

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2016-17 - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – PARLIAMENT

Q. No.	Department	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page or Written
1	Senate	McAllister	Paper procurement	<p>Senator McALLISTER: So the last decision to change was undertaken early in 2015, I think you said.</p> <p>Ms Callinan: Yes, that is right. We first starting phasing out the Reflex and purchasing the new one in June mid last year.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: In making that decision did you investigate whether there had been any complaints to the Anti-Dumping Commission in relation to the new manufacturer and country of origin?</p> <p>Ms Callinan: I do not recall that detail. I would have to go back to check whether that was a relevant factor for us to consider and whether it was in fact considered. I am afraid I do not recall that right now.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: If you could take that on notice, we would appreciate it.</p> <p>Ms Callinan: Certainly.</p>	p. 9
2	Senate	McAllister	Paper procurement	<p>Senator McALLISTER: That it is something that is of interest to senators. Have you received any questions from senators or their offices since you switched suppliers?</p> <p>Ms Callinan: Yes, we did in fact.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: How many?</p> <p>Ms Callinan: I have a record that we received queries from three senators between June and October 2015.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Any since?</p> <p>Ms Callinan: Not that I have in my notes with me. I will undertake to double check that though</p>	p. 9
3	Senate	McAllister	Enterprise bargaining processes	<p>Dr Laing: You may be aware that there was a case before the full bench of the Fair Work Commission on Uniline that threw many bargaining initiatives across the Commonwealth into some if not disarray then uncertainty. In that case, quite a hard technical line was taken in relation to documentation associated with the bargaining process and, in particular, the notice of employee representational rights or NoERR. Looking at the implications of that case, the department looked at our NoERR and discovered that there was a very minor technical error in that our NoERR did not reference the words 'schedule 2.1' and 'regulation 2.05'. It seems like a very minor technical deficiency but, in light of decisions across the Commonwealth for agencies to start again, I took the decision on the basis of the risk of our agreement being thrown out by the Fair Work Commission that we should abandon our previous process and start again. We have done that and we have issued a fresh notice of</p>	p. 10

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				<p>employee representational rights. The date that we issued that was 28 September. I made the decision to cease bargaining on 27 September. We reissued the NoERR the following day. Our first bargaining meeting in the fresh process will occur on the 26th of this month. We hope to make reasonably fast progress in the new process given that we had, in the series of bargaining meetings held under the previous process, almost completed working through the agreement with the bargaining representatives.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: In establishing the NoERR the first time, had you sought advice from others within the Australian Public Service about the appropriate way to do this so you would be in compliance with the legal requirements?</p> <p>Dr Laing: I will take that on notice. We certainly followed the process we had followed in the last round, but I will take on notice whether there was further consultation.</p>	
4	Senate	Carr	Paper procurement	In what date is the next assessment scheduled for the Department of the Senate's paper procurement practices for A4 copy paper?	Written
5	PBO	Wong	Parliamentarian requests	<p>Senator WONG: Your information requests – does this document show me how many costings you prepared during the election campaign?</p> <p>Mr Bowen: Yes. If you go to page 4–</p> <p>Senator WONG: That is right. That deals with my question.</p> <p>Mr Bowen: We have given you every year since we started operating, actually.</p> <p>Senator WONG: But they are full years.</p> <p>Mr Bowen: They are full financial years.</p> <p>Senator WONG: My question was about during the election campaign. Are you able on notice to give me that?</p> <p>Mr Bowen: Do you mean during the caretaker period?</p> <p>Senator WONG: Yes, sorry, I should say that – during the caretaker period.</p> <p>Mr Bowen: We will take it on notice.</p>	p. 13
6	PBO	Dodson	External engagement	<p>Senator DODSON: I am interested in the external engagement part of the report you have given us. Firstly, there is the cost of the trip to South Africa. Have there been other external participations of a like nature?</p> <p>Mr Bowen: Yes. We do not have a lot of international engagement trips, but once a year I do attend the OECD's network of parliamentary budget officials and independent fiscal counsels. That is a very useful forum for the exchange of experiences and ideas between like organisations. I am not sure whether you are aware of this, but within the OECD there are now more than 30 such organisations operating. Those organisations are also spreading to the developed world; hence, I was asked to go to South Africa a few weeks ago to participate in a conference there. There were a number of parliamentary budget officials there from the</p>	p. 14

