

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
Budget Estimates 2018-19
Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio
Questions on Notice

	Department/ Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Responsible Division/ Agency	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written QoN	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
1.	Australian Public Service Commission	Martin	Commonweal th Public Servants Based in Tasmania	Australian Public Service Commission	<p>Senator MARTIN: Do you know how many Commonwealth public servants are based in Tasmania currently—and you may have to take this on notice—in comparison to, say, 2013?</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: I'll have to take that on notice. We do keep track of course of the locations, state by state, of public servants, but I don't have at my disposal the number for Tasmania.</p> <p>Senator MARTIN: Would you be aware that there's been a decrease in the number of Commonwealth public servants based in Tasmania?</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: No, I wasn't aware of that. The numbers I know of are that the majority of public servants are located outside the ACT—it's about 62 per cent—but I just don't have a number for the state break-up at my disposal. I might see if one of my officers can help.</p> <p>Ms Bull: Senator, I can tell you that, as of December 2017, the number of APS staff in Tasmania was 3,854. That represents 2.6 per cent of APS staff. I don't have in front of me, though, the data for the preceding periods.</p>	FPA Monday 21 May 2018, page 56, 57		
2.	Australian Public Service Commission	Wong	Consultation on FOI Decision	Australian Public Service Commission	<p>Senator WONG: While Senator McAllister is thinking about her next question—I'm not sure if this has been asked and answered—for the sake of clarity, I'd like to know whether or not Ms O'Dwyer was consulted in</p>	FPA Monday 21 May 2018, page 66		

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					<p>relation to this FOI decision. Senator Cash: I'd need to take that on notice. Senator WONG: You're going to take all of these on notice—let me just go through them. Was she or her office consulted? Was she or her office aware of the investigation which is referenced and, if so, when did she or her office become aware? Mr Lloyd, have you had any discussions with Ms O'Dwyer as the minister about the prospect, or the possibility—including to rule it out—of standing aside? Mr Lloyd: No. Senator WONG: And has there been any discussion with the APSC in relation to this investigation by her or her office?</p>			
3.	Australian Public Service Commission	McAllister	FOI Determination	Australian Public Service Commission	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Just coming back to this other grounds for exemption, which is that release of the documents could reasonably be expected to prejudice the impartial adjudication of a particular case, Minister, do you know about this? Senator Cash: No, I do not. Senator McALLISTER: Do you know which forum the case— Senator Cash: No, I do not. Senator McALLISTER: Are you taking that on notice, Minister?</p>	FPA Monday 21 May 2018, page 66		

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					<p>Senator Cash: No, I do not.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Are you taking it on notice, or could you just tell us?</p> <p>Senator Cash: I personally do not, no, but if you need me to take it on notice on behalf of Ms O'Dwyer, I can do that.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: That would be appreciated. I would like to know what case the decision-maker is talking about, and what forum that case is being heard in. And I'd like to know whether the APSC or personnel within the APSC are a party to the case in any way. Mr Lloyd, have you spoken to the IPA about the investigation that is referred to in these documents?</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: No.</p>			
4.	Australian Public Service Commission	Wong	Document Workflow System	Australian Public Service Commission	<p>Senator WONG: Can I just go back to workflow. When you said, Ms Page or Ms Connell, 'formal correspondence', I just want to be clear what we're talking about.</p> <p>Ms Page: Senator, it would probably be better for me to take that on notice. I'm speaking from the perspective of how my group uses it and a couple of others that I know use it, but I would prefer to verify with my colleagues exactly how they use those systems themselves and provide that information to you on notice.</p>	FPA Monday 21 May 2018, page 73		

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					<p>Senator WONG: Okay. So, you'll come back to me about what you meant when you said 'formal correspondence'. Correct?</p> <p>Ms Page: Yes.</p> <p>Senator WONG: I'm not having a go; I'm just trying to—and that is, I suppose, the benchmark for which something is entered into the workflow system. Correct?</p> <p>Ms Page: Yes.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Right. And that will record who's writing in or emailing in and what response is or has been recommended, which might be 'No reply'. Correct?</p> <p>Ms Page: Yes.</p>			
5.	Australian Public Service Commission	Wong	Correspondence to and from IPA	Australian Public Service Commission	<p>Senator WONG: I wonder if you can tell me how many communications from Mr Roskam and how many communications from the IPA were logged—is that the correct phrase—or recorded through that process?</p> <p>Ms Connell: Is there a time period, Senator?</p> <p>Senator WONG: Yes. I don't want to get another unreasonable diversion of resources run-around. Perhaps the same time frame as the email search, 26 August 2016, 25 April 2018—actually make it to whatever: 21st.</p>	FPA Monday 21 May 2018, page 74, 75		

