

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES – 18-19 OCTOBER 2010
FINANCE AND DEREGULATION PORTFOLIO

| Q No. | Program: Division or Agency | Senator | Broad Topic | Question | Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q | Date Rec'd | Date Tabled |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|---------|-----------------------|--|---|---------------|----------------|
| 1 | Medibank | Cormann | Medibank reserves | Senator CORMANN —So how many months of reserves does Medibank currently hold? Mr Savvides —I have not got that figure in months. I could take that on notice. Senator CORMANN —That would be great. | p.67 19/10/10 | 20/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 2 | Medibank | Cormann | Materiality threshold | Senator CORMANN —I am not verballing you, believe you me. When you make these acquisitions, is that a decision for Medibank on its own or do you have to get approval from the finance department? Mr Savvides —We have a materiality rule. I do not actually know what the number is today, but I can get that on notice... | p.72 19/10/10 | 20/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
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| 3 ¹ | DFD/ COOG | Cormann | FOI requests | Senator CORMANN —Thank you, Mr Chairman. Talking about the red book I just first want to congratulate on your decision to release it. I assume that that followed an FOI request, did it? Mr Tune —Yes, it did. We had three FOI requests for our red book—well, we had three FOI requests for the book that we provided to the incoming government. As you know, we do two books. Senator CORMANN —Are you able to tell us when you received those requests? Mr Tune —I could get those for you on notice, but certainly the first one appeared on the Monday after the election. | 19/10/10 77 | | |
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| 4 | DFD/ Budget | Cormann | Total receipts | Senator CORMANN —That is right. Total receipts: \$340 billion. Those total receipts went up to \$321.8 billion in PEFO; that is right, isn't it? Mr Martine —Not quite, Senator. The \$321.8 billion you are quoting is an accrual number. Senator CORMANN —Are you saying the figures are not comparable? Mr Martine —The first number you quoted was a cash number. I am just trying to find the equivalent cash number for total receipts in the PEFO. ... Mr Martine —Yes. I do not know, Senator, whether in the PEFO we actually have the total receipts. Senator CORMANN —It makes it very difficult to compare performance though, | p.81 19/10/10 | 08/12/10 | 10/02/11 |

¹ Answered in Hansard transcript 19/10/2010, p.78

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| | | | | <p>doesn't it? Can you please provide that to us on notice?</p> <p>Mr Martine—Yes.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—What I am keen to get on notice is the equivalent number for receipts as well as payments.</p> | | | |
| 5 | DFD/ Budget | Cormann | Intergenerational report | <p>Mr Tune—No. I think that is correct. As I said, the tenor of what has been said in these intergenerational reports has not really changed.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—Has the outlook here worsened over the last three years, and how much?</p> <p>Mr Tune—I would have to take that on notice and have a look.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—I understand about the broader, long-term physical challenge, of course. The question is: to what degree have recent spending decisions of the government either worsened or not helped resolve or address the challenge? ..</p> | p.82 19/10/10 | 08/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 6 | DFD/ Budget | Cormann | Review of conservative bias allowance | <p>Mr Tune—Yes, there was an adjustment to the allowance in the conservative bias allowance in the 2009-10 budget. That followed a review of the allowance that was done by us and Treasury, which provided advice to the government that suggested that it was appropriate for there to be a reduction.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—Has that review which you conducted in the lead up to the 2009-10 budget ever been publicly released?</p> <p>Mr Tune—I do not think so. I will take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—Could I ask you to consider tabling that document and, if you decide not to table it, to give us a statement of reasons as to why it is not in the public interest</p> <p>Mr Tune—I will take the question on notice.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—Thank you. I am just anticipating that, if you were of a mind not to release it, I would be asking formally for a statement of reasons as to why it would not be in the public interest.</p> | pp.85-86 19/10/10 | 22/02/11 | |
| 7a) | DFD/ Budget | Cormann | \$83.6 billion savings | <p>Senator CORMANN—Okay, that saved us a bit of time. I turn to claimed savings by the government. Minister Wong, on a number of occasions, you have made the point and it was quoted in the <i>Australian</i> on 2 October again, that in the past three budgets 'the government have made savings of \$83.6 billion to meet the costs of key reforms and intend to continue that discipline'. Can you detail these savings for us?</p> <p>Senator Wong—Yes, I will take that on notice.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—I would like to know the components, what years they are spread over, what departments were included. Essentially, I want the breakdown, yes.</p> | pp.88-92 19/10/10 | 20/12/10 | 10/02/11 |

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| | | | | Mr Tune —I understand the concern, and we will check the timelines and let you know. We will take it on notice. | | | |
| 9 | DFD/ Budget | Fierravanti- Wells | COAG health reform | <p>Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS—We have traversed this, Minister. I am not going to there. I am conscious of the time also. In relation to question 14—same concept in relation to the criteria. I notice that it is partly building, and the rest of the cost of implementing the measure I assume is for the bureaucratic support for those measures. How did you come to the \$1.4 million and how did you come to the \$1.9 million that are referred to there? Did Finance have a role in relation to that \$1.4 and that \$1.9 million?</p> <p>Mr de Carvalho—My memory is unclear. Departmental costs of this nature are normally very much within our purview, so my expectation is that we would have applied a standard formula for the application.</p> <p>Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS—Could you take that on notice and tell me how you came to the \$1.4 and \$1.9...</p> | p.97 19/10/10 | 20/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 10 | DFD/Dereg | Fierravanti- Wells | Reward payment | <p>Mr Tune—A reward payment is a payment that is paid on the basis of milestones achieved, so it is a second post. There is an assessment done by the COAG Reform Council, an independent council which provides advice to the government about how successful the achievement of milestones has been. The government then makes a decision on whether it allocates the reward—</p> <p>Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS—And Finance monitors those?</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS—Could you take on notice, just by way of background, the process of the monitoring, if you do not mind.</p> | p.97 19/10/10 | 20/01/11 | 10/02/11 |
| 11 | Future Fund | Cormann | Telstra | <p>.....</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—Who is providing you with that advice? I do not want to know the content of the advice, but what advice have you been seeking in terms of the categories of advice or support that you might have been accessing?</p> <p>Mr Costello—That is a question that I will take on notice for a number of reasons. Clearly, to the extent that there is factual information that needs to be correct, and I do not have that with me.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—Sure.</p> <p>Mr Costello—Secondly, I think there are a number of conventions around the disclosure obligations on the board itself in terms of the way it conducts its business and it would be important to clarify those.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—I am happy for you to do that. But if you can please then provide the committee with: an itemised list of the costs of you conducting the transactions that you have conducted, who has provided advice, what the cost of the contracts that you have entered into was, the names of the advisers, what</p> | p.106 19/10/10 | 20/12/10 | 10/02/11 |

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| | | | | was the purpose, how long the contracts were for and the end date of any contracts. | | | |
| 12 | Future Fund | Cormann | Exposure to hedge funds | Senator CORMANN —So you are saying: ‘Yes, we have increased our exposure to hedge funds, but we will have to take on notice by how much’? Mr Costello —I think that that would be correct, noting that it would not be a material increase between 30 June level and the end of the September quarter. I would point out that, in a few weeks time, we will be providing a quarterly update on the portfolio as at 30 September and, to the extent that that is included in our alternative assets program, that figure would be provided at that time. | pp.106-107 19/10/10 | 08/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 13a) | DFD/ Budget | Faulkner | Conservative bias allowance | Senator FAULKNER —Are you able to say to the committee when perhaps the first ad hoc review took place? Mr Tune —No, I could not. I will take that on notice. Senator FAULKNER —You might let the committee know when the ad hoc reviews took place and when they became annual. They became annual relatively recently, I understand. Senator KROGER —Has it changed much over that time? Mr Tune —It has changed a fair bit. I will have to take it on notice because it will take me far too long to read it all out, but I do have the history here in front of me. It has changed probably 10 times since 1987; not every year of it changes. There are three years of it that you have in there and sometimes it is only one year we change. Senator FAULKNER —Could I just ask one other question? Is that all right? Very few treasurers or ministers for finance it would seem to me have spoken much about the conservative bias allowance. It got so it became an issue as a result of events post the election. That is fair enough. I do not want to make a partisan comment about that; we understand that is the case. It has not been spoken about much publicly by treasurers and ministers for finance, but Treasurer Costello did speak about it, didn't he, in the 2004 budget? That is my recollection. Mr Tune —Can I take that one on notice, please?, Mr Tune —I was probably involved in that budget, but I do not know if I can remember that far back. Can I take that on notice, please? | p.111, pp.113-114 19/10/10 | 19/01/11 | 10/02/11 |
| 13b) | | | | | | | |
| 13c) | | | | | | | |
| 14a) | DFD/ FMG | Abetz | Advertising campaign | Senator ABETZ —Minister, are you aware of its likelihood of reactivation by way of government decision? Senator Wong —No, I am not. Senator ABETZ —All right, if you could take that on notice for me, that would be helpful. | p.126 19/10/10 | 26/05/11 | |
| 14b) | DFD/ | Abetz | Shannon's Way | Senator ABETZ —.... You tell me that the Shannon's Way contract was a \$2.182 | pp.126 – 128 | 26/05/11 | |

