

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

Program: General

Question No. AE17/091

Senator Pratt asked the following question at the hearing on 28 February 2017:

To the Attorney-General –

1. Are you aware that as at close of business on Friday 17 February 2017, your portfolio had a total of 29 answers to Questions on Notice from previous estimates hearings outstanding?
2. Why did the Attorney-General's portfolio have three times as many answers outstanding than any other portfolio?
3. I note the Treasury portfolio had a total of 503 questions on notice lodged at Supplementary Budget Estimates – nearly four times as many questions as your portfolio (139) – had not one answer outstanding as at the due date.
4. Why are arrangements not put in place to enable the answers to be conveyed within the deadline set by the Senate?

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

1. The department is aware of the status of its responses to Questions on Notice.
2. The department coordinates all responses to Questions on Notice on behalf of its portfolio agencies. Agencies undergo a thorough process to ensure that responses are accurate.
3. This is not a question.
4. The department coordinates the responses and endeavours to meet the deadline set by the Senate.