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					<p>Ms Connell: Just to clarify: we've taken on notice the nature of what is actually logged in the system across the groups.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Just because I need to clarify—and, Ms Page, I'm not critical; I understand you're using a phrase that other people may apply differently—what she meant by formal correspondence—</p> <p>Ms Connell: The nature of the holdings.</p> <p>Senator WONG: But I'm also asking in respect of Mr Lloyd, what in that system—</p> <p>Ms Connell: Correspondence to and from the IPA?</p> <p>Senator WONG: And or Mr Roskam.</p> <p>Ms Connell: Mr Roskam for that time period, okay.</p> <p>Senator WONG: What about the CPSU as well?</p> <p>Ms Connell: And the CPSU—same question?</p> <p>Senator WONG: Yes.</p> <p>Ms Connell: Sorry, Senator, just clarifying: that was between Mr Lloyd and both parties?</p> <p>Senator WONG: I understood your evidence to be that this system was done by a group, and Mr Lloyd is executive group. You're asking me: do I care about anybody else?</p> <p>Ms Page: Yes. My response was more along the lines of: I've taken that down. Much correspondence comes into the commission, including from places like CPSU,</p>			

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					that doesn't come through Mr Lloyd; it would come to group managers directly, so they would have correspondence systems or workflow systems that would track that information. Senator WONG: I'm probably more interested in Mr Lloyd. Ms Page: We'll take all that on notice.			
6.	Australian Public Service Commission	McAllister	Review of Maternity Leave Act	Australian Public Service Commission	Senator McALLISTER: Ms Connell and Mr Lloyd, in April, 2016, the APSC released <i>Balancing the future: the Australian Public Service gender equality strategy</i> —you'll remember that. One of the items was item 4, increased take-up of flexible work arrangements by men and women. One of the steps, as part of pursuing that objective, was reviewing the Maternity Leave (Commonwealth Employees) Act 1973. We had questions recently about this on notice. Question on notice 161—and you've provided an answer. This is a commitment to undertake this review made in April 2016, and we asked at the last estimates. a. Has the APSC begun reviewing the Maternity Leave Act? a) No. b. When did this review begin? b) It is yet to begin. c. Has the review concluded?	FPA Monday 21 May 2018, page 75		

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					<p>c) No.</p> <p>d. Who is conducting the review? Will it be done in-house by the APSC? Will any expert advice be drawn on? From who?</p> <p>d) This is to be determined.</p> <p>e. Has the review proposed any amendments to the Maternity Leave Act?</p> <p>And perhaps even mildly humorously:</p> <p>e) Refer to answer given in a).</p> <p>It appears that exactly nothing has taken place in relation to the review of maternity leave act. I just wonder why that commitment was included in this report about gender equality, if there was actually no intention of doing anything about it.</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: I can say that we are preparing advice for the minister about the review at this time.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: When was that advice requested?</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: I'm not sure whether it was requested or it's something we've generated ourselves.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: After we asked the question.</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: I don't know about that.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: I'd like to know—</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: I can just say that we are at the moment preparing advice to go to the minister about the review.</p>			

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					<p>Senator McALLISTER: Right. So you can't tell me whether that was initiated at the request of the minister or on the initiative of the agency?</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: I'd have to take that on notice.</p>			
7.	Australian Public Service Commission	McAllister	Ministerial Briefing - Review of Maternity Leave Act	Australian Public Service Commission	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Have you ever previously briefed the minister about progress on this initiative?</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: I have to be careful here because we are not here to give details about advice that we give ministers.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: No, but the process of briefing a minister is an appropriate subject of estimates questioning. I am not asking about the content; I am asking whether it has taken place.</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: I will just seek some assistance from an officer who is more familiar with it and more across the detail than me.</p> <p>Mr Spaccavento: The maternity leave act falls into my group's area of responsibility. Sorry, could you repeat the last question?</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: On how many occasions since this initiative was announced in 2016 have you briefed the minister about the review of the maternity leave act?</p> <p>Mr Spaccavento: I would have to take that on notice; I can't recall.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Ever?</p>	FPA Monday 21 May 2018, page 75, 76		

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					Mr Spaccavento: It has come up, yes.			
8.	Australian Public Service Commission	McAllister / Wong	Review of Maternity Leave Act	Australian Public Service Commission	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Can you explain why there was no progress between 2016 and 2018 on conducting the review?</p> <p>Senator Cash: My understanding is they were undertaking a scoping study in relation to the act itself. But the APSC were consistently working on issues to do with gender equality. Other than that, I can't take you any further. I would need to refer to Ms O'Dwyer to see if any further action in the last six months has occurred.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: How can you reconcile your statement that a scoping study was being undertaken with the answer provided by the APSC to question on notice 161, where the question is asked, 'Have you begun reviewing the maternity leave act?' and the answer is no? How can those two things be simultaneously true?</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: The scoping review is looking at the dimensions of the problem. It is actually the government that decides that there will be a review conducted of the act, in what way, at what time and all that sort of thing. We're not at that stage.</p> <p>Senator WONG: That is a 'black is white' answer. The question was: has the APSC begun reviewing the</p>	FPA Monday 21 May 2018, page 76		