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| 14c) | FMG | | | <p>million contract for the provision of creative agency services that was awarded by a select procurement method. That is correct?</p> <p>Mr Grant—I assume so, yes. I am not sure that my report says how it was selected, but it was—</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Could you please take that on notice just to confirm that, please.</p> <p>Mr Grant—I will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Then, if you are not sure of that, undoubtedly you will need to take on notice whether the mandatory procurement procedures in relation to select tendering processes were followed.</p> <p>Mr Grant—I will take that on notice as well.</p> <p>.....</p> | 19/10/10 | | |
| 14d) | | | | <p>Senator ABETZ—When did Shannon’s Way first get on to the Communications Multi-Use List?</p> <p>Mr Grant—I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>.....</p> | | | |
| 14e) | | | | <p>Senator ABETZ—Rather than make the assertion, could I ask you to take on notice and check for me whether the ABN 44 827 767 097, given for Shannon’s Way Pty Ltd on the CMUL and for the contracts the federal government has awarded this agency, is—it has been suggested to me—actually the ABN of the William Shannon Family Trust, which trades simply as Shannon’s Way? If you could do that; I do not want to make that assertion.</p> <p>Mr Tune—Is this in distinction to Shannon’s Way Pty Ltd?</p> | | | |
| 14f) | | | | <p>Senator ABETZ—Exactly. Then, if that is the case, I want to know what due diligence the department does to check these things out because it could be asserted that Shannon’s Way misleadingly indicates the government is dealing with a corporation rather than a family trust.</p> <p>.....</p> | | | |
| 14h) | | | | <p>Senator ABETZ—It is quite clear that I am asking about the CMUL, the listing and the integrity of the factual information on that listing, which is published; and that is all within the province of this department and I think we have answered that. Is that right, Mr Tune? That is the responsibility of your staff?</p> <p>Mr Tune—Yes, we will check that for you. To the extent that it applies to the CMUL, that is fine.</p> <p>.....</p> | | | |
| 14i) | | | | <p>Senator ABETZ—Thank you for that. Is the department aware of whether or not the William Shannon Family Trust has any beneficiaries which are corporate beneficiaries? Have you undertaken any of that sort of detailed research?</p> <p>Mr Grant—I will have to take that on notice.</p> | | | |

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| 14j) | | | | <p>Senator ABETZ—All right, thank you. I assume, in fairness to the department, that if an entity comes to you, providing you with a company name and an ABN, you accept that at face value?</p> <p>Mr Grant—I would expect that we would check the ABN and match it with the company, but again I will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—If you could check as to whether you did that; because if you did it and it is the ABN for Shannon's Way Pty Ltd, then clearly the information I have been provided is incorrect. If the ABN matches the Shannon Family Trust, that will be revealed by that check. Is the department aware that there is actually another company called Shannon's Way Pty Ltd, which appears to have an ABN, of which Bill Shannon is the sole director and shareholder?</p> <p>Mr Grant—Once again, I will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Thank you very much. Similarly then if you can take on notice whether or not the company Shannon's Way Pty Ltd is a corporate beneficiary of the William Shannon Family Trust, and if these things are found to be correct—and it is an 'if' and a supposition only—will the department correct its website in relation to its CMUL listing of Shannon's Way?</p> <p>Mr Grant—We will take that on notice.</p> | | | |
| 14k) | | | | <p>Senator ABETZ—Thank you very much. Similarly then if you can take on notice whether or not the company Shannon's Way Pty Ltd is a corporate beneficiary of the William Shannon Family Trust, and if these things are found to be correct—and it is an 'if' and a supposition only—will the department correct its website in relation to its CMUL listing of Shannon's Way?</p> <p>Mr Grant—We will take that on notice.</p> | | | |
| 15 | DFD/ FMG | Cormann | NBN Advertising | <p>Senator CORMANN—That is not what it says. It says: The Australian government is investing up to \$43 billion ... Your lengthy explanation very clearly says that it is not investing up to \$43 billion. It may cost up to \$43 billion, but the government investment peaks at \$26 billion. Isn't that a breach of the government's guidelines on information and advertising complaints by the Australian government—which I think you are responsible for, aren't you?</p> <p>Mr Tune—Yes. I do not know if it is a breach or not. I would have to take that on notice and have a look at it. I do not have the ads in front of me.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—If you could review the advertisement—</p> <p>Mr Tune—Will do.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—I am sure you would be aware of the guidelines, including the reference: Where information is presented as a fact, it should be accurate and verifiable— and various other relevant parts of the guidelines.</p> <p>Mr Tune—I will have a look at the consideration that the ICC—the Independent Communications Committee—gave to that particular campaign and take it on notice.</p> | p.129 19/10/10 | 03/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 16 | DFD/AMPS | Cormann | IGB relating to GBE governance | <p>Senator CORMANN—Sure, but there is a passage there about things that need to be done to bring those guidelines into line with the highest international standards, and there is a passage in this section which has been blacked out. Can you explain why that passage was blacked out?</p> | p.132 19/10/10 | 20/12/10 | 10/02/11 |

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| | | | | <p>Mr Tune—No, I cannot.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—Can you take on notice as to why it was blacked out?</p> <p>Mr Tune—It is blacked out. I cannot divulge what is in it.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—I am asking you for the information. There is an order which the chair very generously raised earlier when we started this hearing. So if you do not want to provide the information,because the committee no doubt has asked for it, can you provide us with a statement of what public interest immunity you are claiming and why it is not in the public interest—</p> <p>Mr Tune—I will take it on notice.</p> | | | |
| 17 | DFD/ FMG | Cormann | Independent Communications Committee | <p>Senator CORMANN—Thank you. How many meetings have you had since May 2010?</p> <p>Mr Grant—Of the Independent Communications Committee?</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—Yes.</p> <p>Mr Grant—I will take that on notice.</p> | p.133 19/10/10 | 08/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 18a) | DFD/ AMPS | Cormann | Ministerial staff turnover | <p>Senator CORMANN—I note the recent article by Simon Benson, ‘Labor’s staffers leaving in droves’, 7 October 2010, where he talks about the high rate of departure of ministerial staff. He describes the exodus as unprecedented. Can you tell us how many government ministerial staff separations there have been since 23 June 2010?</p> <p>Ms Mason—I do not think we can give it to you since that date. We may be able to give you some other figures.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—Why can’t you give it to us since that date?</p> <p>Ms Mason—Because we do not have it with us. We would need to take that on notice if you wish us to do it.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—So you can tell me between 1 June 2010 and 1 October 2010 how many separations there have been?</p> <p>Ms Mason—We would be able to do that on notice.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—Can you provide the number of vacancies in personal staff positions in ministerial offices as of today’s date?</p> <p>Senator Wong—We could take that on notice.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—But you will be able to provide us on notice with how many vacancies there are today?</p> <p>Ms Mason—Of positions not yet filled?</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—Positions not yet filled.</p> <p>Ms Mason—May I just check before I undertake to take that on notice? As I said earlier, normally the work that we do on staffing allocations is done as at the first of</p> | p.135, p.136 19/10/10 | 08/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 18b) | | | | | | | |
| 18c) | | | | | | | |
| 18d) | | | | | | | |

