

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES – 20 OCTOBER 2015

FINANCE PORTFOLIO

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
1	Department of Finance	General	McEwen	Job losses at ASC for the last 12 months	<p>Senator McEWEN: So there have been 300 jobs lost from May until October. Is that what you are saying?</p> <p>Mr Lamarre: That is correct, and we should stay steady until the end of the year.</p> <p>Senator McEWEN: You are not expecting any more until the end of 2016 at this stage.</p> <p>Mr Lamarre: Correct.</p> <p>Senator McEWEN: What is the total for the last 12 months?</p> <p>Mr Lamarre: I will have to take that on notice. I am not certain.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 6, 20 October 2015
2	Department of Finance	2/2.5	Xenophon	Considerations in determining local procurement	<p>Senator XENOPHON: Do you not have a role in setting the parameters for procurement?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Not in relation to Defence procurement.</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: But the general principles of procurement are something that your department is involved in.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: ... Perhaps I can put this on notice just to save time: in terms of value for money, what considerations are given in determining a local procurement? What weighting is given? How do you weigh up the price of a local bid compared to an overseas bid?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: So what I suggest is that, if you want to pursue this much further, then you get those questions in outcome 2.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: I cannot wait. Thank you.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 13-14, 20 October 2015
3	Future Fund Management Agency	General	Waters	Future Fund's investment in oil, coal and gas companies	<p>Senator WATERS: ... If you do not have that information to hand at the minute, can you take it on notice to supply simply the list of oil, coal or gas companies that the Future Fund is investing in, and the proportion of your investment compared to your total portfolio? Just as a very simple and high-level assessment first—leaving aside the carbon bubble exposure, which is actually what I am interested in. Can you take that on notice or assist me now?</p> <p>Mr Neal: I can give you the aggregate number; I cannot give you a list of all the different companies but I can tell you that it is around 2.5 per cent of the portfolio that is invested in coal, oil and gas, in aggregate.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Thank you. If you are able to provide any more detail for me on notice I would greatly appreciate that.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 24, 20 October 2015
4	Future Fund Management Agency	General	Waters	Future Fund's holdings in Peabody, Glencore or Whitehaven	<p>Senator WATERS: Does the Future Fund have any holdings in Peabody, Glencore or Whitehaven?</p> <p>Mr Neal: I think it is a very good chance that we would, but I cannot tell you what our exposures are.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Could you take it on notice to provide that information?</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 26, 20 October 2015
5	Department of Finance	2/2.6	Gallagher	Projected nominal total unfunded liability	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: The long-term cost report for PSS and CSS. ... It shows that the projected nominal total unfunded liability continues to increase until 2034. My question is whether you could enlighten me as to the reason that 2034 is the peak, or the tipping point?</p> <p>Mr Greenslade: There is a general trend. Liabilities increase, which is essentially due to demographics, and there are people coming into extended employment that are adding to the superannuation benefits which accrue and impact on the liability. But the schemes are closed, including the military scheme being closed, so, over time, there is a drop off and the demographics kick</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 32, 20 October 2015

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					<p>in. So there is a trend going up as existing serving people are accruing benefits and there is a trend going down as— Ms Halton: As people are passing away. ... Mr Greenslade: Essentially that is it. As to why it is precisely 2034, I can get back to you, but essentially it is the demographic trend.</p>	
6	Department of Finance	2/2.6	Gallagher	Cost to produce the PSS and CSS long-term cost report	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: What would be the rough cost associated with doing this report? Is it on AusTender? ... Mr Greenslade: We have a contract that is spread over time, so it might be hard to pin on the particular report. Could I take that on notice, please?</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 32, 20 October 2015
7	Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation	General	Gallagher	Numbers of redundancies	<p>Mr Carrigy-Ryan: There were a number of people who took redundancy packages prior to 30 June. Senator GALLAGHER: Do you know how many? Mr Carrigy-Ryan: I do not have those exact numbers with me, Senator. I can find them for you and provide them to you. Senator GALLAGHER: That would be great...</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 34, 20 October 2015
8	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Smith	Closure of polling places – numbers and distribution	<p>Mr Rogers: ... At this stage we might be looking at closing about 800 polling places around Australia at the next election, but we are still in a process and we have not made final decisions just yet, and we are still taking consultation from members and senators on that as well. ... Senator SMITH: Are you able to give us an indicative number of the state-by-state, territory-by-territory breakdown of that? Mr Rogers: Yes, I can take that on notice and provide that for you. ... Senator SMITH: Are you now able to give me a sense of how many of those 800 fall in the high-density to remote categories? Mr Rogers: Again, I can give you the detailed numbers on notice, but I can tell you that nearly 65 per cent of the proposed abolitions were in high- or medium-density areas, so well over half were in those higher density areas rather than rural and remote areas. Senator SMITH: I am assuming that, because you classify federal electorates as being regional, inner et cetera, you would be able to provide the information about how many of those 65 per cent in higher density might be in a large regional town, because high density does not necessarily mean capital cities. Mr Rogers: No, it does not. Regarding the threshold that we developed for high density, for example, we have described that as suburban areas incorporating single dwellings and apartment complexes with about 100,000 persons per square kilometre. That is a high-density area, and we have thresholds below that. I can provide that to you as well, if you would like.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 38-39, 20 October 2015

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9	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Smith	Additional pre-poll centres– numbers and distribution	<p>Senator SMITH: ... Is it also looking at increasing the locations where people can vote before election day?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I can find those stats in detail for you later but I can tell you as an indicative number that I think we are planning on about 30 more prepoll centres around Australia for the next election.</p> <p>Senator SMITH: And you will be able to give me that information on a state-by-state basis?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: Yes.</p> <p>Senator SMITH: I would be interested in knowing whether or not they are metropolitan or larger, regional seats. I do not expect them to be small regional towns.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 40, 20 October 2015
10	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Abetz	Australian Workers Union donation	<p>Mr Pirani: We have the returns that the Australian Labor Party lodged in 2015 and one of those returns includes for the 2007-08 financial year an amendment that included that it received a donation from the Australian Workers Union in the amount of \$12,238, which appears to be their contribution for the salary of the person that Unibilt paid for.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ: But that should have been disclosed all the way back then.</p> <p>Mr Pirani: That is correct.</p> <p>Mr Rogers: At the time.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ: And it was not.</p> <p>Mr Pirani: That is correct.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ: Has the Australian Workers Union since disclosed this donation to the Australian Electoral Commission?</p> <p>Mr Pirani: I am not aware of there being an amended return for 2007-08 lodged by the AWU, but I will take that on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 40, 20 October 2015
11	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Ludwig	Section 315 issues and compliance actions	<p>Senator LUDWIG: Just going back to the issue I was talking to you about in respect of those section 315 issues and your compliance actions, published on your website, do you do a review of those? I was looking back, and there was one in Queensland, if I remember correctly. It was Altum Pty Ltd ATF Altum Property Trust, March 2014. It was where the entity had significant underreported total receipts and payments in its 2012-13 annual return and failed to correctly disclose several other reportable amounts, according to the AEC review. The total receipts were underreported by it looks like \$1,867,000-odd, and the total amount of payments were underreported by just short of \$2 million. Total debts were also incorrectly reported due to a typing error that added an extra zero to the figure, which had inadvertently increased the figure by a factor of 10. Do you recall that?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I do not. I can take that on notice</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: I was just curious as to where that review had got up to and what actions, if any, had been taken, because that looks like it might have been within the three-year period.</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I am happy to take that on notice ...</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 48-49, 20 October 2015
12	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Polley	Process to remove a person in aged care from the electoral roll	<p>Senator POLLEY: If you could inform the committee of the process to remove a name from the electoral roll in relation to people who are perhaps in aged-care facilities. What is the process by which somebody can be removed? Do you keep statistics of how many people are dropping off the rolls state by state?</p> <p>...</p> <p>Mr Gately: In term of your question about statistics around the numbers: I do not have the breakdown at that level but I am happy to take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: It would be great if you could take that on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 49-50, 20 October 2015