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					<p>maternity leave act? The answer is no.</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: That's right. We are considering scoping the issue. We did not conduct a review of the act.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: What are the outputs from the scoping process?</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: It's to look at the nature of the act and what has happened since 1973 and what some of the issues are which might warrant investigation and those types of matters.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: I understand what theoretically the outputs might be, but I am asking: what actually have the outputs been, to date, from the scoping process described by Minister Cash?</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: I will take that on notice. I don't know off the top of my head.</p>			
9.	Australian Public Service Commission	McAllister	Ministerial Briefing - Review of Maternity Leave Act	Australian Public Service Commission	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Minister Cash, did you ever receive a formal briefing about any of this?</p> <p>Senator Cash: I would need to check, but I don't believe so.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: So, for clarity, has Minister O'Dwyer asked for a briefing or an update about this action item?</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: As I say, we are preparing advice. I would have to take that on notice and review my notes whether she has actually asked for it, but I as</p>	FPA Monday 21 May 2018, page 76		

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					commissioner am of the view that it's timely to give her advice about the review.			
10.	Australian Public Service Commission	McAllister	Building digital capability in the APS by partnering with the Digital Transformation Agency	Australian Public Service Commission	<p>Senator McALLISTER: My final question is about something completely separate. Your targets under outcome 1 include 'Building digital capability in the APS by partnering with the Digital Transformation Agency'. What actions do you foresee undertaking in relation to that target?</p> <p>Ms Vine-Camp: We have been working with the Digital Transformation Agency to build capability in the senior public service. It is a three-year program. This year, as we come towards the end of the first financial year, we've been working with getting on board assistance, with specialised contractors, to run training programs to ensure that senior executives, particularly, understand the new world of digital.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Can I just ask you to clarify how far you have got with that? You said, 'we've been working with getting on board some assistance'—do you have the assistance on-board? Or where are we up to?</p> <p>Ms Vine-Camp: Yes, we are finalising the tenders now in order to be able to start work on 1 July with those companies.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Is that finalising the tenders</p>	FPA Monday 21 May 2018, page 76, 77		

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					<p>or the contracts? Ms Vine-Camp: They're contracts, sorry. We've run the tender process. Senator McALLISTER: You've run a tender process. Ms Vine-Camp: Yes. Senator McALLISTER: And is that all of the actions that have been undertaken in relation to this initiative? Ms Vine-Camp: No, they're not. We have actually also developed a suite of learning materials to be able to guide that—which we are providing to agencies—which would indicate how people need to be skilled in order to operate in the digital environment. Our learning centre has developed a module of training programs, in order to be able to outline what is required. Senator McALLISTER: OK. So is that a set of competencies or a set of training materials, or both? Ms Vine-Camp: They're learning competencies. Senator McALLISTER: Competencies only, but no materials. Ms Vine-Camp: The materials have also been developed. Senator McALLISTER: In-house? Ms Vine-Camp: In-house. Senator McALLISTER: Can I ask you to provide on</p>			

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					notice what actions you foresee undertaking in relation to this target in the coming financial year? Ms Vine-Camp: Absolutely, we can do that.			
11.	Australian Public Service Commission	Stoker	Independent Review of the APS	Australian Public Service Commission	Senator STOKER: Can I ask you about a different topic, please. Is the Australian Public Service Commission involved in the independent review of the APS that's been announced? Mr Lloyd: Yes. I don't have the terms of reference in front of me, but the independent review of the APS will obviously consult with the Australian Public Service Commission. We will provide data that we have from our holdings about profiling the workforce and issues of that nature. I expect we will give them information about what we see as some of the future issues and how we make the Public Service fit for the future. The Secretary of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet will consult with me about the handling of the final report. So we are involved, and I expect us to be quite closely involved as the review proceeds. Senator STOKER: Can you give this committee more information on the people who are on the panel, and how they were selected? Mr Lloyd: Yes, we could. I think the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet has that information. We can ensure the committee gets that, either through	FPA Monday 21 May 2018, page 78		

