

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2015-16**

Finance Portfolio  
20 October 2015

**Department/Agency:** Department of Finance

**Outcome/Program:** 3/3.1

**Topic:** Mantach fraud

**Senator:** Bilyk

**Question reference number:** F96

**Type of question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** Friday, 4 December 2015

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

1. Has the Victorian Division of the Liberal Party offered to repay any money in relation to the fraud perpetrated against the Department of Finance involving the misappropriation of the Liberal Party Members' and Senators' printing and communications allowances?
2. How much did they offer to repay?
3. Did they explain how this figure was arrived at?
4. Why did the Department refuse to accept this payment?
5. Can copies of any correspondence between the Department and the Victorian Division of the Liberal Party in relation to the Mantach fraud please be provided?
6. Noting that Mr Mantach was sacked from his position as Director of the Tasmanian Division of the Liberal Party over credit card fraud, has the Tasmanian Division of the Liberal Party repaid any amounts to the Department in relation to amounts defrauded through the Tasmanian Division of the Liberal Party?
7. Has the Department contacted the Tasmanian Division to ask them to audit their files?
8. How can the Department be confident that all misappropriated amounts have been repaid when nothing has been recovered from the Tasmanian Division?

**Answer:**

1. Yes. The Victorian Division of the Liberal Party has offered to repay an amount relating to the alleged fraud.
2. \$20,590.68.
3. No.
4. The Department of Finance cannot accept a payment until the data and method of calculation for arriving at the amount can be verified.
5. As the matter is currently the subject of an investigation, the Department considers that it would be inappropriate to provide the correspondence.
6. No.
7. – 8. N/A. The Department has no knowledge of the Tasmanian Division's internal affairs.