure is about \$1.4 billion.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Pages 40

**FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
FINANCE PORTFOLIO**

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
					<p>Senator GALLAGHER: Over the forward estimates?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Senator Cormann: Yes, over the current forward estimates. These figures are published in 2017-18 Budget Paper No. 1 on page 3-28. It actually gives you everything you need to know. They are the high-level numbers.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Yes, they are. It does not give me everything I need to know. I have that number circled, actually, but it does not explain what they are. I asked for that previously, and you have undertaken to provide it.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Yes, it is coming.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: If you could provide it with the breakdown of what it is over the current forward estimates, that would be useful.</p>	
127	Finance	General	Gallagher	Departmental Contractor and Consulting Costs	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: Is it detailed in the PBS anywhere? Is it broken down?</p> <p>Mr Renwick: Not specifically, no.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: So, based on the secretary's advice, it is expected to stay at that level? Presumably you would have a draft budget allocation across your department.</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: We are actually working on that now that, so I do not have that at this point in time, but you will see that we have been given that additional funding in respect of those functions. Some of that funding will have been allocated to those sorts of contractor and consulting costs. We can see what we can provide you a notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Pages 58
128	Finance	2/2.2	Gallagher	Status on Belcher Review recommendations	<p>Ms Huxtable: But, with regard to your question about the red-tape effort within Finance, there is an area in Dr Helgeby's group which is very much examining the Belcher review recommendations...</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Can I take up the offer for a status update on the 134 recommendations?</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: Yes.</p>	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Pages 40
129	Finance	General	Bilyk	Ministerial Functions	<p>In relation to any functions or official receptions hosted by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio since 1 March 2017, can the following please be provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of functions; • List of attendees including departmental officials and members of the Minister's family or personal staff; • Function venue; • Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive); • Details of any food served; • Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage; and • Details of any entertainment provided. 	Written
130	All	General	Bilyk	Departmental Functions	<p>In relation to expenditure on any functions or official receptions etc hosted by the Department or agencies in the portfolio since 1 March 2017, can the following please be provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of functions; • List of attendees; • Function venue; • Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive); • Details of any food served; • Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage; and • Details of any entertainment provided. 	Written
131	All	General	Bilyk	Laptops	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. How many laptops are currently on issue to staff of the Department and agencies in the portfolio? b. Can an itemised list showing make and model please be provided? c. How many new laptops were purchased by the Department and agencies in the portfolio in calendar year 2016? d. What was the total cost (GST inclusive) of purchasing laptops for staff of the Department and agencies in the portfolio 	Written

**FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
FINANCE PORTFOLIO**

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
					in calendar year 2016? e. How many laptops did the Department and agencies in the portfolio have to be replaced due to damage in calendar year 2016? What was the cost of replacement (GST inclusive)?	
132	Finance	General	Bilyk	Executive Office Upgrades	Have the furniture, fixtures or fittings of the Secretary's office, or the offices of any Deputy Secretaries, been upgraded since 1 March 2017? If so, can an itemised list of costs please be provided (GST inclusive)?	Written
133	Finance	General	Bilyk	Facilities upgrades	Have the facilities of any of the Department's premises been upgraded since 1 March 2017, for example, staff room refurbishments, kitchen refurbishments, bathroom refurbishments, the purchase of any new fridges, coffee machines, or other kitchen equipment? If so, can a detailed description of the relevant facilities upgrade please be provided together with an itemised list of costs (GST inclusive)? Can any photographs of the upgraded facilities please be provided?	Written
134	Finance	General	Bilyk	Vacancies	Please provide a list of all statutory, board and legislated office vacancies and other significant appointments vacancies within the portfolio, including length of time vacant and current acting arrangements.	Written
135	All	General	Bilyk	Credit Cards	a. How many credit cards are currently on issue for staff in the Department and agencies within the portfolio? b. If possible, please provide a break-down of this information by APS/ SES level. c. What was the value of the largest reported purchase on a credit card in calendar year 2016 and what was it for? d. How much interest was paid on amounts outstanding from credit cards in calendar year 2016? e. How much was paid in late fees on amounts outstanding from credit cards in calendar year 2016? f. What was the largest amount outstanding on a single card at the end of a payment period in calendar year 2016 and what was the card holder's APS/ SES level? g. How many credit cards were reported as lost or stolen in calendar year 2016 and what was the cost of their replacement? h. How many credit card purchases were deemed to be illegitimate or contrary to agency policy in calendar year 2016? i. What was the total value of those purchases? j. How many purchases were asked to be repaid on that basis in calendar year 2016 and what was the total value thereof? Were all those amounts actually repaid? If no, how many were not repaid, and what was the total value thereof? k. What was the largest purchase that was deemed illegitimate or contrary to agency policy and asked to be repaid in calendar year 2016, and what was the cardholder's APS/ SES level? What that amount actually repaid, in full? If no, what amount was left unpaid? l. Are any credit cards currently on issue in the Department or agencies within the portfolio connected to rewards schemes? Do staff receive any personal benefit as a result of those reward schemes? m. Can a copy of the Department's staff credit card policy please be provided?	Written
136	Future Fund	General	Bilyk	Functions	In relation to expenditure on any Agency functions or official receptions etc since 1 March 2017, can the following please be provided: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of functions; • List of attendees; • Function venue; • Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive); • Details of any food served; • Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage; and • Details of any entertainment provided. 	Written

**FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
FINANCE PORTFOLIO**

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
137	Future Fund	General	Bilyk	Executive Office Upgrades	Have the furniture, fixtures or fittings of the Chairman's office, or the offices of any other Executives, been upgraded since 1 March 2017? If so, can an itemised list of costs please be provided (GST inclusive)?	Written
138	Future Fund	General	Bilyk	Facilities Upgrades	Have the facilities of any of the Agency's premises been upgraded since 1 March 2017, for example, staff room refurbishments, kitchen refurbishments, bathroom refurbishments, the purchase of any new fridges, coffee machines, or other kitchen equipment? If so, can a detailed description of the relevant facilities upgrade please be provided together with an itemised list of costs (GST inclusive)? Can any photographs of the upgraded facilities please be provided?	Written
139	Future Fund	General	Bilyk	Vacancies	Please provide a list of all statutory, board and legislated office vacancies and other significant appointments vacancies within the Agency, including length of time vacant and current acting arrangements.	Written
140	Future Fund	General	Bilyk	Credit Cards	How many credit cards are currently on issue for agency staff? What was the value of the largest reported purchase on a credit card in calendar year 2016 and what was it for? How much interest was paid on amounts outstanding from credit cards in calendar year 2016? How much was paid in late fees on amounts outstanding from credit cards in calendar year 2016? What was the largest amount outstanding on a single card at the end of a payment period in calendar year 2016? How many credit cards were reported as lost or stolen in calendar year 2016 and what was the cost of their replacement? How many credit card purchases were deemed to be illegitimate or contrary to agency policy in calendar year 2016? What was the total value of those purchases? How many purchases were asked to be repaid on that basis in calendar year 2016 and what was the total value thereof? Were all those amounts actually repaid? If no, how many were not repaid, and what was the total value thereof? What was the largest purchase that was deemed illegitimate or contrary to agency policy and asked to be repaid in calendar year 2016? What that amount actually repaid, in full? If no, what amount was left unpaid? Are any credit cards currently on issue connected to rewards schemes? Do staff receive any personal benefit as a result of those reward schemes? Can a copy of the agency's staff credit card policy please be provided?	Written
141	Future Fund	General	Bilyk	Laptops	How many laptops are currently on issue to staff? Can an itemised list showing make and model please be provided? How many new laptops were purchased by the agency in calendar year 2016? What was the total cost (GST inclusive) of purchasing laptops for staff in calendar year 2016? How many laptops did the agency have to be replaced due to damage in calendar year 2016? What was the cost of replacement (GST inclusive)? How many laptops were reported lost or stolen in calendar year 2016? What was the cost of replacement (GST inclusive)?	Written
142	AEC	General	Watt	Plane Donation	Senator WATT: Let's see how we go. I do not have the date for this, but Senator Hanson has stated on <i>Sky News</i> that she was advised at an earlier time by the Electoral Commission that there was 'no issue' with the plane donation. Is that correct? Mr Rogers: That is absolutely part of 316(3). No comment on that. It is all part of the same process. Senator WATT: So that claim from Senator Hanson is part of the investigation? Mr Rogers: No, it goes to the investigation as in it is talking about the plane—it is talking about a range of issues associated with the investigation, and I am loathe to talk any further about it. Senator WATT: I think I know what your answer will be, but I might request on notice a copy of the advice—if indeed it was provided—from the Electoral Commission that there was no issue with the plane donation. Mr Rogers: I am happy to take that on notice, but I tell you it is unlikely I will be able to provide anything to you on that.	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Pages 119
143	Finance	General	Gallagher	ANAO Audit recommendations- Governance Framework	Ms Hartland: Finance has also taken responsibility for some of those four key recommendations in the ANAO audit, as you have outlined, around the governance arrangements in particular. We have developed now a comprehensive governance framework to address those concerns that were raised by the ANAO. Senator GALLAGHER: Can we have a copy of that? Ms Hartland: Sorry? Senator GALLAGHER: Can we have a copy of the governance framework? Ms Hartland: The stage that it is at at the moment is that there is a transition advisory committee. That governance paper is	Hansard Proof, 25 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Pages 7

**FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
FINANCE PORTFOLIO**

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
					about to go to that committee for endorsement. Actually, it has gone to it out of session for endorsement at the moment. Then it will come through the executive board in the department, so we can look at the ability to release it then. Ms Huxtable: When it has been finalised, we can certainly look to make that available.	
144	AEC	General	Rhiannon	Hacking Electoral Rolls	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is the AEC aware of reports that hackers linked to intelligence services linked with foreign governments broke into voter-registration databases in the US? 2. Does the AEC undertake regular security sweeps to minimise the chance of any interference with Australian electoral roll database? 	Written
145	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell	Staff employed above band	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Are any MOP(S) Act paid above the published salary bands? (including those remunerated through other government agencies) 2. How many MOP(S) Act employees are paid above these published bands? 3. Where are these staff located? 	Written
146	Finance	3/3.1	Farrell	Members and Senators Support Unit: Nola Marino MP	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Since questions were asked at during Senate Estimates on the 25th May 2017, has Mr Hrycek ceased employment with Ms Nola Marino MP? 2. If so, under what circumstances has Mr Hrycek ceased employment? 3. Is the Minister aware where Mr Hrycek is now working? 	Written
147	AEC	General	Farrell	One Nation: Galileo Movement	<p>On his register of Senator's interests, Senator Roberts lists himself as the 'voluntary project manager of the Galileo Movement'.</p> <p>According to the public record – the movement is not registered as a political party, nor is it registered as a charity.</p> <p>The movement accepts donations via a range of matters – and Senator Roberts is himself featured in a YouTube video where he discusses receiving donations from pensioners.</p> <p>Given the group is still active – evidenced through an active social media presence, I just want to clarify the requirements around political actors such as this.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does the group need to register itself with the AEC as an associated entity? 2. Has the group or Senator Roberts ever contacted the AEC about that, or clarified their requirements around donations, disclosure, or authorisation? 3. If not: Are the actions of the movement legal given their actions? 4. Has the AEC taken any action (including making inquiries) to ensure Senator Roberts' fundraising via his Galileo Movement is within the rules? 	Written
148	AEC	General	Farrell	One Nation: GST Registration	<p>In March of this year, at a previous estimates session, the Australian Taxation Office was asked a question about GST registration.</p> <p>Specifically the Deputy Commissioner for Indirect Tax, Mr Tim Dyce, confirmed it is an offence to collect the GST if an entity is not registered to do so.</p> <p>Mr Dyce was responding to an inquiry about the One Nation Queensland division.</p> <p>An extract from the Australian Business Register of 1 March 2017 showed that One Nation's Queensland division was not registered to collect GST.</p> <p>However, the party's website showed One Nation's membership charges included a GST component.</p>	Written

**FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
FINANCE PORTFOLIO**

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
					<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Did the ATO ever have contact the AEC about this? 2. If yes, can you please expand on that contact 3. What did they ask and how did you respond? 4. Is the AEC taking any further action to ensure One Nation is not unlawfully collecting GST revenue? 	
149	AEC	General	Farrell	Stuart Robert	<p>Regarding the ongoing Queensland Crime and Corruption Commission (CCC) inquiry into the 2016 Queensland local government elections:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have the AEC been monitoring the proceedings? 2. Have the AEC been liaising with the CCC about any matters that have been raised at the inquiry? 3. Have the AEC been asked to provide any material to the CCC to assist with their inquiries? <p>On 18 April 2017 the inquiry heard Stuart Robert MP's Fadden Forum donated \$30,000 each to two of Mr Robert's staff members, including Kristyn Boulton, who won her division at last year's election, and is now a Gold Coast councillor.</p> <p>Mr Robert told the corruption commission hearing there should have been more transparency in using LNP funds for candidates who portrayed themselves as independent candidates.</p> <p>He said in evidence: "It certainly would have helped if it was more widely known." (Source: LNP controlled Fadden Forum fund-raising body, says Stuart Robert AFR 18 April 2017)</p> <p>In her evidence Ms Boulton, conceded the LNP funding could make it appear to the public that her independence had been compromised.</p> <p>Her evidence read: "I can see that now. I certainly will be paying more attention in future. Perhaps I've been a little naive." (Source: BRISTIMES: Turnbull government MP Stuart Robert defends \$30k donations at corruption hearing: 'A Labor foothold was not appealing' 18 April 2017)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Does the AEC have a view on candidates who profess to run as independents but are actually funded by a political party? 5. Has the AEC dealt with this issue before? 6. Has the AEC provided any advice to Government on how to address this issue? 	Written
150	Finance	2/2.1	Roberts	Future Fund assets	Rather than government foolishly pretending to be a competent investment firm with taxpayers hard-earned money, why doesn't the government use this money to pay off its huge debt and/or give it back to taxpayers?	Written
151	Finance	3/3.1	Bushby	Member for Lyons	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When the Member for Lyons, Mr Brian Mitchell, MP, won the seat of Lyons, what offices were available to him? 2. Is Mr Mitchell retaining these offices? 3. If not, when is Mr Mitchell planning to leave, or has he already vacated? 4. If leaving / left, where has Mr Mitchell relocated? 5. If leaving / left, when does / did the lease on Mr Mitchell's Brighton office expire? 6. If the lease is still in place, what has been the cost to taxpayers of Mr Mitchell's decision to break the lease on his Brighton office? 7. What is the actual (or estimate) cost to the taxpayer for the establishment of Mr Mitchell's new office in Bridgewater? 8. In respect of Mr Mitchell's Perth office, how long is it since this was renovated? 9. What was the cost of that last renovation? 	Written

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18 – 24-25 MAY 2017
 FINANCE PORTFOLIO

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
152	Finance	3/3.1	Wong	Provision of drinking water in Commonwealth parliamentary offices	<p>Part 1: Can Ministerial and Parliamentary Services advise whether it supplies, or arranges the supply of, bottled drinking water to the Commonwealth parliamentary offices in each state and the Northern Territory and if so, which ones? Where bottled water is supplied to senators and members who locate their electorate offices, or, for ministers and parliamentary office-holders, their offices, in the Commonwealth parliamentary offices, is the cost of supplying bottled drinking water borne by the individual senator, member or department, or by Ministerial and Parliamentary Services?</p> <p>Part 2: For the Commonwealth parliamentary offices in each state and the Northern Territory, can Ministerial and Parliamentary Services advise the total overall cost of the provision of bottled drinking water for both offices of senators and members as well as the Commonwealth parliamentary offices generally for (a) 2015-16 and (b) 2016-17 to date? What is the budget for the provision of bottled drinking water in the Commonwealth parliamentary offices in each state and the Northern Territory for 2017-18?</p> <p>Part 3: Can Ministerial and Parliamentary Services advise whether filtered or purified water taps exist in any of the Commonwealth parliamentary offices in each state and the Northern Territory, and if so, which ones? For the Commonwealth parliamentary offices in each state and the Northern Territory where filtered or purified water taps do not exist, has Ministerial and Parliamentary Services investigated the feasibility of installing filtered or purified water taps instead of supplying bottled drinking water? If so, what were the conclusions? If not, why has Ministerial and Parliamentary Services not sought to investigate the feasibility of installing filtered or purified water taps in Commonwealth parliamentary offices?</p> <p>Part 4: Is Ministerial and Parliamentary Services aware of the average cost of installing a filtered or purified water tap in commercial premises and if so, what is the cost?</p>	Written