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					ourselves or the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.			
12.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McAllister	Personal Income Tax Plan	Office for Women	<p>Senator McALLISTER: On the Personal Income Tax Plan—have you provided advice to the minister on the impact of that initiative on women?</p> <p>Ms Hatfield Dodds: I'm going to have to take that one on notice. I think that the answer to that question goes to the advice that PM&C would have given in a cabinet context, because that's a central package.</p>	FPA Monday 21 May 2018, page 81		
13.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Rice	Impact of Tax Cuts	Office for Women	<p>Senator RICE: In previous governments, there has been a very thorough and full analysis of the budget through a gender lens, hasn't there?</p> <p>Ms Hatfield Dodds: I understand that's true.</p> <p>Senator RICE: So do you think that there is a case, given the work that the Office for Women has done—and you're saying you're not necessarily going to be dependent on the minister as to which bits you do—to reinstate a thorough analysis of the budget through a gender lens? Would it be useful to you?</p> <p>Ms Hatfield Dodds: That is definitely a matter of opinion, and the Office for Women's role is to support the government and the Minister for Women in the decisions that that government makes.</p> <p>Senator RICE: But going back to the impact of the tax cuts, you don't know yet whether you are going to be</p>	FPA Monday 21 May 2018, page 84		

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					asked to lead that analysis? Senator Ruston: I am more than happy to take the questions that you have on notice, because obviously many of them are a matter for government and it is probably not the place of the agency to be answering them. But I am quite happy to take those on notice and see if we can get you some pretty speedy answers.			
14.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Rice	Impact of Tax Cuts – Reduction in Services	Office for Women	Senator RICE: According to the most recent tax office data, about 70 per cent of the beneficiaries of the abolition of the 37 per cent marginal tax rate are going to be men and more than 75 per cent of the recipients of the full \$7,255 tax cut will be men. Do you think, as the Office for Women, given the disparity between the impact of these tax cuts on men and women that this would be a useful analysis for you to undertake? Ms Hatfield Dodds: It will be useful if the government wishes us to undertake it. Senator RICE: Similarly, I want to ask about the services and what the impact of that reduction in revenue is going to be on services forgone with that reduction in revenue of well over \$100 billion over the period of the government's tax plan. Without asking you your opinion, what about looking at services and the value of those services and the potential reduction in those services because of the revenue foregone?	FPA Monday 21 May 2018, page 84, 85		

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					<p>Senator Ruston: Can I just clarify something here: are you saying there's a reduction in services? I wasn't aware there was any reduction in services, so maybe could you be a little more specific?</p> <p>Senator RICE: It's a comparison. If you've got \$200 billion more to spend in terms of the personal income tax and the corporate tax cuts, that gives you a lot more money to spend on services. Many of the social services are overwhelmingly benefiting women rather than men.</p> <p>Senator Ruston: I suppose the clarification I am seeking from your question is that you've made this quantum leap about a reduction in services. No-one's said there's going to be any reduction in services; you've just extrapolated that out.</p> <p>Senator RICE: I'm just extrapolating out that you are going to have about \$200 billion less revenue to be spending through the combination of corporate tax cuts and personal income tax cuts. Surely, if you're going to have a budget, it is going to impact upon the level of services you can provide with that extra \$200 billion.</p> <p>Senator Ruston: I think that the government have been very clear about the fact that there is no reduction in services. Our budget is balanced in myriad different ways, so you can't just immediately jump to the</p>			

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					<p>conclusion that because you've got one thing over here you're somehow going to have a commensurate reduction in services that are directly going to impact on women. I'm quite happy to take on notice your question, but I think it's completely unfair to ask one agency to be making broad, general statements about the overall budget.</p> <p>Senator RICE: The point I'm making is about the value of having an assessment of the impact of the budget in its broader sense, both in terms of the impact from, say, tax cuts or the impact it is going to have on services through a gender lens.</p> <p>Senator Ruston: As the officials have said, a lot of this is a matter for Treasury, but the minister has yet to make her decision about the scope and what her statement is going to look like. There's a lot of work to be done before that statement is made and so many of these questions can't be answered. I'm happy to take them on notice, but I think we are prosecuting something where we don't have the information to be able to provide you with the answer.</p>			
15.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Stoker	Women's Workforce Participation	Office for Women	<p>Senator STOKER: Can I turn to a different topic. I heard a reference earlier on to women's participation. Can you confirm for me the workforce participation rates of women at the present time?</p>	FPA Monday 21 May 2018, page 86		

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					<p>Ms Livingston: Yes, happy to do so. The latest figures that we have on women's workforce participation are as at April this year, at which point in time women's workforce participation was at a record high of 60.5 per cent.</p> <p>Senator STOKER: You said it's a record high. How does that compare to previous years?</p> <p>Ms Livingston: I'm sorry, I would have to take that on notice.</p>			
16.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Stoker	Benefits of Increased Women's Workforce Participation	Office for Women	<p>Senator STOKER: ... Do you have any information or research that you've done that indicates what the benefits are to women individually and as a group, as a cohort, from increased workforce participation?</p> <p>Ms Livingston: I would say that there's a substantial body of peer-reviewed evidence which goes to this issue. There's a very clear link between improving women's workforce participation and improving their economic security. So that's not only their take-home pay but also retirement incomes and the build-up of wealth for retirement. There's also strong evidence which links the participation of women in work and their economic security to broader social outcomes. Particularly around women's safety, it's a known preventative factor in terms of keeping women safe and giving them further options should they experience</p>	FPA Monday 21 May 2018, page 86		