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				developed world, including from the UK and Canada. There was OECD representation as well as IMF and World Bank representation. It is usually one trip a year. The last couple of years I have also participated in conferences in Japan and Korea. In each case those were funded by the Japanese and Korean authorities. In the case of the South Africans, we funded that travel, as you would probably expect. As to the cost, I may have to come back to you to give you a figure for that.	
7	PBO	Abetz	Costings	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Did a press release issued on 1 July 2016 – the day prior to the election state that there was insufficient time to complete PBO costings of various Greens policies? 2. In this release the PBO Guidance is quoted as stating that: <i>“In order to allow sufficient time for public scrutiny prior to polling day....<u>At the latest, parties should provide their costings to the PBO by close of business on the Thursday of the week prior to polling day (six business days before polling day):”</u></i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. How many policies from the Greens were submitted after this deadline? b. How many of their policies were submitted on the last day before the election, that is, on Friday the 1st of July? c. Is it correct that the Greens submitted their policy on “Putting a price back on pollution” –the day before the election, leaving no time to cost it? 3. Reference is made to the Greens policy called “Hospitals Funding we Deserve”: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Is it the case that this was also submitted to the PBO only the day before the election? b. If not, when was it submitted? c. Was the PBO able to cost this policy? d. Is it accurate to say the Greens policy amounted to spending about \$793m more than the Government over 4 years, including \$348m more in 2019-20? e. Is this costing based on figures in the 2016 Budget, which included the additional \$2.9 billion in hospital funding for the states over 3 years signed by the Prime Minister in April? f. Does this mean that - if one adds in this \$2.9 billion – the Greens were promising an extra \$3.7 billion in hospitals funding from 2015 levels? 4. Reference is made to a Greens policy document, <i>“Investing in our health”</i>, dated the 30th of March 2016, which says that the Greens will increase the Commonwealth share of hospital cost growth to 50% and that this will cost over \$5 billion over the 4 years of the forward estimates. Reference is also made to a statement by the Greens which appears to be from late June that they will <i>“legislate to commit the Commonwealth sharing the</i> 	Written

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cost of hospitals with the states – an injection of over \$4 billion dollars to 2020, and much more beyond.”

- a. Is there any way that either of these commitments - for \$5b and then for “over \$4b” can be reconciled with the figure of \$3.7 billion (\$2.9b + \$0.8b = \$3.7b) the Greens eventually ended up presenting to you the day before the election?
 - b. Did the PBO also cost Labor’s hospitals policy?
 - c. And is it accurate to say that Labor’s policy amounted to spending \$1.98 billion more than the Government over 4 years?
5. In relation to promised spending on hospitals in the year 2019-20, is it right that as at the federal election the Government was committing to spend \$20.7 billion, the Greens \$21 billion (\$20.7b + \$0.3b) and Labor \$21.3 billion (\$20.7b + \$0.6b)?
6. Attached is a a chart showing that Labor projected spending of \$26 billion in 2019-20. So at \$21 billion for the Greens and \$21.3 billion for Labor both are well short of this figure. Neither go anywhere near to restoring this \$26b of funding to 2020. Is that correct?