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13	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Rhiannon	Numbers of breaches of the Electoral Act in 2014-15	<p>Senator RHIANNON: Thank you, Chair. Mr Rogers, could you take on notice to provide information on the number of investigations into claims of breaches of the Commonwealth Electoral Act that the AEC has investigated in the last financial year?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: Certainly. Are you referring to all areas of the AEC's operations?</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: Yes. I do not know what categories you divide it up into, but it would be useful if you could present that.</p> <p>Mr Rogers: Certainly.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 51, 20 October 2015
14	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Rhiannon	Statutory period for payments to candidates or Members of Parliament	<p>Senator RHIANNON: With regard to the three year cut-off, how long has that been in the legislation?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: Mr Pirani might have the answer to that.</p> <p>Mr Pirani: I am looking at the index at the back to see when it was amended. It looks as though it has been there since the original funding and disclosure was inserted in 1983. I will take that on notice if I am mistaken, but looking at the end notes in the Electoral Act, it appears it was inserted in 1983.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 52, 20 October 2015
15	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Rhiannon	The 'Bradfield Forum'	<p>Senator RHIANNON: Are you aware of the Bradfield Forum? I am trying to understand whether it is an associated entity of the New South Wales Liberal Party.</p> <p>Mr Pirani: I would have to take that on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 52, 20 October 2015
16	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Rhiannon	AEC's referral of matters to the DPP – numbers and briefings	<p>Senator RHIANNON: Thank you. How frequently does the AEC refer matters to the Commonwealth DPP for investigation?</p> <p>...</p> <p>Mr Pirani: For the last financial year, the answer is zero to AFP. As I said, because of our powers under section 316, we conduct the investigation, we do the compliance review and we prepare the brief to DPP.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: If it is zero for the last financial year, how many is it over the last five years?</p> <p>Mr Pirani: I would have to take that on notice, but I would suspect the answer will be nil again, because we have an MOU with the AFP, and most of the matters in the funding and disclosure area are dealt with by us, by our investigators.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: Can you provide data on how many briefs you have prepared for the DPP.</p> <p>Mr Pirani: Certainly on notice I will give you an indication of the numbers that we have referred to DPP, yes.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 54, 20 October 2015
17	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Gallagher	AECs advice on Government's response to Senate voting	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: Mr Rogers, have you provided any advice to the minister on a timetable or a time that would be required should significant change come to the Senate voting process or to the ballot in the way the Senate vote is counted?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: It would be inappropriate for me to reflect on a conversation between me and a minister, I would not do it.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: I am not asking for a date. I am just asking: has your advice been sought by the government in response to its consideration of that report?</p> <p>Senator Ryan: How about, given that you are asking about what the government has sought, I take that on notice; because you are actually asking about what the government has sought.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 56-57, 20 October 2015

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18	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Dastyari	Date for electoral redistribution of New South Wales	<p>Senator DASTYARI: ... The bit that I suppose I wanted to ask you about was: you were initially going to come down with the draft boundaries at an earlier day. On the Monday of that week you indicated that not only was it not going to be ready that Friday but that it was not going to be ready for another month, which makes me wonder if you perhaps knew earlier than that Monday that you were not going to have them ready by that Friday. So I was going to ask you: what happened?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: ... The day that we updated the website with an indicative date was, I think, the day we made the decision, but I can confirm that for you.</p> <p>Senator DASTYARI: My understanding is that the indicative date was there on the Monday of that week. You may refer to it as an indicative date, but when it is the Monday of a week and it is meant to come out on the Friday, I think there is an assumption that it is going to come out on the Friday. At what point did you become aware that you were not going to meet that deadline? Surely you were aware before that Monday?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I will have to take that on notice, if you are after a precise date.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator DASTYARI: Regarding that gazettal date, is it an election date after that date, or is it if writs are issued before that date?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: It is the latter. It is if writs are issued.</p> <p>Senator DASTYARI: What is the gazettal date?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I do have that. I think it is in February, but I will find an exact date and come back to you.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 58-59, 20 October 2015
19	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Smith	AFP investigations into electors' enrolment in Indi	<p>Senator SMITH: Mr Rogers, in October last year the AEC referred 28 people to the Federal Police for a further investigation in relation to people's enrolment in the federal electorate of Indi in 2013. That is true, isn't it?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: We certainly sent a number of electors to the AFP; that is correct. I think the number was 28, from memory. Yes, it was 28.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator SMITH: How many of the new enrollees in the electorate in 2013 were examined?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I would have to take the exact figure on notice from you. We went through a process.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator SMITH: What was the period of time?</p> <p>Mr Gately: I do not have that information in front of me. I will have to take that on notice as well.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator SMITH: ... I just want to be very clear that at the moment you cannot give me even an indicative number of the new enrollees that were examined in Indi in 2013.</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I cannot. I will come back and give you that figure</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 59-60, 20 October 2015
20	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Smith	Numbers of tertiary students referred to the AFP	<p>Senator SMITH: ... So my question is: of the 28 that were referred to investigation, how many would have been tertiary students in full-time study living away from a family home who had maintained their enrolment at their family home address, never having changed it?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: ... I do not have that data in front of me, but I think it is data we can probably get for the 28 that were referred.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 61, 20 October 2015

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21	Department of Finance	2/2.3	Gallagher	Amount and cost of vacant office space – Operation Tetris	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: Is there some way that you could put the moves down, if that is easy to do, with the space that has been allocated or allocated, as a question on notice?</p> <p>Mr Edge: We can do that on notice—yes, absolutely.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: In terms of Operation Tetris and the vacant office space here in Canberra, do you have a dollar figure for that—on the cost of the vacant office space? ...</p> <p>Mr Edge: I think we would have to take that on notice in terms of—there are a couple of different ways we can look at this—</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Do you have an average square metre—</p> <p>Mr Edge: We can identify the rental costs of vacant space, which is I think what you are getting at.</p> <p>Ms Halton: We did do a 'point in time' a while ago, and I think that is probably where one of the first figures came from. But it has moved on. So maybe the better thing to do is to give you where we are now. But we will have to take that on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 68 and 110, 20 October 2015
22	Department of Finance	2/2.3	Gallagher	Movement of Commonwealth agencies out of Canberra	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: Minister, are there any other decisions in the pipeline actively being considered for other agencies to move to Gosford or another location?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I will take that question on notice, just in an abundance of caution, because I do not want to provide a misleading answer. I am not, off the top of my head, aware of any. I do not want to set the hares running but, by the same token, I do not want to give you a misleading and inaccurate answer, so I will take that on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 70, 20 October 2015
23	Department of Finance	2/2.3	McKenzie	Comparison of square meterage cost between Canberra and Bendigo	<p>Senator McKENZIE: Ms Halton or Minister, on the efficient use of taxpayer dollars, do you have a comparative cost between a square metre of office space in, say, Canberra versus a square metre of office space in Bendigo?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I would have to take that on notice ...</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 70, 20 October 2015
24	Department of Finance	2/2.3	Gallagher	Leasing proposals to exceed \$2 million threshold	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: Could we have a list of government entities which, since the budget estimates, have advised Finance of leasing proposals for office accommodation that are expected to exceed the \$2 million threshold and, if you can, where local impact assessments will be done.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Yes. We will take that on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 71, 20 October 2015
25	Department of Finance	2/2.3	Gallagher	Properties to generate savings across the forward estimates	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: for that because of the NCA's work. I think across the budget there are 40 surplus properties outlined, which are expected to generate \$22.5 million in savings across the forward estimates. Do those figures still hold? Perhaps on notice you could provide me—or direct me to where I would find—the information about those 40 surplus properties.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Mr Edge: We need to take that on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 73, 20 October 2015