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					domestic violence, but I'm very happy to provide those details on notice.			
17.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Stoker	ParentsNext Program	Office for Women	<p>Senator STOKER: The last question I wanted to ask is: what role does the ParentsNext program play in helping mothers of young children in participating in the workforce?</p> <p>Ms Livingston: The ParentsNext program received some substantial investment last budget, and I believe also in this current budget. It's administered by the Department of Jobs and Small Business. However, its primary aim is to provide pre-employment support particularly focused on parents of young children. Without going into too much of the detail, the objectives of that program are to support women who either are not participating at all in the labour market or might be at risk of their low levels of participation becoming entrenched because of substantial time spent outside the labour market. So, it's really designed to provide quite targeted and coordinated assistance, particularly to those cohorts.</p> <p>Senator STOKER: How long has that program been in place?</p> <p>Ms Livingston: I'd probably have to refer that one to the Department of Jobs and Small Business. It certainly was rolled out on a very wide scale through the last</p>	FPA Monday 21 May 2018, page 87		

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					budget. I just can't recall, though, whether it had a smaller footprint before then, so I'd be happy to take that on notice.			
18.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Moore	Women's Leadership and Development Strategy Grants	Office for Women	<p>Senator MOORE: This is about the Women's Leadership and Development Strategy grants. When we looked at the grant page, which we go to to see the distribution, apart from the funding to the alliances, we see no new grants actually acquitted since July 2017.</p> <p>Ms Livingston: There are a number of multiyear projects that are running across this financial year which would have been captured in past reporting. In terms of new grants awarded this financial—</p> <p>Senator MOORE: We had the ground round in January.</p> <p>Ms Livingston: That's right.</p> <p>Senator MOORE: It was highly publicised. It was novel because it hadn't happened in that way before and genuinely there was a lot of excitement around that grant round. My understanding is that that has not been completed, that those January grants have not been acquitted.</p> <p>Ms Livingston: We have completed the assessment process of the grants round and also undertaken a full financial viability and risk assessment for shortlisted applicants.</p>	FPA Monday 21 May 2018, page 89, 90		

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					<p>Senator MOORE: Are they under some sort of privacy agreement such that they're not supposed to talk about it while that's going on?</p> <p>Ms Livingston: We are in the process now of negotiating funding agreements. As soon as they have been executed, we will be in a position to provide an update to the committee on the outcomes of the grants round.</p> <p>Senator MOORE: So it's been 3½ months and we haven't got a decision. I know there's no such thing as a standard time, but that does seem to me to be a particularly long time, particularly when we all went out together before Christmas to say, 'Hey, this is your chance to come in here.' I know I went out and told a lot of organisations that. Have you had any feedback from people saying they're concerned about how long it's taking? Maybe they're too scared. They might think they might miss out if they whinge.</p> <p>Ms Livingston: Not to my knowledge, but I am happy to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator MOORE: How many of the applications met the grant criteria?</p> <p>Ms Livingston: I don't have that detail on hand; I would be happy to take it on notice—</p> <p>Senator MOORE: Take it on notice.</p>			

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					Ms Livingston: but my strong recollection is that it wasn't many.			
19.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Moore	Number of Applications - Women's Leadership and Development Strategy Grants	Office for Women	<p>Senator MOORE: The grant guidelines said, 'The expected commencement date for the granting activities is early 2018.' Given that we're almost halfway through the year, when do you expect activities will actually commence?</p> <p>Ms Livingston: We will be looking for activities to commence as soon as possible after execution. I should just clarify that the grant opportunity related to funding for this financial year but also the next two financial years, so part of our negotiation with successful applicants will be around the appropriate phasing of that money and what constitutes—</p> <p>Senator MOORE: So there will likely be some flexibility? You talk to people who put in grants—</p> <p>Ms Livingston: That's right, yes.</p> <p>Senator MOORE: Do you know how many people actually put applications in?</p> <p>Ms Livingston: It was in the realm of about 150 applications, but I'm happy to provide a precise number on notice.</p>	FPA Monday 21 May 2018, page 90		
20.	Workplace Gender Equality	Moore / McAllister	Responses to Questions on Notice	Workplace Gender Equality	Senator MOORE: Thank you, Ms Lyons. We were looking forward to getting our questions on notice answered, and my understanding is they've been	FPA Monday 21 May 2018,		