7. Did either Labor or the Greens submitted policies to your office for costing for the years beyond 2019-20?

8	DPS	McAllister	Restoration of ICT services	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Is there a protocol within your area that goes to which user groups or which functions should have priority in the case—</p> <p>Ms Seittenranta: Yes, the priorities are set in conjunction with the house departments and with DPS's business areas based on their risk assessments and assessments of the criticality of</p>	p. 17
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				<p>systems. It varies from a sitting day to a non-sitting day. There is quite a detailed list of priorities.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: And that is embodied in some sort of internal policy or protocol?</p> <p>Ms Seittenranta: It is, yes.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Is that something you would be able to provide to the committee?</p> <p>Ms Seittenranta: We can provide it.</p>	
9	DPS	Wong	Connecting hardware to the PCN	<p>Senator WONG: So you are not aware of whether the watch was connected to any of the ICT networks, either for DPS or for his portfolio department?</p> <p>Ms Seittenranta: For DPS I am not aware, and I would not get told by his portfolio department if he did connect it.</p> <p>Senator WONG: If it were connected to the DPS network, could you find that out?</p> <p>Ms Seittenranta: I can look to see if we could. I am not 100 per cent certain whether we would have that level of—</p>	p. 18
10	DPS	Wong	Security personnel numbers	<p>Senator WONG: If you compare 12 months ago with now, do you have more security personnel and, if so, how many?</p> <p>Mr Cooper: What was the first part of the question, sorry?</p> <p>Senator WONG: We have agreed that there is an additional requirement as between 12 months ago and now of about 10 staff. I am just trying to get a sense of how many more there are than the baseline of 12 months ago.</p>	p. 19
11	DPS	Wong	Additional staffing allocation	<p>Senator WONG: I want to go back to the 10 additional staff. That is at any one time, isn't it?</p> <p>Mr Cooper: Yes.</p> <p>Senator WONG: So, over a 24-hour period, what is the additional staffing allocation? I assume you do not staff all of these points for 24 hours. Is that right?</p> <p>Mr Cooper: That is right.</p> <p>Senator WONG: So, in a 24-hour period, what is the additional staffing requirement for those six additional checkpoints?</p> <p>Mr Cooper: Four of them are not open for 24 hours. The two at the front are open until 11 pm. So we would need to break that figure down, and I do not have that with me.</p> <p>Senator WONG: I want to understand—and, to allocate staff, you must know—over a 24-hour period, how many staff do you need to roster on and where. Can that be done over the morning break? Is that possible?</p> <p>Mr Cooper: Are you talking about just those additional points?</p> <p>Senator WONG: Yes.</p>	pp 20, 22

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				<p>Mr Cooper: I will make some inquiries.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator WONG: Okay. Perhaps this will be on notice. You were going to come back to me and tell me in a 24-hour period how many additional staff are required for the six additional checkpoints.</p> <p>Mr Cooper: Yes, we will have to take that on notice, Senator.</p>	
12	DPS	Wong	PSS staffing	<p>Senator WONG: Can you also take on notice then the change in the average number of Parliamentary Security Service staff on duty in the sitting day now compared with 12 months ago and two years ago?</p> <p>Mr Cooper: Yes.</p> <p>Senator WONG: I assume you will need to take that on notice.</p>	p. 22
13	DPS	Wong	PSS staffing shortages	<p>Senator WONG: I think the secretary has conceded there have been times you have been short on shifts. How many times have you been short?</p> <p>Mr Cooper: We will take that on notice, Senator.</p>	p. 22
14	DPS	Wong	Enterprise agreement	<p>Senator WONG: Is it currently departmental policy to seek to reduce overtime rates for weekends and public holidays? Is that your current position?</p> <p>Ms Croke: The proposal does have some changes, but it is not changing—</p> <p>Senator WONG: Are you proposing—</p> <p>Ms Croke: Could I take it on notice? I do not have the detail with me and I know we have changed some of that through the negotiation. I would need to check precisely where we have ended up at this point in time.</p>	p. 24
15	DPS	Wong	Enterprise agreement negotiations	<p>Senator WONG: The clause-by-clause comparison table released to the bargaining group— are you able to provide that to the committee?</p> <p>Ms Croke: I can take that on notice. I also point out that that clause-by-clause table is something that has been modified as a working document through the negotiation process.</p> <p>Senator WONG: I understand that.</p> <p>Ms Croke: It is not a definitive document and it is not the proposal.</p> <p>Senator WONG: I understand that. It is a snapshot of where things are at.</p> <p>Ms Croke: It is a working document.</p>	p. 25
16	DPS	Wong	Limro contract	<p>Senator WONG: I have two very quick questions. The first relates to the cleaners. We have had lots of discussions about cleaners in this committee. Is it correct that they have not been given a pay increase since 2012? Is that right, Mr President?</p> <p>The President: I will ask the department to answer that.</p> <p>Ms Croke: It is a contract. It is actually administered by our building division but, as we</p>	p. 25