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26	Department of Finance	2/2.1	Bernardi	Finance's involvement in disposal of assets	<p>CHAIR: Everyone in Finance was excited about that opportunity. Let me give you an example. HMAS <i>Adelaide</i> was disposed of. Did that go through the Department of Finance?</p> <p>Ms Halton: We will have to check that one.</p> <p>CHAIR: Specifically the question was: what is your role in the disposal of the HMAS <i>Tobruk</i>? I am happy to put this on notice for you.</p> <p>Ms Halton: We will take that on notice. Do you mean to the extent that the minister signs off in respect of an intended disposal as opposed to a destruction?</p> <p>CHAIR: No, it is just about the disposal.</p> <p>Ms Halton: I have actually seen a number of the minutes go past, but we will take that particular one on notice to see what the time frame was.</p> <p>CHAIR: I will put them on notice for you and you can come back. There are no traps; it is just about trying to find out who is responsible for various things ...</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 78, 20 October 2015
27	Department of Finance	General	Ludwig	Ministerial responsibility of Finance's outcomes	<p>Senator LUDWIG: Yes, I was going to come to that. Before you had a SMOS, a finance minister and an assistant minister. Was there a delineation of the activities of the assistant minister? In other words, did the assistant minister have responsibility for certain parts?</p> <p>Ms Halton: Yes, the assistant minister had responsibility for certain parts. Obviously, we no longer have an assistant minister.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: So the minister is now responsible for all of those parts. What parts were they?</p> <p>Ms Halton: Property, act of grace—</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: I am happy for you to take it on notice.</p> <p>Ms Halton: I will do that. There is one variation to this which, as you would know, is in relation to the handling of some high-volume areas of responsibility. But probably the easiest thing for us to do would be to outline how it all works in a question on notice, if that suits you.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: Yes. And you will include the Special Minister of State in that, and the delineation between that amount?</p> <p>Ms Halton: Yes, absolutely.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 80, 20 October 2015
28	Department of Finance	General	Ludwig	Numbers of staff – Budget Surge	<p>Senator LUDWIG: There is unit called 'the budget surge'. What is that?</p> <p>...</p> <p>Ms Halton: ... it is a group of people who can be moved as necessary from their regular work into another work area.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: How many people?</p> <p>Ms Halton: It depends on what the function is. We can take on notice and tell you how many people surged out of budget group into MAPS.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 82-83, 20 October 2015
29	Department of Finance	General	Ludwig	Role and numbers of the Business Transformation Unit and People and Projects Office	<p>Senator LUDWIG: I am happy for you to take on notice the staffing profile or breakdown of the levels—whether they are APS or executive level. I do not want any names in that either.</p> <p>Mr Teschendorf: I can provide you with an average, or we can take it on notice.</p> <p>Ms Halton: We will take it on notice and check it.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: And then the People and Projects Office.</p> <p>Ms Halton: This is the part of the organisation that will actually allocate resourcing across the organisation.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: So it might then provide bodies to the budget surge.</p> <p>Ms Halton: Yes, that is exactly right.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 84-85, 20 October 2015

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					<p>Senator LUDWIG: Will there be people who staff that? Ms Halton: Yes, a very small number. Senator LUDWIG: I am happy for you to take on notice the numbers and what their levels are. Ms Halton: Yes ...</p>	
30	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Ludwig	Stakeholder consultation on CBMS-R project	<p>Senator LUDWIG: Has there been stakeholder consultation? ... Senator LUDWIG: Coming back to what I call stakeholder consultation, do you get feedback from them? How is it structured, and what is that feedback if you do get it? Ms Huxtable: We are probably getting into a lot of very technical sorts of areas. Senator LUDWIG: I am happy for you to take it on notice and give me a broad overview, then. Ms Huxtable: We can do that. Certainly, in terms of the engagement with the business, there have been very many workshops—we called them something in particular but I cannot remember what.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 87, 20 October 2015
31	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Gallagher	List of 'Smaller Government' savings	<p>Senator Cormann: We are well past that. We have reached about \$1.4 billion in savings from smaller government reforms to date, and obviously we are keen to keep building on that, moving forward. Senator GALLAGHER: I think that \$1.4 billion is in the annual report. Ms Halton: Yes, it is. Senator GALLAGHER: Can I get a list of what constitutes the \$1.4 billion? Ms Halton: We will take it on notice. Senator Cormann: We will take it on notice, but we do keep track of that list. We have that information.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 89, 20 October 2015
32	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Gallagher	List of policy variations since the release of the 2015-16 Budget	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: In terms of announced policy variations from budget day, are higher education and the 12,000 Syrian refugees the only ones that have been committed? Senator Cormann: They are the examples that we have just talked about. There will be an exhaustive list published in the Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook as part of— Senator GALLAGHER: No, I am asking whether there are any already publicly announced variations. Senator Cormann: I would have to take that on notice. What I can say to you is that all will be revealed in one nice concise spot in the Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook later this year.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 92, 20 October 2015
33	Department of Finance	2/2.1	Gallagher, Ludwig	Letter to the Chair of NBN Co.	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: The request to the NBN chair, which was for the counterfactual—I am not sure what words are offending you in it—but obviously there is in 1.5— ... Senator CORMANN: You might remember that this is a letter that was sent on 28 April 2015. ... Senator GALLAGHER: My questions relate to the letter that was written to the nbn co chair. Senator CORMANN: On 28 April 2015. ... Senator LUDWIG: Did the department give any advice about the issue that we have raised about a GBE performing this</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 95-98 and 101, 20 October 2015

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					<p>counterfactual work? ... Senator LUDWIG: Did you provide any advice about this letter to the minister? Ms Halton: We will have to check our records. Senator LUDWIG: You can take that on notice? Ms Halton: We certainly can. Senator LUDWIG: If you did, can you make it available to the committee, please? Ms Halton: No, you know that we do not— Senator Cormann: We will consider, consistent with the relevant Senate standing order, whether or not any such advice can be released or whether there is a public interest immunity exemption that would apply. Senator LUDWIG: Secondly, did the department provide the minister with any advice about the question of political impartiality of a GBE answering this question that was put by the minister? Ms Halton: We will take that on notice. Senator LUDWIG: Thirdly, are you able to say why, when section 1.7 of the guidelines states that GBEs are meant to maintain the highest standards of integrity, accountability and responsibility, that would be consistent with asking for a counterfactual? ... Senator Cormann: We have already taken this on notice. I understand the reasons why you are trying to dwell on this, but, if I had been given such advice, you can rest assured that I would not have signed the letter. But we have taken on notice whether advice was provided in the context of this letter having been sent by then communications minister Turnbull and me. We have also undertaken to assess whether or not that advice, if it does exist, can be released or whether there is a relevant public interest immunity exemption that would apply which would prevent its release in full or in part. We will get back to you. ... Senator LUDWIG: Can the department advise the committee as to who originally drafted the letter? Was it Communications or Finance that drafted the letter? Senator Cormann: We will have to take that on notice. ... Senator LUDWIG: And can you particularly advise who drafted the section requested and updated the cost estimate for a fibre-to-the-premises NBN. ... Senator Cormann: We will take it on notice. ... Senator GALLAGHER: Just to finish on the nbn co—in response to the letter from the shareholder ministers to the chair, did you get a letter of reply? Senator Cormann: I have to take that on notice, I assume so. Senator GALLAGHER: Could you take that on notice and see if you could provide that letter to the committee. Senator Cormann: I do not have all my correspondence here with me, so we will check it on notice.</p>	

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34	Department of Finance	2/2.1	Gallagher	List of Gateway Review programs	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: Could you provide us with a list of the programs that are currently subject to gateway reviews?</p> <p>Mr Bartlett: We can. I think we have provided one on notice last time, but we can provide it again.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: For the sake of pulling them together, if that is not too onerous.</p> <p>Mr Bartlett: That is fine.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 100, 20 October 2015
35	Department of Finance	2/2.2	Cameron	Australian Hearing scoping study – date, cost and briefings	<p>Senator CAMERON: Minister, I am sorry to interrupt you but this is not a trick question. I am simply asking: what date did you receive this scoping study?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I would have to take that on notice. It formed part of the 2015-16 budget process.</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: Okay. What was the final cost of the scoping study?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: Okay. Do you know how much was paid to the external consultants? I think Freehills and PricewaterhouseCoopers? Is there a break up on that available?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I can take that on notice. That information would have, of course, been published at the time. We have actually gone through this in previous estimates, but we can provide go back through that.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: I assumed that you have had a briefing from the department.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Well and truly.</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: When did you get that?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Again, I will have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: Briefing of briefings? Could you give me the details of when those briefings took place?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Sure.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: Could you, maybe, short-circuit this and, on notice, provide us details of who has been briefed on the scoping study?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Sure. That might be quite an extensive exercise, so we will take it on notice and we will see what we can most usefully provide.</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: If you tell us who has been briefed.</p> <p>Ms Halton: Senator, just to clarify, it is not my practice to provide a list of names of officers. We will give you an indication of the departments.</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: Departments.</p> <p>Ms Halton: Yes, departments.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 102-103, 20 October 2015
36	Department of Finance	2/2.2	Cameron	Australian Hearing scoping study – consultations	<p>Senator CAMERON: The further consultations were in Canberra, Sydney, Melbourne and Perth. Is that correct for those extra consultations?</p> <p>Mr Edge: Yes, Senator, I think that is correct.</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: Okay. Who attended those consultations?</p> <p>Mr Edge: From Finance?</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: No, stakeholders.</p> <p>Ms Halton: We will have to take that on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 103-104, 20 October 2015