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	Agency			Agency	<p>answered now. Was there any particular reason that we couldn't get them earlier?</p> <p>Ms Lyons: I think it had something to do with the change in us moving from Jobs and Small Business to Prime Minister and Cabinet.</p> <p>Senator MOORE: One question was exactly who was the portfolio minister. Senator Cameron asked that to try and get some clarity at the last estimates. Who is your portfolio minister now?</p> <p>Ms Lyons: Minister O'Dwyer.</p> <p>Senator MOORE: In her capacity as Minister for Women?</p> <p>Ms Lyons: That's my understanding, yes.</p> <p>Senator MOORE: It's quite significant as to whom the office reports. From your understanding, you report to Minister O'Dwyer in her capacity as Minister for Women, not in any of her economic—</p> <p>Ms Lyons: That's correct.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Ms Lyons, when did your organisation finalise your answers to the questions that had been placed on notice?</p> <p>Ms Lyons: I would have to take that on notice, because I couldn't remember the exact date.</p> <p>Senator MOORE: That is a little ironic.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Can someone else assist? It's</p>	page 91		

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					obviously a reasonably significant issue that answers have not been provided until now, so I think sorting through this would be useful. Ms Lyons: Whatever the date was—the date that we were expected to provide the answers when they were asked—the answers would have been provided by the agency by that date. But the exact date, I would have to—I just don't remember.			
21.	Workplace Gender Equality Agency	Moore / McAllister	Responses to Questions on Notice	Workplace Gender Equality Agency	Senator McALLISTER: Okay, so your evidence is that you provided them prior to the date that they were due to the committee? Ms Lyons: Indeed. Senator McALLISTER: And who did you provide them to? Ms Lyons: The minister responsible at the time. Senator McALLISTER: And that was Minister Cash? Ms Lyons: Yes. Senator McALLISTER: And then there was an announced change to the administrative orders in April— Ms Lyons: On the 19th. Senator McALLISTER: Then do you have any further contact with Minister O'Dwyer after that point about the questions on notice? Ms Lyons: I didn't personally. My understanding is	FPA Monday 21 May 2018, page 92, 92		

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					<p>that the administrative people in our office would have contacted the minister's office to ensure that the questions on notice had gone to her from the previous minister.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: I probably need actual evidence about what happened, rather than what ought to have happened or would have happened. So did someone in your office contact Minister O'Dwyer about the questions on notice?</p> <p>Ms Lyons: I would have to take that on notice.</p>			
22.	Workplace Gender Equality Agency	McAllister	Responses to Questions on Notice – Correspondence between Ministers O'Dwyer and Cash	Workplace Gender Equality Agency	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Minister Ruston, on what day did Minister Cash provide the material that had been provided by WGEA in answer to questions on notice to Minister O'Dwyer?</p> <p>Senator Ruston: I would have to take that on notice, obviously.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: I would be interested to understand, Minister Ruston, what correspondence has taken place between Minister O'Dwyer and Minister Cash in either direction, in relation to these outstanding questions on notice and on what dates?</p> <p>Senator Ruston: Sure.</p>	FPA Monday 21 May 2018, page 92, 93		
23.	Workplace Gender Equality	Moore	Pay Equity Ambassador Program	Workplace Gender Equality	<p>Ms Lyons: One other thing that we're doing is a program that the agency has called the pay equity ambassador program. We have seen a reasonable</p>	FPA Monday 21 May 2018,		

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	Agency			Agency	<p>increase in the number of pay equity ambassadors. We are currently at about 152, I think, CEOs who are pay equity ambassadors.</p> <p>Senator MOORE: And they're across big and medium-sized businesses?</p> <p>Ms Lyons: Yes.</p> <p>Senator MOORE: And at the top level—the CEOs?</p> <p>Ms Lyons: They have to be CEOs, managing directors—that ilk.</p> <p>Senator MOORE: I know that was modelled originally on the other program the Sex Discrimination Commissioner developed.</p> <p>Ms Lyons: Male Champions of Change.</p> <p>Senator MOORE: Yes. It was drawing that same kind of best-practice comparison together. Do you have any KPIs—actually, I don't like that term. Do you have any plan into the future for how many of those you actually want to see in place? Considering the number of agencies that report to you and the analysis of the data that they provide, have you got any indication internally about where you'd like to see that ambassador program?</p> <p>Ms Lyons: We haven't set stringent targets, no, but I can assure you that there is plenty of encouragement from our people to CEOs to join up. What we are</p>	page 94		