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				<p>have stated in several estimates hearings previously and on notice, it is a contract. DPS does not pay the cleaners directly. The cleaners are paid by Limro under the contract, and the negotiation between the cleaners and Limro—</p> <p>Senator WONG: These are men and women who are very low paid, and you keep washing your hands of it by saying it is somebody else's problem. What underpins the contract is a set of pay rates. That is still unresolved, is it? We still have people four years on being paid the same lower rates; is that right?</p> <p>Ms Croke: I think we would have to check that. I am not sure at what point the Limro negotiation is up to.</p>	
17	DPS	Collins	Flag at Parliament House	<p>Senator JACINTA COLLINS: Do you have someone here who can respond to questions about the flag on Parliament House?</p> <p>The President: The one currently flying?</p> <p>Senator JACINTA COLLINS: Yes. How often is it changed over?</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator JACINTA COLLINS: Perhaps you could provide the committee, on notice, how often the flag is changed. Is it meant to be at half-mast out of respect to the Thai king?</p> <p>Mr Stefanic: Correct.</p> <p>Senator JACINTA COLLINS: It does not much look like half-mast, either. Perhaps it is the health of the flag that is contributing to that.</p> <p>Mr Stefanic: I will look into it, Senator Collins.</p>	p. 26
18	DPS	Wong	ICT outage – Friday 28 October 2016	<p>With reference to the disruption to Outlook services at 11 am on Friday 28 October 2016:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What was the cause of this outage? 2. Were there outside actors involved? 3. How many users were affected? 4. What was the duration of the outage? 5. Why were measures in place insufficient to protect the network? 6. What preventative measures can be put in place to prevent this happening again? 7. Is the outage related to a previous outage that occurred on Monday 10 October 2016? 	Written
19	DPS	Wong	ANAO Performance Audit Report – Managing Contracts at Parliament House	<p>With reference to the Australian National Audit Office Performance Audit Report <i>Managing contracts at Parliament House</i> (No. 19 of 2016-17):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Given the comment that “there is more to be done to ensure that staff follow that guidance”, please outline the deficiencies that led to this observation by the Australian National Audit Office. 2. What action is being taken to be done to address these deficiencies? 	Written

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20	DPS	Wong	ANAO Performance Audit Report – Managing Contracts at Parliament House	<p>With reference to the Australian National Audit Office Performance Audit Report <i>Managing contracts at Parliament House</i> (No. 19 of 2016-17):</p> <p>The Australian National Audit Office states that the Department of Parliamentary Services “should take a more strategic view of the role of contracting in the department, including whether services are best delivered in-house or through external contractors, and of the management arrangements and skills required to support future a service delivery needs.”</p> <p>How is the Department of Parliamentary Services responding to this comment about developing a strategic view, and management arrangements and skills?</p>	Written
21	DPS	Wong	ANAO Performance Audit Report – Managing Contracts at Parliament House	<p>With reference to the Australian National Audit Office Performance Audit Report <i>Managing contracts at Parliament House</i> (No. 19 of 2016-17) and the information circular sent to occupants of Parliament House on 2 September 2016 advising that the Department of Parliamentary Services will establish a new in-house catering operation that will launch from 1 January 2017:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Given the Australian National Audit Office states that the Department of Parliamentary Services “has not developed a business case to demonstrate how it will improve the standard of catering or deliver value for money” and the absence of “a strong evidence base underpinning the consideration of these options”, on what basis was this decision made? 2. Can a copy of the Food Strategy report referred to in paragraph 15 of the Australian National Audit Office report be provided? 3. How much did this report cost? 4. Who produced this report? 	Written
22	DPS	Wong	ANAO Performance Audit Report – Managing Contracts at Parliament House	<p>With reference to the Australian National Audit Office Performance Audit Report <i>Managing contracts at Parliament House</i> (No. 19 of 2016-17) and the statement at paragraph 14 on page 9 that “DPS does not have a strategy for the delivery of retail services in Parliament House. DPS commissioned the development of a retail strategy in late 2015, with the final report delivered to the department in January 2016. As at July 2016, the department had not finalised its consideration of the report or prepared a briefing on a proposed retail strategy for the Presiding Officers. Consequently DPS’ arrangements with retail licence holders remain on a month-to-month basis. DPS has reviewed and renewed press gallery licences at Parliament House.”</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has the Department of Parliamentary Services now finalised its consideration of the retail strategy report? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If not, when is this expected to occur? 2. Have the Presiding Officers received a briefing on a proposed retail strategy? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If not, why not? 	Written