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| 18e) | | | | <p>each month, so if you would like to choose a date—1 October? Senator CORMANN—For 1 October. Ms Mason—1 October we could do, yes. Senator CORMANN—Thank you. In terms of the question you have taken on notice, if you can tell us the number of government ministerial staff separations since 23 June 2010 and from whose offices they have come, that would be great.</p> | | | |
| 19 | DFD/ AMPS | Abetz | Electorate office light globes | <p>Senator ABETZ—All right. Take this on notice then: how many of the lease agreements for electorate offices deny the tenant the right to change light globes?</p> | p.139 19/10/10 | 03/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 20 | DFD/ COOG | Cormann | CCSTU | <p>Senator CORMANN—Yes. I have just a few quick questions in relation to the Caucus Committee Support and Training Unit. Answers given at previous estimates indicate that the size of the Caucus Committee Support and Training Unit has been increased. Has that fifth position been made permanent? Mr Plowman—As of 30 September CCSTU had four staff. Senator CORMANN—But in answers to previous estimates there was an indication that that had been increased. So that was a temporary arrangement, was it? Mr Plowman—I am not sure about that, but my knowledge is that there are four people, and I think we gave an answer— Senator CORMANN—Right now there are four people? Mr Plowman—On 30 September this year, yes, there were four staff. Senator CORMANN—Can you then review your previous answer to a previous estimates question, where there was an indication that the size had been increased, and advise us for how long that person operated in that position? Was any new or additional equipment provided to the Caucus Committee Support and Training Unit between May 2010 and the election? Mr Plowman—I would have to take that on notice.</p> | pp.140-141 19/10/10 | 03/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 21 | DFD/ AGIMO | Bernadi | Discrepancies in forward estimates | <p>Senator BERNARDI—You have? I am just intrigued that in my reading of it there seems to be a discrepancy, because you have said that there were forward estimates today in 2013-14 and yet Mr Sheridan said there was not. Mr Tune—Yes. I can confirm that the \$270.9 million—or the \$271 million, as Mr Sheridan said—related to the period 2012-13 inclusive, and my information here is that, when you add in 2013-14 of \$176.5 million, you get to the \$447.5 million that we were talking about. So I do not have an explanation for what happened back in May, but I think I am on the right money here. Can I check that out and get back to you? Senator Wong—We will take it on notice, yes.</p> | pp.141-142 19/10/10 | 21/02/11 | |

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| 22 | DFD/COOG | Cormann | Monitoring of CCSTU | <p>Senator CORMANN—No, the dirt unit is totally separate. I am talking about the CCSTU—nothing to do with the dirt unit. Allegedly the dirt unit work had been farmed out to various Victorian federal members and senators. I am talking now about the work that is being performed by the CCSTU. Commitments were made that they would not be involved in ‘research on the opposition’, with ‘no media monitoring’ and ‘no direct campaigning in elections and the like’. How is that being monitored and how is compliance with those criteria being enforced?</p> <p>Mr Tune—I will need to take that on notice, but I can check that for you.</p> <p>Senator CORMANN—And, as you are checking that, could you check what work has been conducted by people in that unit in that relevant period?</p> | p.144 19/10/10 | 03/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 23 | SMOS/AEC | Boswell | Fishing Party ballot paper registration | <p>Senator BOSWELL—The first Fishing Party does not exist. That was abandoned.</p> <p>Mr Pirani—It has been deregistered, yes.</p> <p>Senator BOSWELL—And it is deregistered. So how can a deregistered party link up with another party called the Shooters Party, which is registered?</p> <p>Mr Pirani—At the relevant time, they were both registered in relation to when those cases were done. I will take it on notice and have a look at what happened with the grouping that appeared on the Senate ballot paper in relation to those two.</p> | p.146 19/10/10 | 03/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 24 | SMOS/AEC | Ryan | Party abbreviations on ballot papers | <p>Senator RYAN—Thanks. I am not sure who could answer this question, but the Liberal Democratic Party was on the ballot paper as ‘Liberal Democrats’, at least in Victoria. Do you know whether it was listed differently, in another way? In previous elections it was listed as ‘Liberal Democratic Party’ or ‘Liberty and Democracy Party’. On this occasion it was ‘Liberal Democrats’.</p> <p>Mr Pirani—When a party registers, one of the things they ask as part of the registration is the abbreviation or other thing with which they shall be known, and that can appear on the ballot paper. I would have to take it on notice and go and have a look.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Senator RYAN—Can you take on notice whether or not they applied for ‘Liberal Democrats’ as a contraction when they applied for registration?</p> <p>Mr Pirani—Yes. I will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator RYAN—When they applied to change their name, sorry, from ‘Liberty and Democracy’ back to—</p> <p>Mr Pirani—Senator, I will take it on notice, but it is on our website, on the full register. The name, the contraction name and the abbreviation appears on the register which is on our internet website.</p> <p>Senator RYAN—Okay. I think the point Senator Boswell made is that even I—and maybe even people like you, who look at the website and have an interest in these things that might be out of the normal—was not aware they had changed from ‘Liberty</p> | pp.147-148 19/10/10 | 03/12/10 | 10/02/11 |

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| | | | | and Democracy Party' to 'Liberal Democrats'. Mr Pirani —I can assure you that Mr Lochnane was aware. Senator RYAN —That is what the federal director is for. Mr Pirani —Okay. I will take that on notice. | | | |
| 25 | SMOS/ AEC | Boswell | Joining of Shooters and Australian Fishing and Lifestyle Party's | Mr Pirani —Yes. My recollection though is that it was the joining of the Australian Fishing and Lifestyle Party and the Shooters Party. Senator BOSWELL —No, it was not. Mr Pirani —I was not aware from Mr Roberts-Smith— Senator BOSWELL —But the Australian— CHAIR —Senator Boswell— Mr Pirani —I will take it on notice. | p.149 19/10/10 | 03/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 26 | SMOS/ AEC | Cormann | Overseas defence mobile polling | Senator CORMANN —So that is 1,807 out of 1,855? Mr Killesteyn —That is correct. Senator CORMANN —How does that compare with the previous election in 2007? Mr Killesteyn —I do not have that information available. I will take it on notice. | p.149 19/10/10 | 03/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 27 | SMOS/ AEC | Cormann | Geelong hospital polling | Senator CORMANN —Sure. I have some questions in relation to the AEC's activities at Geelong Hospital. I have been advised again that four patients were unable to vote at Geelong Hospital at the last election and that these people had previously been told by the local AEC office that they would not need a postal vote because a polling team would be visiting the hospital on polling day, which did not happen. Are you aware of this incident? Mr Killesteyn —No, I am not aware of that one. I will take it on notice and have the matter investigated. | p.151 19/10/10 | 03/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 28 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Outstanding QoNs | If there are any outstanding questions on notice from Budget Estimates 2010: Please explain why there are still some outstanding questions on notice from Budget Estimates 2010. | Written | 03/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 29 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Media Monitoring | a) What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office in the 2009/10 financial year? Which agency or agencies provided these services? b) What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Department and its agencies in the 2009/10 financial year? Which agency or agencies provided these services? | Written | 20/01/11 | 10/02/11 |
| 30 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Social Media | a) Has the department instituted any policies or protocols that restrict or deny staff the use of Youtube; online social media, such as Facebook, MySpace and Twitter; and access to online discussions forums and blogs? If yes, please explain what restrictions has been put in place. Why were these restrictions put in place? | Written | 19/01/11 | 10/02/11 |