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37	Department of Finance	2/2.2	Cameron	Australian Hearing scoping study – discussions with private sector hearing-aid providers	<p>Senator CAMERON: Minister, have you or your office, or has the department or any of its officers, conducted separate discussions with private sector hearing-aid providers?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: The official consultation process was managed by the Department of Finance, but obviously, from time to time, all of us in these jobs get approached by various people. ... I will have to take that on notice ...</p> <p>Ms Halton: We have already provided the list of attendees, including from the public and private sector—whomever it might be—to the Senate committee. We will get you that list so you can see exactly who was there.</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: ... You have met with private hearing-aid providers in relation to the privatisation—</p> <p>Senator Cormann: ... In terms of any details, I would have to take them on notice.</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: Ms Halton, have you had any meetings with private sector hearing-aid providers?</p> <p>Ms Halton: No.</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: Have any of your departmental officers?</p> <p>Ms Halton: I think maybe, as part of these consultations. This is why we need to give you the list, so you can see who was there.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 104, 20 October 2015
38	Department of Finance	2/2.2	Cameron	Australian Hearing scoping study – consultation with the ACCC	<p>Senator CAMERON: Was there any consultation, through the scoping study process, with the ACCC in relation to their investigation of the audiology industry and what the implications are?</p> <p>Ms Halton: Certainly not that I am aware of. We will take it on notice. It is not the sort of question we can answer here.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 105, 20 October 2015
39	Department of Finance	2/2.2	Cameron	Australian Hearing scoping study – consultation with stakeholder groups	<p>Senator CAMERON: Can you provide the correspondence that both you and the department have had with the stakeholder groups?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I will consider that on notice, subject to the usual provisos when it comes to releasing what is private information. I sure that if some of these stakeholder groups want to release letters that I have written to them, they are obviously always free to do so. As a general principle, I am reluctant to release correspondence to people that have written to me, but let me consider that on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 109, 20 October 2015
40	Department of Finance	2/2.2	Gallagher	Functional and efficiency reviews	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: In terms of the functional and efficiency reviews that are underway, my understanding is that there are eight underway—is that correct?</p> <p>Ms Halton: That sounds about right.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: We can do them one by one here, or I am happy to take an update on notice. Can you tell me what is happening, when they are expected to be finalised and what the governance arrangements are for them—</p> <p>Ms Halton: We will give you the updated list.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: It is really an update that I want, but if it could include how they are actually being conducted.</p> <p>Ms Halton: We are happy to do that.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 109, 20 October 2015
41	Department of Finance	2/2.3	Gallagher	Cost of the ATO moving to Gosford	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: In relation to the move to Gosford, has a cost been attached to that project?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: There was, but we might have to take that on notice in terms of the specifics.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 109, 20 October 2015

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42	Department of Finance	2/2.5	McKenzie	Procurement of paper - Complete Office Supplies	Senator McKENZIE: ... What proportion of government departments use Complete Office Supplies to get their paper, as opposed to Staples? Mr Sheridan: I would have to take that on notice. I do not have that detail with me.	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 110, 20 October 2015
43	Department of Finance	2/2.2	Ludwig	ICT Sustainability Plan	Senator LUDWIG: Did Finance, the minister or the minister's office receive any representations about the desirability, need or necessity of retaining the ICT Sustainability Plan or initiating a new initiative or forward plan for the next five years? Senator Cormann: I will have to take that on notice.	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 113, 20 October 2015
44	Department of Finance	2/2.5	Gallagher	Whole-of-Government procurement arrangements	Senator GALLAGHER: Could an update be provided to committee on the total amount of savings that have been realised or are estimated to be realised from the whole-of-government procurement arrangements that have been put in place? Senator Cormann: We will take that on notice. Senator GALLAGHER: Could I get it with a year-by-year breakdown of the savings? Senator Cormann: Yes.	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 114, 20 October 2015
45	Department of Finance	2/2.5	Xenophon	International agreements affecting procurement arrangements	Senator XENOPHON: Mr Sheridan has said that there are international agreements. I am very happy for Mr Sheridan to take this on notice, because he may want to refer to specific trade agreements and specific international obligations he is referring to. Mr Sheridan, I am more than happy for you to provide this on notice. There is this assertion that international agreements prevent giving adequate weight—or prevent what many would consider giving adequate weight—to local industry participation and local jobs and firms. Could you, on notice, provide me with details of those international agreements? ... Senator Cormann: ... There are certain limits to what we can do. I certainly think that Mr Sheridan, on notice, will be able to provide you with some additional information in relation to that, to provide specific references as to where these limits come from. ... Senator Cormann: International agreements are very relevant in this space, but it is just the way you framed the question. We will provide whatever assistance we can on notice in terms of making references to those relevant parts of free trade agreements that Australia is party to. ... Senator XENOPHON: ... Can you, Mr Sheridan, in that answer, provide details of the agreements and the particular clauses that you say would prevent taking into account the effect on local jobs of local procurement? It is not a trick question. ... Senator Cormann: In an abundance of helpfulness, though, we will see what we can coordinate for you in response to your question. I know what you are after. I understand.	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 116-117, 20 October 2015

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46	Department of Finance	3/3.1	Gallagher	Repayment of entitlement amounts – Hon Bronwyn Bishop MP	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: All right. Can I ask some questions about the former Speaker Bronwyn Bishop: whether the cost of the chartered helicopter flights have been repaid.</p> <p>Ms McGregor: They were repaid.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Can you tell me when they were repaid?</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: We will give you the date on notice if you like ...</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Was there a penalty loading applied to that?</p> <p>Ms McGregor: Ms Bishop voluntarily repaid an additional amount, around 25 per cent.</p> <p>Ms Halton: Consistent with a penalty loading.</p> <p>Ms McGregor: Consistent with her announcement as well.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: If you do not have this available, could you supply on notice the total amount repaid to the taxpayer by Ms Bishop.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 120, 20 October 2015
47	Department of Finance	3/3.1	Gallagher	Numbers of temporary, non-standard home bases	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: In relation to the document—I am not sure if it was in the document, but it was certainly discussed at the May estimates—there were two temporary non-standard home bases. Do they still exist?</p> <p>Ms McGregor: I might have to take that on notice. I will just check for you.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 122, 20 October 2015
48	Department of Finance	3/3.1	Gallagher	Use of fax machines by Senators and Members	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: Do you have any idea how many MOPS or how many senators or members rely on the use of fax machines?</p> <p>...</p> <p>Ms McGregor: We will get you a number on notice, if you like, Senator.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: And also whether or not there are any forms that are required to be faxed in.</p> <p>Ms Halton: It is a fair question because, if we have things that are connecting with old technology, we ought to do something about it. We will have a look.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 122-123, 20 October 2015
49	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Wong	Foundation 51 – complaints regarding non-compliance with the Electoral Act	<p>With reference to complaints received by the Australian Electoral Commissioner alleging non-compliance with Part XX of the Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918 by Foundation 51, an associated entity of the Country Liberal Party:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. On what dates have complaints been received. 2. What action did the Australian Electoral Commissioner take in response to these complaints. 3. Did the Australian Electoral Commissioner respond to all complaints in a timely fashion. 	Written
50	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Wong	Foundation 51 – breaches of the Electoral Act	<p>Has the Australian Electoral Commissioner identified breaches of the Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918 by Foundation 51, an associated entity of the Country Liberal Party.</p> <p>If so:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What breaches; 2. What action has the Australian Electoral Commissioner taken in respect to each breach; and 3. If no action has been taken, why not. 	Written

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51	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Wong	Foundation 51 – date of establishment and first financial disclosure return	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. On what date was Foundation 51, an associated entity of the Country Liberal Party, established. 2. On what date did Foundation 51 first lodge an annual financial disclosure return with the Australian Electoral Commission. 	Written
52	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Wong	Foundation 51 – dates of financial disclosure returns	<p>On what dates did Foundation 51, an associated entity of the Country Liberal Party, lodge annual disclosure returns with the Australian Electoral Commission in respect to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2008-09; 2. 2009-10; 3. 2010-11; 4. 2011-12; and 5. 2013-14. 	Written
53	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Wong	Foundation 51 – relationship to the Country Liberal Party	<p>Is Foundation 51 an associated entity of the Country Liberal Party because it is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. an entity that is controlled by the Country Liberal Party; or 2. an entity that operates wholly, or to a significant extent, for the benefit of the Country Liberal Party; or 3. an entity that is a financial member of the Country Liberal Party; or 4. an entity on whose behalf another person is a financial member of the Country Liberal Party; or 5. an entity that has voting rights in the Country Liberal Party; or 6. an entity on whose behalf another person has voting rights in the Country Liberal Party. 	Written
54	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Wong	Foundation 51 – relationship to the Country Liberal Party before July 2011	<p>Has the Australian Electoral Commissioner satisfied himself that Foundation 51 was not an associated entity of the Country Liberal Party at any time before 1 July 2011. If so, how.</p>	Written
55	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Wong	Foundation 51 – payments made to Mr James McGrath	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Did the Australian Electoral Commissioner receive information in December 2014 that in 2012 an entity known as Foundation 51 had paid “outgoings” to the Country Liberal Party’s 2012 campaign director, Mr James McGrath. 2. Did the Australian Electoral Commissioner contact Mr McGrath to ascertain whether Foundation 51 made payments to him directly, via the Country Liberal Party, or via another source, in the course of determining whether the entity should lodge an annual disclosure return as an associated entity of the Country Liberal Party. 	Written