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					<p>seeing, too, are many referrals—so, CEOs who are already ambassadors invite their peers and others to join the program. Certainly we've seen the number increase by more than 20 in this last financial year.</p> <p>Senator MOORE: Which is quite significant, in terms of the number base.</p> <p>Ms Lyons: Yes.</p> <p>Senator MOORE: Do you have any data on the regional and geographic distribution of those CEOs involved in the program?</p> <p>Ms Lyons: I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator MOORE: That's fine, you can take it on notice: it's just around whether they are centred around particular regions, or states that are leading in some ways, and whether that can be traced back to the kind of data that comes out of that; as an analysis of the ambassador program.</p> <p>Ms Lyons: Certainly.</p>			
24.	Workplace Gender Equality Agency	Moore	Training and Knowledge	Workplace Gender Equality Agency	<p>Senator MOORE: The other thing is in terms of the internal plans and analysis. I think I wrote these figures down correctly: of the people who are reporting, 24 to 37.7 per cent now have their own internal processes. Do you know how many of those have used the internal training information that you provide, to develop those plans? Because one of the core elements of WGEA is</p>	FPA Monday 21 May 2018, page 94		

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					<p>not just collecting the data but also then translating knowledge and a strategic approach for employers to help them fulfil their own requirements. Do you have any indication of the number of people—of that 37.7 per cent, which is the increase—who have actually used your resources to develop their own skill base?</p> <p>Ms Lyons: No, I don't. We have overall numbers for access to the different—</p> <p>Senator MOORE: What are those overall numbers, using the data that you've already collected, in terms of training and knowledge?</p> <p>Ms Lyons: We have a lot of different things. For instance, we have a webinar program. This year, more than 1,700 people have attended webinars, mainly around reporting.</p> <p>Senator MOORE: This is during the approach time, leading up to when they have to submit their reports.</p> <p>Ms Lyons: Yes. But the webinars also include pay equity and employer of choice for gender equality reporting. We have round tables, education round tables, but they are specifically for research and education. We also conduct a number of workshops that we often do with industry groups. We've had a number of those this year. I can give you data around website hits and things like that.</p>			

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					Senator MOORE: We can take that on notice. Ms Lyons: Sure.			
25.	Workplace Gender Equality Agency	Stoker	Gender Pay Gap	Workplace Gender Equality Agency	Senator STOKER: I see sometimes conflicting data about the measurement of the gender pay gap, and I wondered: are there different ways of measuring that gap? If there are, could you explain to me the differences. Sorry, did I just ask you a question that has a one-hour answer? Ms Lyons: Something like that! Yes, there are different measures of the gender pay gap. It is a very complex and quite complicated area. The agency measures it in one way. We also use ABS statistics to measure the gender pay gap. There are different methodologies that are used to measure the gender pay gap. It's also very difficult to compare countries because different countries measure their gender pay gaps in different ways. It is a complex area. I will do my very best to— Senator STOKER: Thank you. Ms Lyons: A gender pay gap is the difference between women's and men's earnings expressed as a percentage of men's earnings. There are, as I've said, a variety of different sources that can also be used to drive gender pay gaps. When the agency was being established, just after it, there was a Gender Pay Gap Taskforce in 2013	FPA Monday 21 May 2018, page 96		

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					<p>that made recommendations with respect to producing gender pay gap—GPG—statistics. Some of the recommendations were:</p> <p>It is better to report more than one measure of the GPG, rather than selecting a single statistic, or data source, on which to base the GPG estimate. Where more than one GPG statistic is reported, any differences should be accounted for, where possible... The GPG should routinely be reported at the industry level as well as the national aggregate.</p> <p>It also suggested that the agency, 'should attempt to identify how the gender pay gap may change across different occupations'. In all cases, the agency calculates an unadjusted gender pay gap, and this is, in part, because the breadth of the data that would need to be collected to calculate an adjusted pay gap is well beyond what the agency or the ABS capture.</p> <p>Senator STOKER: Can you explain what you mean by 'unadjusted'?</p> <p>Janin Bredehoeft: It's adjusted for occupation and industry in those areas where, in some occupations and industries, people would earn more.</p> <p>Senator STOKER: Give me an example of what that means practically?</p> <p>Janin Bredehoeft: In the case of the calculations—can</p>			

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					I take that on notice? Senator STOKER: Have you got a practical example? Janin Bredehoeft: Not really. I can't give a practical example, because it is the method of the calculation.			
26.	Workplace Gender Equality Agency	Moore	Genderised Professions	Workplace Gender Equality Agency	Senator MOORE: Did you see the bureau of stats release today that looked at the most genderised professions out of their last statistical return? It's a graph that's come out today. There are no surprises in terms of the professions that are dominated by men and the professions that are dominated by women, but it does give an indication of where perhaps there would be variations in wages. It's all over the media. I don't know how it got in there, but it's all over the media today. I am interested in the employer of choice citation. I haven't read the answers on notice yet, but, in terms of the employer of choice, you said earlier that you had an employer of choice from North Queensland. How many employers of choice are there for this financial year, the one leading up to June this year? Ms Lyons: One hundred and twenty. Senator MOORE: And they'll be profiled on your website? Ms Lyons: They're listed on the website, yes. Senator MOORE: One of the things that I have seen	FPA Monday 21 May 2018, page 97, 98		