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| | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) IF NO: Why not? (for example there may be legitimate reasons for some staff to access these sites for legitimate purposes). c) Are staff utilising these sites during work hours? If yes, how many hours are spent on these sites? What time are these sites most accessed (i.e. lunch time?). d) Will measures be introduced to restrict access to these sites? | | | |
| 31 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Ministerial Submissions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Did the Government, Minister or his office return any documents to the Department once the caretaker conventions began? b) Did these documents include Ministerial submissions, briefs or notes? c) How many unread, unsigned or undealt with Ministerial submissions, briefs or notes were sent back? d) What was the date of the earliest such document that was sent back from the Minister's office and the date of the last? e) Did the Minister or his office request prior to the calling of the election that no more submissions, briefs or notes be sent? | Written | 08/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 32 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Election Commitments | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Were any of the government's election promises in your portfolio costed before the election was called by the department or Treasury or Finance? If so, which ones? Provide details of what work was done. b) Had your department or any agency in your portfolio provided information on any of the government's election promises in your portfolio to the Government before the election was called? Was any work done on formulating any of the Government's election commitments? If so, which ones? Provide details of what work was done. | Written | 18/02/11 | |
| 33 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Election commitments | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) What is the status of each election commitment from the 2007 election within the portfolio? b) Which 2007 election commitments are experiencing slippages? Why? Where relevant, what are the revised implementation dates? What are the implications of this slippage? c) Are there any 2007 election commitments that will not be implemented? If yes, please provide details. Were departmental resources provided to implement these commitments? How much? What will happen to the funding now? | Written | 23/03/11 | |
| 34 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Election commitments | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) What is the status of each election commitment from the 2010 election within the portfolio? Please provide a list. b) Has implementation of the 2010 election commitments within the portfolio commenced? If yes, provide details. If no, why not? | Written | 24/02/11 | |
| 35 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Election commitments | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Will additional departmental resources be required to implement 2010 election commitments within your portfolio? If yes, provide details. If no, why not? If unable to provide an answer please explain why. b) How will the election commitments in your portfolio be offset? Will your portfolio | Written | 24/02/11 | |

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| | | | | be required to offset the new spending in your portfolio? | | | |
| 36 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | 2010 Election | a) What type of work did your portfolio engage in during the campaign? b) Did you receive any requests for information from the Government, your portfolio Ministers or any other Ministers? | Written | 13/04/11 | |
| 37 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | 2010 Election | a) Will the Department be releasing its Incoming Government Brief ('Red Book')? If yes, when and why? If no, why not? | Written | 08/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 38 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | 2010 Election | a) Will the Department be releasing its Incoming Government Brief ('Blue Book')? If yes, when and why? If no, why not? | Written | 08/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 39 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Efficiency Dividend | a) Has your portfolio started implementing the Government's savings election commitment of maintaining the annual efficiency dividend on departmental expenses at 1.25 per cent? If not, why not? If yes, give details. b) Will any agencies in your portfolio be seeking an exemption to implementing the efficiency dividend? c) How do you think you will implement it? Give examples of the types of cuts you will make (i.e. no more pot plants in departmental buildings). d) Will there be cuts to staff? If yes, give details. | Written | 21/02/11 | |
| 40 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Staffing Levels | a) What is the total expenditure on staffing for the Department and for all portfolio agencies? What is the SES and non-SES breakdown? b) What are the current staffing levels for SES and non-SES officers? | Written | 21/02/11 | |
| 41 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Staffing Levels | a) How many SES were employed in your Department and portfolio agencies on 10 May 2010? b) How many SES were employed in your Department and portfolio agencies as of today? | Written | 13/01/11 | 10/02/11 |
| 42 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Staffing Levels | a) What is the breakdown by each level (each SES band, each Executive Level band and each APS band)? b) What is the gender breakdown by each level (each SES band, each Executive Level band and each APS band)? c) What is the breakdown by location for each level (each SES band, each Executive Level band and each APS band)? d) What is the breakdown by each level of ongoing staff and non ongoing staff (each SES band, each Executive Level band and each APS band)? | Written | 04/03/11 | |

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| 43 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Staffing Levels | <p>a) What has been the general staffing trend in your department and portfolio agencies since the 2007 election (for example SES numbers and recruitment has increased by X per cent because of Y).</p> <p>b) What have been the changes in staffing levels since Budget Estimates 2010? Why have these changes occurred? What have been the Budgetary implications? In the case of reductions in staff numbers, how have these reductions been absorbed by the Department? What functions these staff performed have been sacrificed and why?</p> | Written | 21/02/11 | |
| 44 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Staffing Levels | <p>a) Are there expected changes to current staffing levels over the next 12 months? If yes, provide details including a breakdown of each level staff (each SES band, each Executive Level band and each APS band) detailing the changes. Will this be different to what was reported in the 2010-11 Budget?</p> <p>b) Has there been a target for staff reductions to achieve savings? What is that target and what strategy is being implemented to achieve this? Will staff reductions be used to achieve the Government's election commitment to maintain the 1.25 per cent efficiency dividend?</p> <p>c) Have any voluntary or involuntary redundancies been offered to staff? If so, how have staff been identified for such offers? Are there such plans for the future?</p> | Written | 21/02/11 | |
| 45 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Staffing Levels | <p>a) How many permanent staff recruited since Budget Estimates 2010? What level are these staff? Where is their location?</p> <p>b) Since Budget Estimates 2010, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?</p> <p>c) Have staffing numbers been reduced as a result of the current efficiency dividend and/or other budget cuts since Budget Estimates 2010? If so, where and at what level?</p> <p>d) Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details i.e. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc.</p> <p>e) If your Department/agency has been identified in the 2010 election as delivering efficiencies (savings), how will these be delivered? (for example, savings commitments included reducing program funding, rationalising grants etc how will these impact the department and staffing) .</p> | Written | 21/02/11 | |
| 46 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Staffing Levels | What changes are underway or planned for graduate recruitment, cadetships or similar programs? If reductions or increases are envisaged please explain including reasons, target numbers etc | Written | 13/01/11 | 10/02/11 |
| 47 | All Departments and | Bernardi | Electoral Reports | <p>a) Are there plans to publish a full suite of electoral reports on the Department's website? If not, why not? If so, when? What data will be included?</p> <p>b) Did the Department prepare electorate level reports for the Government Ministers</p> | Written | 20/12/10 | 10/02/11 |

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| | Agencies | | | for the 2010 election? What data is included in these reports? How often is this updated? Why is this material not publicly available? Please provide copy of latest reports. c) Has electoral specific data been used by the current Government in any grants scheme since November 2007? | | | |
| 48 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Consultancies | a) How much has the Department spent on consultancy services since Budget Estimates 2010? Please identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the contract, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc). b) How can the department justify this expenditure? | Written | 21/02/11 | |
| 49 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Consultancies | How many consultancies have been undertaken or are underway since Budget Estimates 2010? Please identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the contract, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc). Please also include total value for all consultancies, including figures for total spending on consultancies and also value of contracts awarded? Provide total figures since Budget Estimates 2010 and a breakdown on these figures for FY 2008/09 and 2009/10 FYTD. | Written | 21/02/11 | |
| 50 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Consultancies | a) Is the Department/agency up to date with its reporting requirements on the Government's tenders and contacts website? Are the figures available on that site correct? b) Has there been any changes in the consultancies that are planned for this calendar year since Budget Estimates 2010? If yes, have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and if not why not? In each case please identify the subject matter, duration, projected cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known. c) Could the Department provide a complete list of current consultancy services. For each consultancy, please indicate the rationale for the project and its intended use. For each consultancy, please indicate why the Department or its agencies could not have undertaken the work themselves. | Written | 21/02/11 | |

