Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013-2014

Finance Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of Finance

Outcome/Program: General

Topic: Commission of Audit – Appointment Recommendations

Senator: Wong

Question reference number: F5

Type of question: Hansard F&PA Page 29, 19 November 2013

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 17 January 2014

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator WONG: Was Finance asked to provide any advice about the possible members for the Commission of Audit?

Mr Tune: I think we might have been asked if we had any ideas, which possibly fed into the government's consideration. But we were not asked to come up with a definitive list. That was a decision by the government.

Senator WONG: Was anyone who was recommended by Finance appointed?

Mr Tune: Gee, I do not know—

Senator Cormann: The people who were appointed to the Commission of Audit were appointed by the government and were selected by the government for that purpose. They are highly distinguished Australians, who are going to do a great job for Australia in what they are currently doing. And the government takes full responsibility for the appointments we have made.

Senator WONG: Mr Tune? Mr Tune: I cannot recall.

Senator WONG: Can you take that on notice?

Mr Tune: Yes.

Answer:

The Department of Finance provided the government with informal advice on the type of background, experience and skills considered suitable for membership to the Commission of Audit.

No recommendations on possible members were provided by the Department.