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				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Why this matter has been ongoing for over six months? 4. For how long can it be expected that arrangements with retail licence holders remain on a month-to-month basis? 5. How many retail licence holders are affected and who are they? 6. How much did this report cost? 7. Who produced this report? 	
23	DPS	Wong	ANAO Performance Audit Report – Managing Contracts at Parliament House	<p>With reference to the Australian National Audit Office Performance Audit Report <i>Managing contracts at Parliament House</i> (No. 19 of 2016-17) and the statement of the Department of Parliamentary Services disagreeing with recommendation 1(b) of the audit report on page 9:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>...we disagree that contestability of in-house services should be a priority for the department, given we are part-way through ensuring staff who are responsible for procurement and managing contracts are adequately equipped from a capability perspective to undertake this task.</i></p> <p>Does the Department of Parliamentary Services believe it will be able to better fulfil its functions and serve the Parliament by improving its ability to deliver what is asked of it, and this is best achieved by improving the internal skills base rather than relying on outside contractors?</p>	Written
24	DPS	Wong	Enterprise bargaining	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does the Department of Parliamentary Services consider itself to be a family-friendly employer? 2. Does the current enterprise agreement contain references to a family-friendly workplace? 3. Will the proposed agreement retain such references? 	Written
25	DPS	Wong	Inconsistency of answers	<p>With reference to Budget Estimates on 5 May 2016, at which Senator Bernardi spent some time detailing differences between answers provided by the Department of Parliamentary Services to questions on notice and evidence that had been provided to him which appeared to contradict these answers, and the response given by Mr Stefanic to Senator Bernardi that “I undertake that there will be strong action following this”:</p> <p>Please explain what “strong action” was taken.</p>	Written
26	DPS	Wong	Pay stations in the Public Car Park	<p>With reference to the pay stations in the Public Car Park that display signs indicating they are unable to accept the new \$5 notes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Given the new \$5 note has been in circulation since 1 September 2016, when did this issue first come to the attention of the Department of Parliamentary Services? 2. Was the department informed by the manufacturer of the machines, or only after a member of the public advised the department, or in some other way? 3. When is this issue expected to be rectified? 4. At what cost will this be to the department? 	Written

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27	DPS	Wong	Pay stations in the Public Car Park	<p>With reference to the pay stations in the Public Car Park that display signs indicating they are unable to accept the new \$5 notes and the fact the Next Generation Banknote program to upgrade the security of Australia's banknotes to ensure that they continue to be secure against counterfeiting was announced by the Reserve Bank of Australia in 2012:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Given designs for the remaining denominations are well progressed and, over the coming years, the Reserve Bank and Note Printing Australia will continue the banknotisation process until the full series is in circulation, will this be a problem every time a new banknote design is released? 2. What steps is the Department of Parliamentary Services taking to ensure its infrastructure is equipped to handle future changes in design of currency? 	Written
28	DPS	Wong	Security works budget	<p>With reference to chamber question on notice 3404 in the 44th Parliament to the President of the Senate relating to the allocation of funds for the Australian Parliament House Security Upgrade Project and evidence at the 2016-17 Budget Estimates hearing on 5 May 2016 from Mr John Yanitsas, Assistant Secretary, Program Delivery, about changes in this budget:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is it appropriate to add the \$18.3 million for the skylights that came out of the contingency reserve to the existing security works budget? 2. What is the new total, and the split between capital and operating expenditure? 	Written
29	DPS	Wong	Security works budget	<p>With reference to chamber question on notice 3404 in the 44th Parliament to the President of the Senate relating to the allocation of funds for the Australian Parliament House Security Upgrade Project, to update parts 3 and 4 from please advise:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What amount was expended in 2015-16, to 30 June 2016? 2. How much in unspent funds were rolled over to 2016-17 from 2015-16, and is this in addition to the \$60.9 million that was rolled over to 2016-17 at the end of 2014-15, as specified in answer to part 2 of question 3404? 3. Has any been rolled over from 2015-16 to 2017-18 or future financial years? a.If so, how much? 4. Please outline projects expected to be undertaken in 2016-17? 5. What percentage of the total budget has been spent to date, and what is that amount? 	Written
30	DPS	Wong	Main and side skylights	<p>With reference to the measure that was contained in 2016-17 Budget Paper No. 2 relating to \$18.3 million in capital funding over two years to strengthen the main and side skylights within Parliament House:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the current status of the project? 2. Has a tender been let? 3. Has the work commenced? 	Written