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| 51 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Contractors | <p>a) Has the department/agency ever employed Hawker Britton in any capacity or is it considering employing Hawker Britton? If yes, provide details.</p> <p>b) Has the department/agency ever employed Shannon's Way in any capacity or is it considering employing Shannon's Way? If yes, provide details.</p> <p>c) Has the department/agency ever employed John Utting & UMR Research Group in any capacity or is it considering employing John Utting & UMR Research Group? If yes, provide details.</p> <p>d) Has the department/agency ever employed McCann-Erickson in any capacity or is it considering employing McCann-Erickson? If yes, provide details.</p> <p>e) Has the department/agency ever employed Cutting Edge in any capacity or is it considering employing Cutting Edge? If yes, provide details.</p> <p>f) Has the department/agency ever employed Ikon Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing Ikon Communications? If yes, provide details.</p> <p>g) Has the department/agency ever employed CMAX Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing CMAX Communications? If yes, provide details.</p> <p>h) Has the department/agency ever employed Boston Consulting Group in any capacity or is it considering employing Boston Consulting Group? If yes, provide details.</p> <p>i) Has the department/agency ever employed McKinsey & Company in any capacity or is it considering employing McKinsey & Company? If yes, provide details.</p> | Written | 21/02/11 | |
| 52 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Advertising and Marketing | <p>a) How much has the Department and portfolio agencies spent on advertising and marketing since Budget Estimates? Ask for justification of expenditure.</p> <p>b) Could the Department provide a complete list of current contracts. Please indicate the rationale for each service provided and its intended use.</p> <p>c) What communications programs has the Department and portfolio agencies undertaken since additional estimates and what communications programs are planned to be undertaken? For each program, what is the total spend?</p> | Written | 04/03/11 | |
| 53 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Discretionary Grants | <p>a) Could the Department provide a list of all discretionary grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants since Budget Estimates 2010? Please provide details of the recipients, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants.</p> <p>b) Has the Department complied with interim requirements relating to the publication of discretionary grants?</p> | Written | 09/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 54 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Commissioned Reports | <p>a) How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in your portfolio since Budget Estimates 2010? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.</p> | Written | 20/12/10 | 10/02/11 |

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| | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) How much did each report cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level? c) What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports? | | | |
| 55 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Hospitality Spend | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) What is the Department's hospitality spend since Budget Estimates 2010? Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events. b) For each Minister/Parl Sec's office, please detail total hospitality spend FYTD. Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event. | Written | 08/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 56 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Board Appointments | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio? b) What is the gender ratio of appointments made to boards since Budget Estimates 2010? c) Are you implementing the Government target of 40 per cent women appointed to Boards? | Written | 21/02/11 | |
| 57 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | FOI requests | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Has the Department/agency received any advice from the Government or any other source on how to respond to FOI requests? b) How many FOI requests has the Department received? c) How many have been granted or denied? d) How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests? e) Has the Department/agency received any FOI requests for its Incoming Government Brief ('Red Book')? If yes, when and will it be released? f) Has the Department/agency received any FOI requests for its Incoming Government Brief ('Blue Book')? If yes, when and will it be released? | Written | 21/02/11 | |
| 58 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Community Cabinet | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) What was the cost of Minister's travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings held since Budget Estimates 2010? b) How many Ministerial Staff and Departmental officers travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meeting? c) What was the total cost of this travel? d) What was the total cost to the Department and the Minister's office? | Written | 03/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 59 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Cabinet and Sub- Cabinet Committee Meetings | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) How much time is spent preparing papers/submissions for Cabinet and Sub-Cabinet Committee meetings? b) How often must papers/submissions for Cabinet and Sub-Cabinet Committee Meetings be redrafted or relodged? Please provide example of why this would happen. (i.e. last minute policy changes or redate papers due to items not being discussed when initially scheduled). | Written | 08/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 60 | All Departments and | Bernardi | Reviews | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) What is the total number of Reviews both completed and ongoing in the portfolio/agency or affecting the portfolio agency since Budget Estimates 2010? b) Please provide a breakdown of reviews completed since Budget Estimates 2010 | Written | 18/02/11 | |

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| | Agencies | | | <p>including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. when those reviews were provided to Government, ii. estimated cost of producing each review (and total cost) and iii. if the Government has responded to the review or information about when the Government has indicated it will/will not respond to the review. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) How many reviews are ongoing? d) How many reviews have been completed since additional estimates? e) What further reviews are planned in the portfolio/agency? f) Will any of these reviews cease due to the 2010 Election? | | | |
| 61 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Government Payments of Accounts | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Has the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e. within 30 days)? If not, why not, and what has been the timeframe for payment of accounts? Please provide a breakdown, average statistics etc as appropriate to give insight into how this issue is being approached.) b) For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year? c) Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined? | Written | 21/02/11 | |
| 62 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Government stationery requirements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) What are the government (Ministers/Parliamentary Secretaries) stationery requirements in your portfolio (i.e. special type of paper, envelopes)? b) What are the cost of these items? Is the Department/portfolio agencies paying for these? | Written | 03/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 63 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Administrative Arrangements Orders | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Can you detail what changes have occurred in your portfolio as a result of the Administrative Arrangements Orders published on 14 September 2010. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Were there any costs associated with these changes (for example changes to departmental signage or whether refurbishment or additional space will need to be leased to accommodate new staff. Alternatively, will agencies be left with empty office space due to loss of staff). Please provide details ii. Were there any staff changes as a result (staff transferring to or from your agency)? If yes, please detail what the staff changes were, including a breakdown of changes to each SES band, each Executive Level band and each APS band. b) Were there any changes in your portfolio as a result of the changes to the Administrative Arrangements Orders published on 14 October 2010. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Were there any costs associated with these changes (for example changes to departmental signage). Please provide details. ii. Were there any staff changes as a result (staff transferring to or from your | Written | 21/12/10 | 10/02/11 |

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| | | | | agency)? If yes, please detail what the staff changes were, including a breakdown of changes to each SES band, each Executive Level band and each APS band. c) Can you describe what, if any, Administrative Arrangements Orders occurred in your portfolio between November 2007 and July 2010? Please detail the costs associated with these. | | | |
| 64 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Media Subscriptions | a) Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to pay TV (for example Foxtel)? If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what channels. b) Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to newspapers? If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what newspapers. c) Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to magazines? If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what magazines. | Written | 21/02/11 | |
| 65 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Travel Costs | a) The 2009-10 Mid Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook detailed a whole-of-government coordinated procurement arrangements for travel and related services. How has this applied to your department and portfolio agencies? Please explain the changes that have occurred to your department and portfolio agencies in relation to its travel and related services. b) Is purchasing of travel and related services less expensive under the new arrangements? c) Is purchasing of travel and related services more efficient under the new arrangements? d) Have savings been achieved in your portfolio because of the new arrangements? e) How much did your department and portfolio agencies spend on travel in 2008-09, 2009-10 and to date this financial year. f) How have staff within your department and portfolio agencies found the new arrangements? For example is it more efficient to arrange travel? | Written | 21/02/11 | |
| 66 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Commonwealth Property Management Framework | a) The 2009-10 Mid Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook detailed the establishment of Commonwealth Property Management Framework. How has this applied to your department and portfolio agencies? b) Has the implementation of this Framework lead to savings in your portfolio? Please provide details. | Written | 04/03/11 | |
| 67 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | Whole-of- government departmental efficiencies | a) The 2009-10 Mid Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook detailed whole-of-government departmental efficiencies. How has this applied to your department and portfolio agencies? b) Can you provide details of how these efficiencies will be achieved? Please provide specific examples. c) Will the implementation of the Government's election commitment to maintain the | Written | 21/02/11 | |

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| | | | | 1.25 per cent efficiency dividend impact on your department or portfolio agencies ability to meet the efficiencies outlined in the 2009-10 Mid Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook? d) Have any voluntary or involuntary redundancies been offered to staff to meet the 2009-10 Mid Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook detailed whole-of-government departmental efficiencies in your portfolio? If so, please provide details? Are there such plans for the future? | | | |
| 68 | DFD | Bernardi | Social Media | a) What types of social media (for example twitter, facebook) are Finance employees able to use at work? Please list and briefly explain what the purpose of each are. b) Does the Department of Finance and Deregulation see value in social media websites? Please explain. c) Are there any security issues (for example computer virus, classified information being leaked) that may arise due to allowing access to social media websites? Please provide details. How have these issues been alleviated? Please provide details. | Written | 19/01/11 | 10/02/11 |
| 69 | DFD | Bernardi | Social Media | a) Why are Finance employees able to utilise these social media websites at work? Please explain. b) Are Finance employees encouraged to utilise these social media websites at work? Please explain. c) Must Finance employees seek permission or authorisation to engage in useage of social media websites at work? If yes, why? If no, why not? d) Must Finance employees have the information they want to publish on a social media website approved by their manager before posting it? Please provide details. What if that information is work related? Please provide details. e) Must Finance employees seek permission or authorisation to put on their social media websites that they are employees of the Department of Finance and Deregulation? If yes, why? If no, why not? f) Must Finance employees seek permission or authorisation to put on their social media websites that they are Australian Public Servants? If yes, why? If no, why not? | Written | 19/01/11 | 10/02/11 |
| 70 | DFD | Bernardi | Social Media | a) Do Finance employees utilise these social media websites on work equipment such as their workstation computer? If yes, please explain how this is a good use of Commonwealth resources. b) How many employees of the Department engage in social media on equipment provided by Finance such as, but not limited to, blackberrys and laptops? c) At what times can Finance employees use social media at work? Please explain. | Written | 19/01/11 | 10/02/11 |
| 71 | DFD | Bernardi | Social Media | a) By allowing Finance employees access to these social media websites at work | Written | 19/01/11 | 10/02/11 |