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56	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Wong	Foundation 51 – disclosure of donations and gifts to the Country Liberal Party	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have all donations, including gifts-in-kind, received by the Country Liberal Party from Foundation 51 since 2008-09 been disclosed to the Australian Electoral Commission by the Country Liberal Party in the statutory time period for disclosure. 2. Has the Australian Electoral Commissioner satisfied himself that all donations, including gifts-in-kind, received by the Country Liberal Party from Foundation 51 since 2008-09 have been declared in the Country Liberal Party’s annual financial disclosure returns lodged with the Australian Electoral Commission. If so, how. 	Written
57	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Wong	Foundation 51 – donation by Korminda College	<p>With reference to advice on the Australian Electoral Commission’s Associated Entity Disclosure Return that “The AEC contacts donors to ensure they are aware of their disclosure obligations”:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has the Australian Electoral Commission contacted Darwin’s Korminda College, an organisation declared as making a payment of \$33,000 to Foundation 51, an associated entity of the Country Liberal Party, on the associated entity’s 2013-14 annual disclosure return. 2. Is the Australian Electoral Commission aware of a report broadcast by ABC Darwin on 2 February 2015 in which the school’s chairman is reported to say: “The board commissioned some research, the research commissioned to do that was Crosby Textor, who did the work. I was not aware of any links between Foundation 51 and Crosby Textor.” 3. How has the Australian Electoral Commissioner satisfied himself that the annual disclosure return for 2013-14 lodged by Foundation 51 is accurate. 	Written
58	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Wong	Foundation 51 – AEC’s assistance to the investigation into possible breaches electoral laws	<p>With reference to the media statement issued by the Northern Territory Electoral Commission on 15 April 2015 titled “Investigation into Foundation 51” in which the NTEC advised that an investigation had established possible breaches of electoral laws by Foundation 51, an associated entity of the Country Liberal Party, and these breaches had been referred to the Northern Territory Police for further consideration:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Did the Australian Electoral Commission provide any assistance to the Northern Territory Electoral Commission in relation to its investigation of possible breaches of electoral laws by Foundation 51. 	Written
59	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Wong	Foundation 51 – AEC’s assistance and re-opening of investigation into possible breaches electoral laws	<p>With reference to the media statement issued by the Northern Territory Police on 21 October 2015 titled “Foundation 51: Investigation Concluded” in which the Northern Territory Police advised that a brief of evidence was provided to the Northern Territory Director of Public Prosecutions who determined that, “notwithstanding a prima facie case and reasonable prospect of conviction”, it is not in the public interest to commence a prosecution against Foundation 51, an associated entity of the Country Liberal Party:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Did the Australian Electoral Commission provide any assistance to the Northern Territory Electoral Commission or the Northern Territory Director of Public Prosecutions in relation to this matter. 2. Given that a prima facie case and a reasonable prospect of conviction for breaches of electoral laws was established by the Northern Territory Director of Public Prosecutions, has the Australian Electoral Commission re-opened its investigation of complaints of possible breaches of federal electoral laws by Foundation 51. 	Written
60	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Wong	Automotive Transformation Scheme	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the legislated funding allocation for the Automotive Transformation Scheme, over the forward estimates and the duration set by the legislation? 2. What is the budgeted funding allocation for the Automotive Transformation Scheme over the forward estimates? 3. Will there need to be new spending required in order for the budgeted funding allocation to meet the legislated funding allocation? If so, could the Department provide the profile of this funding over the forward estimates. 	Written

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61	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Wong	Rule of thumb scenarios	What is the illustrative sensitivity of the budget balance (impact on receipts and payments) due to a: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 0.5 per cent decrease or increase in unemployment; 2. 0.5 per cent decrease or increase in the consumer price index; 3. 0.5 per cent decrease or increase in the wage price index; 4. 0.5 per cent decrease or increase in employment 	Written
62	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Wong	Indigenous Advancement Strategy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the total funding for the Indigenous Advancement Strategy, year-by-year, over the forward estimates? 2. How is funding allocated from the Indigenous Advancement Strategy? 3. When does funding from the Indigenous Advancement Strategy become allocated and contracted? 	Written
63	Department of Finance	General	Wong	Finance's Corporate Plan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. On page 8 of the Corporate Plan, what are the types of measures that Finance is implementing or has undertaken in order for it to be a "valued and trusted adviser to government on matters of policy and business, offering innovative and value for money solutions"? 2. Also on page 8, what is Finance doing in terms of "modern management practices", "being agile and responsive to government needs" and "engaging effectively and collaboratively with other entities and stakeholders" that is different to prior to this corporate plan? 3. On page 9, can the Department elaborate on what is meant by "expanding the reform of back-office IT systems"? Is this a new measure, or is this the Enterprise Resource Planning measure in the 2015-16 Budget? 4. Also on page 9, can the Department explain how the new building will "make operations more agile and better connected, and help organise people more flexibly in response to work pressures"? Further, in reference to the phrase "improved technology" – does this mean that Finance's IT systems are getting an upgrade? 5. In terms of measuring performance on an annual basis in relation to budget and financial advice on page 12, do these performance indicators line up with the performance indicators on page 29 of the 2015-16 Portfolio Budget Statement? 6. In terms of measuring performance for the "Transformation" purpose for 2016-17 and beyond on page 16, can the Department provide an update on the roll out of the public sector information grants system by June 2017? 7. Page 18 outlines actions required to address extreme or high operational risks in the government's non-defence property portfolio - what would these extreme or high operational risks be? 8. On page 18 there is an objective relating to GovCMS – a cloud based website hosting service. Can the Department explain what this is? What work is underway in relation to this? Which websites would be hosted in this service? 9. With reference to page 18 - what are the heritage objectives for the property portfolio? What are the heritage strategy commitments? Are these on track to be completed by 2017? 10. How will all the performance indicators be reported? In the annual report, the "annual performance statement", or both? What form will the Annual Performance Statement take? Will this be tabled in the Parliament? When will these annual performance statements be made public in terms of the reporting cycle? 	Written

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64	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Wong	Costs of National Wind Farm Commissioner and Independent Scientific Committee on Wind Turbines	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. With regards to the announcement of the appointment of a National Wind Farm Commissioner and Independent Scientific Committee on Wind Turbines, is there any funding being provided by the Government for this appointment and committee? 2. If so, was a costing done by Finance for this? 3. What is the breakdown of funding over the forward estimates? 4. Please advise what salary is the National Wind Farm Commissioner being provided with? Are members of the Independent Scientific Committee on Wind Turbines being remunerated as well? 	Written
65	Department of Finance	2/2.1	Wong	Australian-ASEAN Council	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is the Australian-ASEAN Council a new body that has been set up under the Governance policy that Finance administers? 2. What is the function of this council? 3. What are the annual costs for this council? 	Written
66	Department of Finance	2/2.1	Wong	Spectrum Review	<p>Regarding the announcement on 25 August 2015 on the Government's response to the Spectrum Review:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Did Finance have anything to do with this work? 2. If so, can the Department detail their involvement? 3. As part of this, there was a particular task in relation to the financial arrangements for Commonwealth spectrum use –is Finance involved in this? 4. Can the Department describe what this means, what are the implications regarding financial arrangements for spectrum use? How is it presented in the budget papers / financial statements? 5. Are there any implications for the budget papers / financial statements as a result of the Government's response to the Spectrum Review as a whole? If so, can the Department detail what these are? 	Written
67	Department of Finance	2/2.2	Wong	Defence Housing Australia reform	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many staff are involved in the reform of Defence Housing Australia from a Finance perspective? Can the Department provide a breakdown by classification. 2. Are there any contractors or consultants working on this reform in Finance? If so, how many? How much are they being paid? 3. The budget measure stated that there would be a review of Defence Housing Australia's accounting, information technology and business reporting systems, as well as its business plans. What has been found so far in relation to these systems and the business plans? 4. Of the \$3.5 million that was provided to Finance this financial year for this reform work, can the Department advise how much has been spent to date? 	Written
68	Department of Finance	2/2.2	Wong	ARTC Scoping Study	<p>On 2 September 2015 the Minister for Finance and the Deputy Prime Minister put out a media release saying that the scoping study for the Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) had been delayed in order to consider the inland rail project between Melbourne and Brisbane. As part of this the "current tender processes for business and legal advisers for the ARTC Scoping Study" was not proceeded with, with a new process to begin "later this year".</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much had been spent on the scoping study by the Government prior to this announcement? 2. How many bids for the business and legal advisers had been put in by companies? How much had been spent by these companies bidding for the adviser positions prior to this announcement? 	Written

