

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017

Attorney General's Department

Program: 1.1: AGD Operating Expenses - Civil Justice and Legal Services

Question No. BE17-083

Senator Wong asked the following question on 25 May 2017:

Senator WONG: It is actually just the department. Mr Anderson, could you explain either now or on notice why the advice you have just given evidence about—that Mr Wilson was no longer a commissioner—was provided some months after he was actually elected? I think you said, 'We provided that advice to finance on 23 November 2016.'

Mr Anderson: That is correct.

Senator WONG: He was elected. Obviously, the election was July.

Mr Anderson: September.

Senator WONG: The election—whatever the election date was.

CHAIR: Senator Wong is giving you the option of answering or taking it on notice.

Senator WONG: I have not actually finished my question.

CHAIR: I am sorry. I thought you had.

Senator WONG: Can you explain the delay? Are you able to do that now or do you need to take that question on notice?

Mr Anderson: I do not have that information now. I will take it on notice.

Senator WONG: Thank you.

CHAIR: Thank you. Take it on notice because I am keen to finish the program.

The response to the honourable Senator's question is as follows:

The AusGovBoards website was previously managed by the Department of Finance. The Department of Finance periodically updated the AusGovBoards website by requesting information from the Attorney-General's Department. The Department's advice of 23 November 2016 was in response to a request from the Department of Finance dated 12 October 2016.