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| | | | | <p>and during work hours, has work productivity improved or decreased? Please explain.</p> <p>b) Please provide a copy of any social media policy your Department adheres to. Include any APS wide policy and Department only policy, including any policies that are specific to Finance business areas.</p> <p>c) Do these guidelines apply to all Finance employees, including SES, officers on secondment, officers on overseas postings, officers on leave, officers on leave without pay and departmental liaison officers?</p> <p>d) Are there plans for other agencies under the Finance and Deregulation portfolio to also have access to social media like the Department of Finance and Deregulation?</p> <p>e) Does the Secretary of the Department of Finance and Deregulation's own Twitter profile comply with the Department's social media policy/guidelines? As of 20 October 2010 his profile states 'I am the Secretary of the Department of Finance and Deregulation' yet has no disclaimer that any views expressed are his own or that of the Department is this appropriate? We note that no views have been expressed to date however what will happen in the future if Mr Tune does decide to make entries on his account?</p> <p>f) Are Finance employees required to have a disclaimer on their social media website profile that any views they express are their own and not those of the Department? Is this enforced? Please provide details.</p> <p>i. At Supplementary Budget Estimates examples were detailed where Finance had not had this disclaimer. Did that breach any guidelines? Please explain. Was disciplinary action taken? Please explain.</p> <p>ii. Since Supplementary Budget Estimates has advice been given to the Department or any part of the Department about putting disclaimers on social media website profiles?</p> | | | |
| 72 | DFD | Bernardi | Social Media | <p>a) How many employees of the Department engage in social media?</p> <p>b) How many employees of the Department have twitter profiles?</p> <p>c) How many employees of the Department have facebook profiles?</p> <p>d) How many employees of the Department have internet blogs?</p> <p>e) How many employees of the Department engage in social media whilst at work? Is this for personal or work related reasons? Please provide details.</p> <p>f) How many employees of the Department access twitter whilst at work? Is this for personal or work related reasons? Please provide details.</p> <p>g) How many employees of the Department access facebook whilst at work? Is this for personal or work related reasons? Please provide details.</p> <p>h) How many employees of the Department access internet blogs whilst at work? Is</p> | Written | 19/01/11 | 10/02/11 |

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| | | | | <p>this for personal or work related reasons? Please provide details.</p> <p>i) How many employees of the Department publish on twitter whilst at work? Are they publishing work related material or personal details? Please provide details.</p> <p>j) How many employees of the Department publish on facebook whilst at work? Are they publishing work related material or personal details? Please provide details.</p> <p>k) How many employees of the Department publish on internet blogs whilst at work? Are they publishing work related material or personal details? Please provide details.</p> <p>l) Is it appropriate that Finance employees access social media websites during core business hours for personal use? Is this a good use of their time whilst they are at work?</p> | | | |
| 73 | DFD | Bernardi | Social Media monitoring | <p>a) Is the utilisation of social media by employees of the Department monitored? If no, why not? If yes, please provide details including the details of what level staff monitor, how they monitor and the time spent monitoring.</p> <p>b) Is there a process in place to allow for a Finance employee to make a complaint against another Finance employee's usage of social media? If no, why not? If yes, please provide details.</p> <p>c) Is there a process in place to allow for a non Finance employee to make a complaint against a Finance employee's usage of social media? If no, why not? If yes, please provide details.</p> <p>d) Are there any limits or restrictions as to how employees of the Department can utilise social media?</p> | Written | 19/01/11 | 10/02/11 |
| 74 | DFD | Bernardi | Social Media | <p>a) Can employees of the Department utilise social media anyway they want?</p> <p>b) Are employees of the Department encouraged to use social media in an official capacity? What is meant by an official capacity? Can you give an example of what an official capacity usage of social media is? Please give an example for each form of social media.</p> <p>c) What type of work related material can a Finance employee post on a social media website? Please give examples.</p> <p>d) Would the following be acceptable to publish on a social media website (please provide details for your response):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Details about another employee of the Department ii. Negative and/or positive comments about another employee of the Department iii. Comments about departmental staffing matters iv. Meeting dates, meeting attendees and/or meeting information v. Cabinet meeting dates, Cabinet attendees and/or Cabinet information such as | Written | 19/01/11 | 10/02/11 |

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| | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> vi. agenda items and discussion Expenditure Review Committee meetings, Expenditure Review Committee attendees and/or Expenditure Review Committee agenda items and discussion vii. Budget information before it is released publically viii. Procurement information ix. Confidential, commercial-in-confidence procurement information x. Classified information, such as protected information, cabinet-in-confidence information, national security information. xi. Criticism of the Department of Finance and Deregulation xii. Criticism of other Commonwealth departments and/or agencies xiii. Criticism or praise of the Government or Government Ministers xiv. Criticism or praise of other Members of Parliament or Senators e) Can employees of the Department post photographs of their workplace on social media websites? Please provide details. | | | |
| 75 | DFD | Bernardi | Social Media and the APS Values and Code of Conduct | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) How do these social media policies comply with the APS Code of Conduct? b) How do these social media policies comply with the APS Values? c) A core APS Value is to be apolitical. What could be classified as apolitical? How is this monitored in relation to employees of the Department useage of social media? Please give examples. d) Using twitter as an example, could one of the following be viewed as apolitical: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Criticism or praise of the Government or Government Ministers ii. Criticism or praise of other Members of Parliament or Senators iii. Following or being a fan of the Government or Government Ministers iv. Following or being a fan other Members of Parliament or Senators v. Commenting on activities of the Government or Government Ministers vi. Commenting on activities of other Members of Parliament or Senators vii. Criticism, praise or commenting on Government policy e) Part of the APS Code of Conduct is to avoid any real or apparent conflict of interest. What could be classified as a real or apparent conflict of interest? How is this monitored in relation to employees of the Department useage of social media? Please give examples. f) Using twitter as an example, could following one be viewed as a real or apparent conflict of interest: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Criticism or praise of the Government or Government Ministers ii. Criticism or praise of other Members of Parliament or Senators iii. Following or being a fan of the Government or Government Ministers iv. Following or being a fan other Members of Parliament or Senators | Written | 19/01/11 | 10/02/11 |

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| | | | | v. Commenting on activities of the Government or Government Ministers vi. Commenting on activities of other Members of Parliament or Senators vii. Criticism, praise or commenting on Government policy | | | |
| 76 | DFD | Bernardi | Social Media - email | The Department of Finance and Deregulation does not allow its employees to access web based email from their workstation computer. Why is this? What makes access to social media websites different and allowable? How have the concerns and issues for web based email been eliminated for social media websites? Will the Department be reviewing the blocking of web based email accounts now that other social media websites are allowed? Please provide details. | Written | 19/01/11 | 10/02/11 |
| 77 | DFD | Bernardi | Social Media | a) Has there been an increase in the Department's internet usage since access was allowed to social media websites? Please provide details and usage information over the last three years. b) Do you think that some Finance employees are taking advantage of the access to social media websites and spending more time on the internet during work hours for personal reasons? Please provide details. How can you monitor this? c) If a Finance employee spends a significant amount of time publishing personal information on a social media website, does this count towards their work hours for the day? | Written | 19/01/11 | 10/02/11 |
| 78 | DFD | Bernardi | Elections Commitments | Was the Department of Finance and Deregulation involved in costing any of the government's election promises before the election was called? If so, which ones? Provide details of what work was done. | Written | 24/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 79 | DFD | Bernardi | Whole of Government Travel | The 2009-10 Mid Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook detailed a whole-of-government coordinated procurement arrangements for travel and related services. a) How has the roll out of this progressed? Please explain. b) Have savings been realised? Please explain. Can you give a figure amount? How do you know savings have been realised? c) In the 2010-11 Budget details were announced about the new whole-of-government procurement arrangements (the Government appointed 4 domestic airliners 13 international airliners and 5 Travel Management Service providers). d) How have these new arrangements gone? Please provide details. e) Have savings been realised? Please explain. Can you give a figure amount? How do you know savings have been realised? f) Has feedback been received on these new arrangements? Please provide details. | Written | 20/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 80 | DFD | Bernardi | Commonwealth Property Management Framework | The 2009-10 Mid Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook detailed the establishment of Commonwealth Property Management Framework. a) How has the roll out of this progressed? Please explain. b) Have savings been realised? Please explain. Can you give a figure amount? How do you know savings have been realised? | Written | 08/12/10 | 10/02/11 |