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					<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. How many staff in Finance had been working on this scoping study prior to the announcement? Which branch in Finance was / is responsible – was this their only task? What are these staff doing now as a result of the delay? 4. Has this “new process” to appoint suitable advisers begun yet? If not, when will this occur? 	
69	Department of Finance	2/2.2	Wong	ICON Scoping Study	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can the Department provide an update to the committee on the scoping study for the Intra-Government Communications Network, or ICON? 2. If it does become privately owned, what are the potential revenue streams it could make for the owner? 3. Will the security of data be a key factor in whatever decision is made? 4. Can the Department advise what security classification level information can be transmitted over ICON? 	Written
70	Department of Finance	2/2.2	Wong	Telepresence	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can the Department provide statistics of telepresence usage year by year since it was first rolled out? 2. Does the Department keep track of overall travel costs across Government, and in particular, whether or not travel costs have declined with the increased usage of telepresence? Can the Department provide statistics of Commonwealth travel costs year by year since telepresence was first rolled out? 3. Can the Department provide details of the costs of operating the telepresence system year by year since it was first rolled out? 	Written
71	Department of Finance	General	Wong	Telecommunications for the department	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What options for mobile phones are available for: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Minister; b) The Minister’s office; c) Senior Executive Service staff; d) Executive Level staff; and e) APS level staff. 2. What network provider does Finance use for its mobile phones? 3. Is there a publicly available plan used for these mobile phones or is there a particular rate available to Finance? Can the Department provide details of the plan used? 4. When did this plan arrangement first get implemented? 	Written
72	Department of Finance	2/2.1	Wong	Act of Grace / Waiver of debt	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the average duration for an act of grace request to be completed? 2. What is the average duration for a waiver-of-debt request to be completed? 3. Who is the final arbiter of an act of grace request? 4. Who is the final arbiter of a waiver-of-debt request? 5. What is the shortest time, in the last financial year, that an act of grace request was completed? 6. What is the shortest time, in the last financial year, that a waiver-of-debt request was completed? 7. What is the longest time, in the last financial year, that an act of grace request was completed? 8. What is the longest time, in the last financial year, that an waiver-of-debt request was completed? 	Written

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FINANCE PORTFOLIO

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
73	Department of Finance	General	Wong	Accommodation occupational density	In each of the tenancies occupied by Finance, what is the occupational density in each of those tenancies?	Written
74	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Wong	Second round effects in costings	Has there been any advice provided to the Department of the Treasury, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Minister for Finance, the Minister for Finance's office, the Treasurer, the Treasurer's office, the Prime Minister, or the Prime Minister's office in relation to: 1. second-round effects in costings; 2. whether they should be included in costings for the purposes of the budget; and 3. what type of costings would they apply to, if they were included in costings for the purposes of the budget.	Written
75	Department of Finance	2/2.3	Wong	General Office Accommodation Canberra divestment measure	1. Of the \$4.4 million provided to Finance in the 2015-16 financial year to implement the sale of East Block, West Block, ANZAC Park East and ANZAC Park West, how much has been spent to date? 2. Does the Department expect to expend all of the \$4.4 million in this financial year? 3. If not, how much will be underspent or overspent?	Written
76	Department of Finance	2/2.3	Wong	Mount Macedon Property divestment measure	1. Of the \$0.3 million provided to Finance in the 2015-16 financial year to divest the property used by the Australian Emergency Management Institute, how much has been spent to date? 2. Does the Department expect to expend all of the \$0.3 million in this financial year? 3. If not, how much will be underspent or overspent?	Written
77	Department of Finance	2/2.2	Wong	ASIC Registry commercialisation measure	1. Of the \$11.6 million provided to Finance in the 2015-16 financial year to undertake a competitive tender process regarding the ASIC registry, how much has been spent to date? 2. Does the Department expect to expend all of the \$11.6 million in this financial year? 3. If not, how much will be underspent or overspent?	Written
78	Department of Finance	2/2.1	Wong	New Icebreaker vessel	1. Can the Department explain Finance's role in the tender process for the new icebreaker vessel? 2. Which part of Finance was involved in this? 3. How many staff were involved? Were consultants or contractors hired to assist with this work? If so, how many consultants or contractors were hired, and at what cost? 4. When will final costs for the new icebreaker be finalised?	Written

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QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
79	Department of Finance	2/2.7	Wong	Emissions Reduction Fund	Has Finance provided any advice to the Minister for Finance or the Minister for Finance's office in relation to additional funding, over and above the existing \$2.55 billion, for the Emissions Reduction Fund?	Written
80	Department of Finance	2/2.2	Wong	Passports in the cloud	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has Finance received any advice from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in relation to a proposal for cloud passports? 2. Has Finance worked on any proposal for cloud passports? 3. Has Finance taken part in any inter-departmental working group or committee or other group in relation to a proposal for cloud passports? 	Written
81	Department of Finance	2/2.7	Wong	Asset Recycling	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is it still the Government's intention to pass the legislation relating to the Asset Recycling Fund? 2. How is the Asset Recycling Fund/Initiative working in the absence of the legislation passing? 3. What effect has the non-passage of legislation to essentially put the funding from the Building Australia Fund and Education Investment Fund had on the funding available for the Asset Recycling Fund / Initiative? 4. Can the Department provide details of planned investments from the Asset Recycling Fund / Initiative that are to be funded from the proceeds from the Education Investment Fund and the Building Australia Fund? 5. Which planned investments were funded from the funding from the sale of Medibank Private? 6. Which investments were funded from appropriations? 7. What role does the Future Fund play in relation to the Asset Recycling Fund / initiative at present? 8. What is the anticipated rate of return for the Asset Recycling Fund? 	Written
82	Department of Finance	2/2.7	Wong	Medical Research Future Fund	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have any payments been made out of the Medical Research Future Fund for the purposes of research investments? 2. Looking at the Finance 2015-16 Portfolio Budget Statements on page 61, there was \$10 million estimated to be spent this year (that is \$10 million that was to be transferred to the special account for projects)? Has any of this expenditure occurred yet? 3. Can the Department provide a list of projects that were going to receive the 2015-16 funding? 4. Referring to the answer to question on notice F54 from the Budget Estimates round, which has the list of all the savings that were going to go into the MRFF – how much of the total savings that were supposed to go into the MRFF have not passed the Parliament? What does this mean in relation to the estimated investments that are to be made? 5. Now that the MRFF has been established, what is the rate of return for the fund? 6. Can the Department detail the types of investments being made for the purposes of the MRFF? That is, what types of investments are being made in order for the MRFF to return the amount of expenditure required to provide the research payments? 	Written

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QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
83	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Smith	Referral of individuals to the Australian Federal Police following incorrect or unlawful enrolment	In relation to the possibility of a voter deliberately or knowingly enrolling in an electorate in which they are not entitled to enrol: what are the minimum criteria, or what is the minimum prima facie evidence, required for the AEC to refer an individual for investigation by the Australian Federal Police (AFP)?	Written
84	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Smith	Reasons for referral of individuals to the Australian Federal Police	Is it the case, broadly speaking, that if the AEC refers an individual to the AFP for investigation, it is because the AEC believes that there is a probability of an offence having been committed?	Written
85	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Smith	AEC's referral of individuals to the Australian Federal Police in relation to enrolment in the electorate of Indi in 2013	<p>Two of the individuals are now facing prosecution for providing false or misleading information to the AEC. If it eventuates that those cases are dealt with and concluded without any evidence being presented in open court (i.e. if the individuals do not contest the charges), this would mean that significant and costly investigations and proceedings will have been conducted by at least three federal agencies and the court system without a single piece of information or evidence about what happened having been made available to the public.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Would you agree that, in such circumstances, it would be incumbent on the AEC to formally report on the matter of what occurred in Indi in 2013 to the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters? 2. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Since the time of the 2013 Federal election, how many voters (in total) who were then on the roll in Indi have: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) manually re-enrolled in another electorate; and ii) been re-enrolled at the AEC's instigation in another electorate? b) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) Aside from the two people who have been, or will be, formally charged with providing false or misleading information to the AEC, how many of the other 26 people originally referred to the AFP still remain on the electoral roll for Indi? ii) Of those among the 26 who no longer remain on the roll for Indi, how many have: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> aa) manually re-enrolled in another electorate; and bb) been re-enrolled at the AEC's instigation in another electorate? c) Of those among the 26 who no longer remain on the roll for Indi and have manually re-enrolled in another electorate, please indicate the date of their change of enrolment in each case. 3. Prior to the referral in 2014 of the 28 cases in Indi, when was the most recent occasion that cases of potentially false enrolment in that electorate were referred by the AEC to the AFP? 4. Across the history of the electorate of Indi, how many cases in total of potentially false enrolment in the seat have been referred by the AEC to the AFP? (Please indicate the time period to which this data relates.) 	Written

