

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS**  
**BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017**

**Australian Federal Police**

**Question No. BE17-138**

**Senator Rhiannon asked the following question on 08 June 2017:**

On 23 May 2017 there were media reports that the Prime Minister was considering a police investigation into One Nation following the leaking of a recording where Senator Pauline Hanson is heard speaking to her chief of staff about how illegal profits could be made out of the coming federal election.

- (a) Did Mr Turnbull receive advice from the AFP?
- (b) Is the AFP conducting an investigation into this matter?

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

- (a) The AFP has not provided advice to the Prime Minister on this matter. This is discussed in more detail at page 33 of the Hansard:

Senator WATT: Has the Prime Minister, or anyone else in the government, sought the advice of the AFP about these matters?

Mr Colvin: We have had no discussions, and I have had no discussions with anyone in the government about these matters.

Senator WATT: The reason I ask is that the Prime Minister, I think, advised parliament, and certainly publicly said, that he would be seeking the AFP's advice about these matters. So that request for advice has not yet been made?

Mr Colvin: From the Prime Minister, no. What I would say, in answering that we have not had discussions, is that we have certainly advised the minister's office that we have received a referral and it will be under evaluation, but we do not discuss the nature. So it may be that the minister has advised the Prime Minister that the AFP has already received a referral. I do not know.

- (b) The AFP received a referral and is undertaking an evaluation of the matter referred