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| 81 | DFD | Bernardi | Efficiency Dividend | <p>a) During the 2010 Election a Government saving commitment was to maintain the annual efficiency dividend on departmental expenses at 1.25 per cent? Has the Department begun implementation of this election commitment? If not, why not? If yes, give details.</p> <p>b) How do you think the Department and/or Government will implement it? Give examples of the types of cuts you anticipate agencies could make (i.e. no more pot plants in departmental buildings).</p> <p>c) Will there be cuts to staff? Can a directive be given that no staff lose their job as a result of this election commitment?</p> <p>d) Will any agencies be exempted?</p> <p>e) Can the Department guarantee that the 1.25 per cent will only apply to departmental expenses only? For example in the 2008-09 Budget, the Australian War Memorial was given approval by the then Finance Minister, Lindsay Tanner, to reduce its capital expenditure rather than its operational expenditure to comply with the 2 per cent efficiency dividend. Can you guarantee this will not happen again?</p> | Written | 08/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 82 | DFD | Bernardi | ICT Reinvestment Fund | <p>At Budget Estimates in May the following discussion took place about the ICT Business-as-usual Reinvestment Fund (page 154 of the Hansard transcript):</p> <p>Mr Sheridan—In 2010-11 there is \$39.7 million left to be expended; in 2011-12 there is \$117.9 million; and in 2012-13 there is \$113.5 million. That totals \$271 million.</p> <p>Senator RYAN—There is nothing in 2013-14?</p> <p>Mr Sheridan—No.</p> <p>a) Why was there no funding for 2013-14 the ICT Business-as-usual Reinvestment Fund on 26 May 2010?</p> <p>b) At Supplementary Budget Estimates the Department said that there was now funding in 2013-14 (funding of about \$176 million). Why is there funding now and not earlier in the year?</p> <p>c) After 26 May 2010 and before the 17 July 2010 did the Department provide any advice on the ICT Business-as-usual Reinvestment Fund to the Government? Please provide details.</p> <p>d) During the 2010 election campaign the Government made the following commitment:</p> <p><i>The Gillard Labor Government will also remove funding currently quarantined under the Gershon reforms for Information and Communications Technology (ICT) spending across Government, saving \$447.5 million over four years.</i></p> <p>If the Department did not provide any advice to the Government about the ICT Business-as-usual Reinvestment Fund before the election, how did the</p> | Written | 03/12/10 | 10/02/11 |

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| | | | | Government know how much money was in the fund in 2013-14? | | | |
| 83 | AEC | Abetz | Get Up! | Has the AEC received my recent correspondence requesting that it consider the question of whether the activist organisation GetUp! should be considered an associated entity on the grounds that it acts to a significant extent for the benefit of one or more registered political parties, in this case the Greens and Labor Party? | Written | 03/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 84 | AEC | Abetz | | <p>In its Funding and Disclosure report after the 1998 election, the AEC noted that the Electoral and Referendum Amendment Act 1999 broadened the definition of associated entity to one which 'operates wholly or to a significant extent for the benefit of one or more registered political parties'. At the time the AEC commented that, it was concerned that this added further imprecision to the definition which ultimately may only be able to be resolved before the courts on a case by case basis.</p> <p>http://www.aec.gov.au/About_AEC/Publications/Reports_On_Federal_Electoral_Events/1998/part4.htm</p> <p>My question is:</p> <p>a) does the AEC admit, in principle, that an organisation need not be formally linked to a political party or parties in order to operate for their benefit?</p> <p>b) Also, what would be the process by which the question of whether or not an organisation was an associated entity would be resolved by the courts?</p> | Written | 03/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 85 | AEC | Abetz | | <p>I am interested in the circumstances in which an associated entity might act for the benefit of more than one Party. Clearly the CEA allows for such circumstances.</p> <p>a) Has the AEC come across any other cases, besides GetUp!, where it has been alleged that an entity is acting for the benefit of more than one Party?</p> <p>b) Could trade unions which financially support both Labor and the Greens be considered to be associated entities?</p> | Written | 03/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 86 | AEC | Abetz | | <p>Is the AEC aware of "community campaigning" theory which holds that the way for political activists to shift votes is not so much to advocate policy or ideology, but to engage on issues of importance to sections of the community and in doing so shift support in the direction those political activists want?</p> <p>I would like to quote from a Wikipedia entry entitled, <i>Common aspects of 'community organizing groups'</i>, which will give you the idea: <i>Organizing groups often seek out issues they know will generate controversy and conflict. This allows them to draw in and educate participants, build commitment, and establish a reputation for winning. Thus, community organizing is usually focused on more than just resolving specific issues. In fact, specific issues are often vehicles for other organizational goals as much as they are ends</i></p> | Written | 03/12/10 | 10/02/11 |

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|-------|-----------------------------|----------|-------------|---|--|------------|-------------|
| | | | | <p><i>in themselves....</i></p> <p>My question is, in principle,</p> <p>a) does the AEC admit, that it is possible for an associated entity, or even a third party - as their modus operandi - to use issues as fodder in order to funnel votes in the direction of certain political parties?</p> <p>b) Is the AEC also aware of the principle that this form of campaigning isn't so much concerned about ideological inconsistencies as pushing in the broad direction desired? (Perhaps it might like to examine the literature in these areas.)</p> | | | |
| 87 | AEC | Abetz | | <p>In examining whether or not an organisation is an associated entity, can the AEC take into consideration matter such as the relevant biographies of the founders of that organisation?</p> <p>In that case, could the AEC look at published CVs for Amanda Tattersall - one of the founding board members of GetUp! and a Deputy Assistant Secretary at Unions NSW – who's biography says her Ph.D. dissertation looked at <i>“community unionism—which occurs when trade unions campaign with community organisations and social movements on issues beyond wages and condition.”?</i></p> <p>http://www.ilr.cornell.edu/international/profiles/AmandaTattersall.html</p> | Written | 03/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 88 | AEC | Abetz | | <p>I noted an article in the <i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> at the end of the recent federal election campaign which revealed the GetUp! had received over \$1m from 6 “progressive” trade unions.</p> <p>http://www.smh.com.au/federal-election/getup-bankrolled-by-unions-20100820-138yq.html</p> <p>Is there any law which prevents either these unions, or GetUp!, publicly disclosing – as a separate exercise to AEC reporting requirements, the identity of the unions or the amounts involved?</p> | Written | 03/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 89 | AEC | Abetz | | <p>a) With regard to the issue of determining whether or not an organisation is an associated entity, would the AEC normally take into consideration the amount of resources such an organisation directs to campaigning at elections, as opposed to campaigning on issues in non-election periods?</p> <p>b) Is the AEC aware that, according to its 2007-08 Annual Report, it appears 62% of GetUp's expenditure was for “electoral” purposes and only 38% on other issues based campaigns?</p> <p>http://www.getup.org.au/about/</p> | Written | 03/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 90 | DFD | Fielding | | <p>a) Did the department prepare a post-election brief for a returned Labor Government (the so-called ‘Red Book’)?</p> <p>b) Can the department provide the committee with a copy of this brief?</p> | Written | 03/12/10 | 10/02/11 |