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				<p>a.If not, when will it commence?</p> <p>4. What is the expected duration?</p> <p>5. When is the expected date of completion, if the work has not yet been completed?</p> <p>6. Is the work on budget?</p>	
31	DPS	Wong	Capital Works Plan	<p>With reference to the answer to chamber question on notice 3410 in the 44th Parliament to the President of the Senate:</p> <p>1. Can the information requested be provided with information related to detailed budget allocations redacted?</p> <p>2. Given the question referred to 2015-16, is there an updated plan for 2016-17 that can be provided?</p>	Written
32	DPS	Wong	Strategic accommodation review	<p>With reference to the strategic accommodation review:</p> <p>1. Have any invitations for consultation occurred since the election?</p> <p>2. What is the current status of this project?</p>	Written
33	DPS	Wong	Strategic accommodation review	<p>With reference to the strategic accommodation review and evidence at the 2016-17 Budget Estimates from Mr Stefanic that “I understand the consultants are still finalising their consultations. Then, of course, they will be writing a report to us. But as to what stage that is at, I believe they are due to provide the report to us by sometime in July.”</p> <p>1. Has the report been provided?</p> <p>a.If not, why not and when is it now expected?</p> <p>2. Who was ultimately consulted?</p> <p>3. Has it been published?</p> <p>4. When will senators and members be able to see it, if they have not already?</p> <p>5. What about building occupants who will be directly affected?</p> <p>6. Is there an option to extend the ministerial wing as part of the review?</p>	Written
34	DPS	Wong	Strategic accommodation review	<p>With reference to the strategic accommodation review and the comments in the invitation for the consultation session regarding the <i>Future of Parliament House Accommodation</i> that was scheduled for 5.30 pm on Wednesday 16 March 2016 but did not go ahead that: “The consultant team want to hear your views on some of the possible options, including relocating Parliamentary Secretaries to the Executive Wing, extending the building or relocating functions elsewhere in the Precinct.”</p> <p>1. What further planning has been undertaken into the feasibility of relocating parliamentary secretaries to the Executive wing?</p> <p>2. Have any potential designs been drafted?</p> <p>3. Can these be provided?</p>	Written

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35	DPS	Wong	Operation Tetris and staff movements within Parliament House	With reference to evidence from Mr Stefanic at the 2016-17 Budget Estimates that the only conversations he had conducted with the Department of Finance were in relation to the temporary accommodation of staff of the Department of Parliamentary Services, rather than any permanent location of staff off site: Does this remain the case?	Written
36	DPS	Wong	Operation Tetris and staff movements within Parliament House	With reference to evidence from Mr Stefanic at the 2016-17 Budget Estimates that approximately 85 staff from the ICT projects unit and from the finance and procurement branch were to be moved: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has this move occurred? a.If so, to where have these staff been moved? b. If not, why? 2. What is the nature of the projects that required their relocation? 3. What is the cost of the relocation, both the initial move and the ongoing costs? 4. How did the ongoing costs compare to the other sites identified in the Museum of Australian Democracy (Old Parliament House), West Block and Treasury? 	Written
37	DPS	Wong	Operation Tetris and staff movements within Parliament House	With reference to evidence from Mr Stefanic at the 2016-17 Budget Estimates and the information circular of 20 June 2016 relating to the move of ICT and 2020 to the Staff Dining Room: Why is the ground floor office space near Aussie's, previously occupied by FCM travel, still vacant?	Written
38	DPS	Wong	Operation Tetris and staff movements within Parliament House	With reference to the fact that a member of the House of Representatives, Mr Falinski, has taken the place of Mr Zimmerman as an occupant in the Senate wing: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is it correct that some modification may be occurring in the House of Representatives wing to provide additional suites for members? 2. What involvement does the Department of Parliamentary Services have in any such project? 3. How much space is under modification? 4. Have departmental staff been relocated from this space to facilitate additional accommodation for members? 	Written
39	Parliamentary Service Commissioner	McAllister	Provision of advice	Senator McALLISTER: One of your functions, as I understand it, is to advise the Presiding Officers on the management, policies and practices of Parliamentary Services. How frequently have you provided advice to the Presiding Officers on those topics? Mr Lloyd: As I say in my annual report, the provision of the advice is intermittent. Senator McALLISTER: How frequently? Mr Lloyd: I would have to take that on notice. It is not every week or every month; it is as an	p. 27