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QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
86	Department of Finance	2/2.1	Parry	<i>HMAS Tobruk</i> and the gifting of de-commissioned naval vessels to States	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Who, or which Department, can gift a de-commissioned ship to a state for non-military use? 2. What de-commissioned ships have been gifted to states in the past and for what purpose? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Was there any other Commonwealth funding provided in addition to the ship? b) If so, what was the amount and for what purpose? c) What was the cost of each of these projects to the Commonwealth? d) What was the cost to the State? 3. Does any other Commonwealth Department have involvement with the sale or disposal of decommissioned naval vessels? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) If so, what is their involvement? 4. Is it true that the cost of berthing the HMAS Tobruk in Sydney is \$5,000 /day, whereas it could be berthed at Bell Bay for \$1.55 per metre per day; that is, less than \$200/day? 5. What steps are required to obtain the HMAS Tobruk for recreational use by a State or Territory Government? 6. Which Department or Agency can assist a State or Territory Government with the process for acquiring the HMAS Tobruk for recreational purposes? 	Written
87	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Bilyk	Recommendations of the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters in relation to reforming Senate voting	If the recommendations of the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters in relation to reforming Senate voting were legislated by the Parliament, how long would it take the AEC to implement those changes, having regard to computerised vote counting systems and other relevant considerations?	Written
88	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Bilyk	Compliance reports for political parties	Can a copy of all compliance reports produced by the AEC since 1 July 2013 in relation to the following parties please be provided: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Liberal Party of Australia – all Divisions/Branches; 2. National Party of Australia– all Divisions/Branches; 3. Country Liberal Party – all Divisions/Branches; and 4. Australian Greens – all Divisions/Branches. 	Written
89	Department of Finance	3/3.1	Bilyk	Minister for Finance: international travel	In relation to any international trips undertaken by the Minister in 2015, can he please provide the Senate: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A copy of the itinerary for each overseas trip; 2. An itemised list of the costs of each trip including the class of travel for any flights; 3. Copies of receipts for any food or beverages that the Minister consumed at taxpayer expense during each trip; 4. Copies of receipts for any self-drive hire cars or chauffeured services utilised by the Minister during each trip; 5. Details of any spouse travel; 6. Copies of receipts for any other ground transport; and 7. Copies of receipts for any hotel accommodation. 	Written

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QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
90	Department of Finance	General	Bilyk	Functions and official receptions hosted by the Minister for Finance	In relation to any functions or official receptions hosted by the Minister in 2015, can the following please be provided: 1. List of functions; 2. List of attendees including departmental officials and members of the Minister's family or personal staff; 3. Function venue; 4. Itemised list of costs; 5. Details of any food served; 6. Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage; and 7. Details of any entertainment provided.	Written
91	Department of Finance	3/3.1	Bilyk	Special Minister of State: international travel	In relation to any international trips undertaken by the Minister in 2015, can he please provide the Senate: 1. A copy of the itinerary for each overseas trip; 2. An itemised list of the costs of each trip including the class of travel for any flights; 3. Copies of receipts for any food or beverages that the Minister consumed at taxpayer expense during each trip; 4. Copies of receipts for any self-drive hire cars or chauffeured services utilised by the Minister during each trip; 5. Details of any spouse travel; 6. Copies of receipts for any other ground transport; and 7. Copies of receipts for any hotel accommodation.	Written
92	Department of Finance	General	Bilyk	Functions and official receptions hosted by the Special Minister of State	In relation to any functions or official receptions hosted by the Minister in 2015, can the following please be provided: 1. List of functions; 2. List of attendees including departmental officials and members of the Minister's family or personal staff; 3. Function venue; 4. Itemised list of costs; 5. Details of any food served; 6. Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage; and 7. Details of any entertainment provided.	Written
93	Department of Finance	General	Bilyk	Visit to Torres Strait	Did the Minister for Finance, his office or Department participate in the former Prime Minister's trip to the Torres Strait? If so- 1. What was the duration of the visit to Torres Strait? 2. Which locations did the Minister/his Department travel to? 3. Which communities did the Minister/his Department engage with? 4. What type of activities did they undertake? 5. What were the outcomes of the trip? 6. Was an official report or communique or similar published in relation to the trip? 7. Are you able to please provide an itinerary for the A Minister/his Department's trip? 8. Which hotel or hotels did the Minister/his Department stay in? 9. Could you please provide an itemised cost breakdown in relation to the Minister/his Department's involvement in this trip? This should be broken down into categories such as accommodation, ground transport, meals, incidentals etc. 10. How many members of the Minister's staff participated in the trip? 11. Could you please advise the number of staff, their title and staffing classification under the MOPS Enterprise Agreement?	Written

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QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
					<p>12. In terms of departmental officials from the Department, could you please advise the names and roles of each departmental official in attendance?</p> <p>13. Could you also please provide an itemised list of costs for departmental officials in terms of flights, accommodation, ground transport, meals and other incidentals? This should specify the officials which travelled in business class and those that travelled in economy, the hotels they stayed in and which businesses supplied ground transport.</p>	
94	Department of Finance	General	Bilyk	Secretary's speeches to staff	Can a copy of any speeches delivered by the Secretary of the Finance Department at any staff meetings in 2015 please be provided?	Written
95	Department of Finance	General	Bilyk	Secretary's office upgrades	Have the furniture, fixtures or fittings of the Secretary's office been upgraded in 2015? If so, can an itemised list of costs please be provided?	Written
96	Department of Finance	3/3.1	Bilyk	Mantach fraud	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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? 	Written
97	All	General	Ludwig	Departmental Rebranding	<p>Has the department/Agency undergone a name change or any other form of rebranding since the leadership change in September, 2015? If so:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please detail why this name change/rebrand were considered necessary and a justified use of departmental funds? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Please provide a copy of any reports that were commissioned to study the benefits and costs associated with the rebranding. 2. Please provide the total cost associated with this rebrand and then break down by amount spent replacing: 	Written

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QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Signage. b) Stationery (please include details of existing stationery and how it was disposed of). c) Logos d) Consultancy e) Any relevant IT changes. f) Office reconfiguration. <p>3. How was the decision reached to rename and/or rebrand the department?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Who was involved in reaching this decision? b) Please provide a copy of any communication (including but not limited to emails, letters, memos, notes etc) from within the department, or between the department and the government regarding the rename/rebranding. <p>4. Following the changes does the department share any goods/services/accommodation with other departments?</p> <p>5. What resources/services does the department share with other departments; are there plans to cease sharing the sharing of these resources/services?</p> <p>6. What were the costs to the department prior to the Machinery of Government changes for these shared resources? What are the estimated costs after the ceasing of shared resource arrangements?</p>	
98	All	General	Ludwig	Staffing - employment of non-Australian citizens	<p>I refer you to section 22 (8) of the Public Service Act 1999 which says: "An Agency Head must not engage, as an APS employee, a person who is not an Australian citizen, unless the Agency Head considers it appropriate to do so."</p> <p>1. Does the department have guidelines or similar to assist Agency Heads to assess when it is appropriate to hire non-Australian citizens? If no, do individual agencies have their own guidelines? If yes to either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Please provide a copy. b) When did they come into effect? c) Can Agency Heads decide to go against the advice? If yes, under what circumstances? <p>2. Are Agency Heads required to provide a reason to anyone for hiring non-Australian citizens? If yes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Who are they required to report the reason to? b) Does this reporting happen before or after the hire has been made? c) Is this reason provided in writing? If no, how is it provided? d) Can you please provide a list of reasons that have been used since the Federal election in September, 2013. <p>3. Are there any provisions to over-rule a Head of Agency's decision to hire a non-Australian citizen? If yes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Who can over-rule this decision? b) Under what circumstances can it be over-ruled? c) How many times has this occurred since the Federal election in September, 2013. 	Written
99	Department of Finance	3/3.1	Ludwig	Ministerial Staffing	<p>In regard to all ministerial offices, since the leadership change in September, 2015:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has there been any change to the staffing profile of the Minister's office? 2. Provide a list of changes to staffing numbers, broken down by classification level, and role. 3. Please provide a break down of any redundancies that have been paid to staff who left the Minister's office since the change in leadership. 4. Please provide the total cost of Ministerial staff salaries in the office from before the change. 5. Please provide the total cost of Ministerial staff salaries in the office as of now. 	Written

