

Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 216-2017

**Department/Agency:** Australian Public Service Commission

**Outcome/Program Group:** 1.1

**Topic:** Provision of advice

**Senator:** McAllister

**Question reference number:** 39

**Type of question:** Spoken

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 2 December 2016

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

**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 issue arises. When my advice is sought it is provided.

**Answer:**

The Parliamentary Service Commissioner has communicated with the Presiding Officers or their advisers on a range of issues via telephone or email. This communication has not always resulted in the provision of formal written advice. These issues include, but are not limited to:

- Parliamentary Budget Officer expiry of term and reappointment
- Representations by Senator Nick Xenophon regarding the Parliament House Florist
- Clarification of certain Parliamentary Librarian entitlements.

A list of formal written advice is provided at question 40.

Eleven meetings have been held between the Parliamentary Service Commissioner and the Presiding Officers since the Commissioner was appointed in December 2014.

The Commissioner is a member of the Parliamentary ICT Advisory Board. The Commissioner attends meetings with the Parliamentary Heads of Departments on an ad hoc basis.