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				issue arises. When my advice is sought it is provided.	
40	Parliamentary Service Commissioner	McAllister	Provision of advice	<p>Senator McALLISTER: When did you last provide advice of this kind?</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: I would have to think about that. I would have to take that on notice. I just cannot call up an instance straightaway.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: You cannot recall the topic of the last time your advice was sought?</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: One matter I was providing advice about was certainly the review that I conducted of the parliamentary services department. In that case I think my last advice would have been in August of this year.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: August 2016.</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: Yes.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: But you cannot be certain that that was the last time you provided advice to the presiding officers.</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: I would have to take it on notice, Senator. I do not want to give you wrong advice. That was certainly the one I recall. I would have to check whether there has been anything since then.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: On notice, would it be possible to provide a list of the advices provided to the presiding officers during your time as Parliamentary Service Commissioner and the dates on which that advice was provided?</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: Is that formal written advice you are asking for?</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Yes.</p>	p. 27
41	Parliamentary Service Commissioner	McAllister	Provision of advice	<p>Senator McALLISTER: In any case, going back to the question I asked you to provide on notice, you will provide a list of written advice that you have provided in your time as Parliamentary Service Commissioner. If you could give some consideration to what documentation is available to you regarding the informal advice you have provided in exercising that function, we would appreciate it. At the request of the presiding officers, you are also required to inquire into and report on other matters relating to the Parliamentary Service. How often have the presiding officers requested such a report since you became the Parliamentary Service Commissioner?</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: I will take that on notice.</p>	p. 27
42	Parliamentary Service Commissioner	McAllister	Provision of advice	<p>Senator McALLISTER: I am really interested in the way that your functions, as set out in relation to your position, are being performed. One of your functions is to inquire into and report on other matters relating to the Parliamentary Service at the request of the presiding officers. I am asking: since you became the Parliamentary Service Commissioner how often have presiding officers requested such a report?</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: I will take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: In doing so, would you be able to provide a list of reports provided to the presiding officers during your time as Parliamentary Service Commissioner and the date on which those reports were provided?</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: I think I can do that, Senator, yes.</p>	pp 27-28

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43	President of the Senate	Wong	Staffing	<p>Senator WONG: We will maybe come back to that at the next estimates to see how we have gone. While we are on staffing, Senator Parry, can you tell me whether you have had a staffing allocation change since the last estimates round?</p> <p>The President: Yes, I have. I have had an increase of one adviser in my staffing allocation.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator WONG: When was he appointed?</p> <p>The President: I would have to check, but I imagine it was in the last three weeks.</p>	pp 6-7
44	President of the Senate	Wong	Staffing	<p>Senator WONG: Can I ask a couple of brief questions. I am conscious that we need to move on to the PBO. I want to go back to your additional position, Mr President. Is it at the adviser level?</p> <p>The President: Yes, adviser level.</p> <p>Senator WONG: So it will be appointed within the band?</p> <p>The President: I would have to double-check. It is definitely at adviser level.</p>	p. 11
45	President of the Senate	Wong	Capital Works Plan	<p>The President: At this stage I will not be releasing the capital works plan in public.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Are you prepared to release it to the committee privately?</p> <p>The President: I am prepared to discuss it and potentially release it to the committee.</p> <p>Senator WONG: But a chat from you, Mr President, with respect—we find out a whole heap of things through Senate estimates or through things being announced that were not discussed with us. What is wrong with our understanding what the capital works plan is? You can redact the commercial-in-confidence information. There is no reason why that should not be provided to the committee.</p> <p>The President: I am very happy to consider providing it to the committee, Senator Wong, in private</p>	pp 25-26
46	President of the Senate	Wong	Strategic accommodation review	<p>With reference to the exchange at the 2015-16 Additional Estimates between the President and Senator Wong relating to a letter from the former prime minister Mr Abbott about an extension to the Ministerial Wing, and the undertaking from the President that he will consider providing a copy of the letter:</p> <p>Why has the correspondence from the former prime minister not been provided?</p>	Written