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QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
					6. Were any staff hired for the office since the change, but have subsequently left in the time between then and now? If yes: a) How many? b) How long did each stay? c) What was their role?	
100	Department of Finance	General	Ludwig	Ministerial Personalised Stationery	Since the leadership change in September, 2015, how much has been spent by the Ministerial office on personalised stationery for the Minister and the Minister's staff? Please provide a cost breakdown by type of stationery purchased and the quantity of each and whether it was for the Minister or for staff.	Written
101	Department of Finance	3/3.1	Ludwig	Furniture Relocation – office of the Attorney-General	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide an itemised breakdown of all items moved by Department of Finance for the office of Senator the Hon George Brandis from the Deputy Senate Leader's office to the Senate Leader's office 2. Provide pictures of any item of furniture moved by Department of Finance listed above 3. What was the total cost of moving these items? 4. Breakdown this cost by task/service or activity per item listed 5. Who conducted the work involved in moving each item of furniture? Was any work conducted by non-Department of Finance sources? If so, list these sources. What was the cost for procuring these services? How were they obtained? Under what policy were they engaged? 6. Provide all communication with the office of Senator the Hon George Brandis concerning the items to be moved to the Senator's new suite 7. Were items moved by Department of Finance for Senator Brandis initially not considered for transfer to the Senator's new suite? 8. Were any new items of furniture purchased for the Senator's new suite by Department of Finance? If so, itemise each item, providing a cost breakdown of each item, the source from which they were purchased, how the source was identified, who requested the item and any correspondence concerning the purchase of the items. 9. Were any modifications or changes made to the Senator's previous or new suite on his move between offices by Department of Finance? If so, itemise these changes, provide a cost breakdown of each change, who the changes were requested by, correspondence concerning these changes, who made each change and how they were selected to perform these changes. 	Written
102	Department of Finance	3/3.1	Ludwig	Change in Prime Minister	<p>After the change in Prime Minister in September 2015, it was widely reported that it took the former Prime Minister (Mr Abbott) and his staff quite some time to vacate the Prime Ministerial office. It was also reported that during this time, the New Prime Minister (Mr Turnbull) operated out of his old office (Communication Minister's office). One such article is available here: http://www.smh.com.au/federal-politics/political-news/office-politics-tony-abbotts-staff-slow-to-leave-their-old-digs-20150917-gjpada.html</p> <p>The following questions relate to these reports:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When was the PM's office made available to Mr Turnbull? 	Written

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					<p>2. When was the Department informed that the PM's office had been vacated?</p> <p>a) Was the department informed prior to the office becoming available</p> <p>b) How was the department informed?</p> <p>c) Who informed the department?</p> <p>d) Could you please provide a copy of any emails, memos or other documents in the chain with the department regarding the vacation of the office?</p> <p>3. When was Mr Turnbull informed that the office was available to him?</p> <p>a) How was the Prime Minister (or his office) informed?</p> <p>b) Who informed the Prime Minister (or his office)?</p> <p>c) Could you please provide a copy of any emails, memos or other documents in the chain with the department regarding the vacation of the office?</p> <p>4. Did the department provide any additional furniture, equipment, IT, etc to Prime Minister Turnbull or his office to use in the Communication Minister's office between his election to the leadership and his move into the Prime Minister's office? If yes, please provide a list of items and include:</p> <p>a) Was the item in stock or purchased for this purpose?</p> <p>b) Value of item.</p> <p>c) What was the need for the item?</p> <p>d) Was it requested by the Prime Minister's office? If no, then who requested it?</p>	
103	Department of Finance	3/3.1	Ludwig	Chesterfield lounge	<p>A Chesterfield lounge was located in Minister Kevin Andrews' office. It had previously been in Prime Minister Howard's office.</p> <p>Were any requests made by Minister's, MPs or Senators or their offices for the lounge to be placed in their offices? If yes, please provide a list of offices who had requested the lounge and provide a copy of any documents, emails, memos etc that relate to these requests.</p>	Written
104	Department of Finance	3/3.1	Bilyk	Ministerial international travel - Prime Minister and Cabinet, Social Services and Defence portfolios	<p>In relation to any international travel undertaken in 2015 by the Minister for Indigenous Affairs, the Minister for Women and Minister Assisting the Minister for the Public Service, the Cabinet Secretary, the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Digital Government, the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Counter-Terrorism, the Assistant Minister for Productivity, the Assistant Cabinet Secretary or the Assistant Ministers to the Prime Minister, and by current or former Ministers in the Social Services portfolio, and the Minister and Assistant Minister for Defence, can the following please be provided to the Senate:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A copy of the itinerary for each overseas trip; 2. An itemised list of the costs of each trip including the class of travel for any flights; 3. Copies of receipts for any food or beverages that the Minister consumed at taxpayer expense during each trip; 4. Copies of receipts for any self-drive hire cars or chauffeured services utilised by the Attorney-General during each trip; 5. Details of any spouse travel; 6. Copies of receipts for any other ground transport; and 7. Copies of receipts for any hotel accommodation. 	Written

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QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
105	Department of Finance	2/2.2	Moore	Women on Australian Government Boards	Can the office provide details of the funding currently provided for the BoardLinks program?	Written
106	Department of Finance	General	Ludwig	Staffing profile – Budget and Financial Reporting and Financial Analysis, Reporting and Management	<p>Senator LUDWIG: There is a group called Budget and Financial Reporting, but the reporting branch does not appear to be in this group. It seems to be in Governance and APS Transformation.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: Right. So that is not Budget and Financial Reporting—that is reporting as distinct from Budget and Financial Reporting.</p> <p>Ms Halton: It is whole-of-government.</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: There are many elements of financial reporting that occur in the budget group.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: For both of those groups could you provide the staffing profile, the number of staff and the levels—no names.</p> <p>Ms Halton: Sure.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 85, 20 October 2015
107	Department of Finance	General	Ludwig	Staffing profile – Asset Management Taskforce	<p>Senator LUDWIG: I am with you now. And there are two asset management task forces with what appears to be seven units within those task forces—Housing and Hearing Projects, Property Management Projects and ASIC Registry Projects.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Mr Edge: I can clarify what that means. It means that there are two first assistant secretaries overseeing the work of the Asset Management Taskforce. They are responsible for different projects.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: I see, so there are seven projects—is there seven?</p> <p>Mr Edge: The projects are listed there.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: So then you have a break-up between which first assistant secretary deals with which—</p> <p>Mr Edge: That is right.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: Maybe you could provide a list—I do not really want their names, though.</p> <p>Ms Halton: Well, you have them. They are here.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: If they are still the persons and they are in your list, perhaps just which ones they are responsible for, the nature and size of that section and the number of APS and SES persons.</p> <p>Ms Halton: Sure.</p>	Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 86, 20 October 2015
108	Department of Finance	3/3.1	Brown	Ministerial staffing – offices of the Minister and Assistant Minister in the Social Services portfolio	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many staff are currently employed in the offices of Minister Porter and Assistant Minister Tudge, in what roles and on what salaries? 2. Were any of Minister Morrison’s staff made redundant following changes of his roles? 3. Have any of Minister Morrison’s staff remained in Minister Porter’s office? 	Written

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES – 20 OCTOBER 2015
 FINANCE PORTFOLIO

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date <i>or</i> Written
109	Department of Finance	3/3.1	Brown	Ministerial Travel and Expenditure – Social Services portfolios	1. Prior to the reshuffle how much has been spent by Minister Morrison in 2015 on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Flights - including commercial and charter flights; and b) Entertaining – including catering, events and restaurants. 2. Please provide the monthly expenses on flights (commercial and charter) for Minister Morrison, the previous Assistant Minister for Social Services, Senator Mitch Fifield and the Parliamentary Secretary, Senator Concetta Fierravanti-Wells.	Written