

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S PORTFOLIO

Group: 2

Program: Other Agency

Question No. AE15/003

Senator Collins asked the following question at the hearing on 24 February 2015:

Senator JACINTA COLLINS: So adjustments were made to the draft. A final copy of the report was provided to both departments on 11 November. What precisely does that final copy of the report include from Immigration? Is it simply their response to the findings that are published with the report, or is it also expression of their more thematic concerns?

Ms O'Brien: No. Our obligation in terms of our final report to the Attorney is to identify exactly what the department has said in response to our recommendations—what action, if any, they propose to take in response to our recommendations. However, in light of procedural fairness obligations, we have annexed the more thematic concerns the department had in relation to the report generally so that that is a matter of public record as well.

Senator JACINTA COLLINS: So that is their thematic concerns, but from the report itself I could not backtrack and work out the actual amendments, could I?

Ms O'Brien: No, you could not. I could give you a particular example, but I could not address every example today.

Senator JACINTA COLLINS: Could I also ask that, in taking that on notice, you provide some more prompt consideration as to whether you might be able to make that available to the committee than in the normal question on notice type process.

Ms O'Brien: Yes.

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

Please see the response to AE15/002.