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| | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) If not, can the department outline its reasons for refusing to provide a copy of this brief? d) If the department will not provide a copy of this brief because it contains confidential or sensitive information, can the department provide a redacted copy of this brief as was done by the Treasury Department? e) Has the Minister given any instructions to the department regarding the release of this brief and if so, what were these instructions? f) Did the department prepare a post-election brief for a newly elected Coalition Government (the 'Blue Book')? g) Can the department provide the committee with a copy of this brief? h) If not, can the department outline its reasons for refusing to provide a copy of this brief? i) If the department will not provide a copy of this brief because it contains confidential or sensitive information, can the department provide a redacted copy of this brief as was done by the Treasury Department? j) Has the Minister given any instructions to the department regarding the release of this brief and if so, what were these instructions? | | | |
| 91 | DFD | Abetz | | How much interest has been earned from the monies held on trust for employees by the Workplace Ombudsman? Please provide the figure for each year. | Written | 03/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 92 | DFD | Ryan | | What studies, if any, has the Department undertaken into the application of congestion pricing of roads? If so, can those studies be made available to the committee? | Written | 09/02/10 | |
| 93 | DFD | Ryan | | What studies, if any, has Finance done into water pricing in urban areas? If so, can those studies be made available to the committee? | Written | 09/02/10 | |
| 94 | AEC | Ryan | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) How many times have unions taken legal action against the AEC for issues relating to the Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918? b) What was the total cost to the AEC for legal action by unions against the AEC for issues relating to the Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918? c) How many times have non-unions taken legal action against the AEC for issues relating to the Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918? d) What was the total cost to the AEC for legal action by non-unions against the AEC for issues relating to the Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918? e) Which unions undertook legal action against the AEC in 2008-09? f) Which non-unions undertook legal action against the AEC in 2009-10? g) What was the cost for each legal action against the AEC in 2009-10? | Written | 03/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 95 | DFD | Fifield | Office of Best Practice Regulation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) What involvement has the Office of Best Practice Regulation had in the development of the final report of the 5 year review of the Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport? b) When was the Office first asked to provide input into the final report? | Written | 20/12/10 | 10/02/11 |

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| | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) How long has the Office been working on the final report? d) Is the final report ready to release as far as the Office of Best Practice Regulation is concerned? e) When did the Office finalise its work on the final report? f) Is the Office aware what the next steps are to be completed so that the Report can be released? | | | |
| 96 | DFD | Fifield | Procurement Guidelines – Exemption 16 for ADEs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) How much would it cost to enable the AusTender system to monitor and report on the use of exemption 16? b) Are any of the other fifteen exemptions monitored and/or reported on? c) Do you acknowledge that, in the absence of data on the take-up of exemption 16, it is very difficult to effectively monitor the use of exemption 16 by departments and agencies? d) What steps is Finance taking to encourage the take-up of exemption 16 by government departments and agencies? | Written | 09/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 97 | AEC | Fifield | Telephone voting service for blind and vision impaired people | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Please provide a breakdown of the locations for telephone voting that includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Which electorates had a telephone voting location physically within its boundaries? and, II. Which electorates did not? b) How many electors voted using the telephone voting service: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. At pre-poll stations? II. On election day 21 August 2010? c) Was the AEC satisfied with the system? d) Has the AEC received any complaints about the operation of the telephone voting system? Please provide details of any complaints e) Will the AEC review its services for blind and vision impaired voters with a view to improving and expanding them at the next federal election? f) Will the AEC consult with stakeholders such as the Disability Discrimination Commissioner and Vision Australia on the operation of the telephone voting system in 2010 and how it can be improved? | Written | 03/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 98 | AEC | Fifield | Absence of a voting booth at the Victorian ski fields | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Why did the AEC decide not to have a voting booth available for staff and visitors at the ski resorts? b) What action did the AEC take in response to the letter of 30 July flagging these concerns from Mr Tony Nutt, State Director of the Liberal Party's Victorian Division? | Written | 03/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 99 | DFD | Xenophon | ABC Journalists and Access ComSuper in 1970s | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) During the last Senate Estimates, you advised that Act of Grace determinations on a number of claims had not yet been made. What is the status of these applications? b) We have been told that all of the Act of Grace Applications have been denied. On | Written | 03/12/10 | 10/02/11 |

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| | | | | <p>what basis were these applications denied? Will they be reviewed?</p> <p>c) Why are these matters not all subject to Alternative Dispute Resolution, bearing in mind the Model Litigant requirements under the Legal Services Directions?</p> <p>d) I understand that at least 15 cases have now been settled successfully, with six pending court decisions. Given the commonalities between the cases, does the Department concede that it is fundamentally unfair to make each claimant pursue individual courses of actions at extreme expense and lengthy delays?</p> <p>e) Does the Department agree that the ABC at the time did have a duty to provide all relevant information about employment conditions to its employees?</p> <p>f) Does the Department agree that the Commonwealth at the time, including the ABC, did have a duty to provide all relevant information about employment conditions to its employees?</p> <p>g) Would such an omission be accepted today?</p> <p>h) If this sort of behaviour would not be accepted today, how is it that the Department can continue to deny compensation to these claimants?</p> <p>i) What is the Department doing to actively find people affected by this lack of information, to encourage them to make applications for compensation?</p> <p>j) Is the Department aware of the total number of persons under the purview of the Department in the 1970s who might be able to claim compensation?</p> | | | |
| 100 | DFD | Cormann | Staff Issues | <p>a) How many Government ministerial staff separations there have been since 23 June 2010, and from whose offices that they have come from?</p> <p>b) Can you please provide the number of vacancies in personal staff positions in ministerial offices as of today's date?</p> <p>c) Can you please provide the number of ministerial staff that have not yet submitted security clearance forms?</p> | Written | 08/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 101 | DFD | Cormann | CCSTU | <p>a) What is the official staff establishment for the CCSTU?</p> <p>b) Did any members of the CCSTU work at Labor Party Campaign Headquarters or do any work on behalf of the 2010 Labor Federal Election Campaign?</p> | Written | 03/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 102 | DFD | Cormann | Government Advertising - General | Following a question from Senator Xenophon (F54), Finance was advising the Government on a timely deadline for the announcement of the use of the 'compelling reasons' clause. Has this advice been received and has it been accepted by the Government? If so, what is the advice on timing of these announcements? | Written | 08/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 103 | All Departments and Agencies | Bernardi | | Are there any programs within your portfolio that are likely to exceed their current budget. If yes, please provide details (for example a demand driven program that has had higher than anticipated take up). | Written | 09/12/10 | 10/02/11 |
| 104 | All Departments | Bernardi | | Are there any programs within your portfolio that are likely to under spend their current budget. If yes, please provide details (for example a demand driven program | Written | 08/12/10 | 10/02/11 |

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| | and Agencies | | | that has had higher than anticipated take up). | | | |
| 105 | DFD | Payne | Release of Commonwealth Land | <p>With regard to progress since 2008 in expediting the release of surplus Commonwealth land in order to ease land supply pressures:</p> <p>a) How many properties have been assessed during this process? How much land by land area?</p> <p>b) How many of the properties examined have been assessed as suitable for release? Please provide details of the number of properties, total land area, total land by state, and total land area by capital city.</p> <p>c) Please provide a list of all properties that have been assessed as suitable for disposal. Which of these properties has been sold to date? What was the sale price of each of the properties sold? Which of these properties have been withdrawn from sale?</p> <p>d) Which of the properties withdrawn have subsequently been re-released and sold?</p> | Written (Transferred from Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities, 29/10/2010) | 21/02/11 | |
| 106 | DFD | Kroger | Consultancies | <p>Senator KROGER—You can tell. I wanted to move to consultancies. I am interested to know how many contracts for government advertising have been awarded since the last estimates. Do you have that?</p> <p>Mr Tune—Government advertising?</p> <p>Senator KROGER—Yes.</p> <p>Mr Tune—You have come to the right people. This is all-of-government or department of finance?</p> <p>Senator KROGER—Yes, all-of-government.</p> <p>Senator Wong—Chair, I just want to check. I think that is an outcome 2 question. We are happy to take it</p> | p.114 19/10/2010 | 08/12/10 | 10/02/11 |