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					<p>in the past is that you do profiles—like case studies—in terms of successful innovation, successful results and particularly people who have formed plans. Are the employers of choice the ones you normally go to for that? One would have thought, if they're the ones that have achieved to the level that you want, that they would be the ones being profiled.</p> <p>Ms Lyons: Sometimes but not always, because there may be organisations who don't meet all the criteria but who are doing exceptional things in particular areas that we may well like to profile.</p> <p>Senator MOORE: And give hope, in terms of the process. Can I get some information on this—and we'll put it into a question on notice. I'm very interested, as you would have got from some of the questions, about where this is going across Australia now, in terms of the regional distribution of people engaging in the process. I think that we're far enough down the track now, with people becoming familiar with their responsibilities and familiar with the way it works. I think that, during the first few years we were asking questions, there was still an ignorance about the way it operated, but I think we're down the track far enough now to see whether there are any discernible differences across Australia in the way people are</p>			

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					<p>engaging. Given the way your current system is set up, is that something that you could get easily, or would that mean another level of work that you'd have to do to go through and refine that?</p> <p>Ms Lyons: We can certainly get information on a state-by-state basis.</p> <p>Senator MOORE: That would be a start, and that would not be too difficult—</p> <p>Ms Lyons: No, not at all, Senator.</p>			
27.	Workplace Gender Equality Agency	Moore	IT System	Workplace Gender Equality Agency	<p>Senator MOORE: with the IT system? That's my last question in fact about the IT system. There'll be a standard question on notice about how many staff you've got and that kind of stuff. However, the IT system was an issue at one stage in terms of its capacity and also looking into the future as to the amount of sophistication that the IT system you had would be able to provide. Where is that at now?</p> <p>Ms Lyons: The current online reporting system comes to the end of its useful life in March 2019.</p> <p>Senator MOORE: So that's imminent really? Does that mean that you will be needing to have a whole new system or just refreshers or whatever they do to an existing system to make it better? Have you gone to that level of investigation yet as to what you'll be needing?</p>	FPA Monday 21 May 2018, page 98		

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					<p>Ms Lyons: We're just about to start a discovery process to look at technical options and indicative costs of redeveloping the system.</p> <p>Senator MOORE: From your current analysis, there'll only be one more reporting area that will be able to be completed with the current system?</p> <p>Ms Lyons: I couldn't truthfully answer that one way or the other. It will depend on what technical options are available, the cost, because, once we have the information, we then have to find funds.</p> <p>Senator MOORE: What process are you using? Do you have people from outside looking at that? What are you doing in 2018?</p> <p>Ms Lyons: We are currently—</p> <p>Senator MOORE: Would you like to take that on notice.</p> <p>Ms Lyons: Yes, we have gone through a process to get the actual steps of the process correct.</p> <p>Senator MOORE: I am happy to have that on notice. Thank you very much.</p>			
28.	Independent National Security Legislation Monitor	McAllister	Government Responses to INSLM Recommendations	Independent National Security Legislation Monitor	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Just finally: in your annual report, you said that you want to work with government to formalise responses to the INSLM's recommendations. How many outstanding recommendations are there?</p>	FPA Monday 21 May 2018, page 101		

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					Dr Renwick: I think I'd better take that on notice, Senator. Apart from what's in my annual report itself—and I think in your recent PJCIS report you may have made some remarks about that; that is to say that the review you undertook of my three reports resulted in the government responding in a formal way, I think, to some previous control order recommendations. So I think—and I'd like to check this—that the government may be up to date in relation to my control order recommendations, really because of your PJCIS review.			
29.	Digital Transformation Agency	Cameron	Australian Apprentice Management System	Digital Transformation Agency	<p>Senator CAMERON: But this is the DTA reporting. So I am just bemused that the DTA don't know who they are reporting to. That is another problem. So, when did you report to the committee?</p> <p>Dr Seebeck: We provide a report to government, again, of what is happening across the portfolio.</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: I am asking: when did you report this \$20 million digital disaster? When did you report that?</p> <p>Dr Seebeck: I am sorry, Senator. I suggest you refer the question to the department of education about when they made the call about their future actions—</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: I am not here to take advice from you about what I should do. I am asking you</p>	FPA Monday 21 May 2018, page 106		

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					<p>questions about your agency. Your agency has got a role to oversight and provide advice to this ministerial committee. I am asking: when did you report it?</p> <p>Dr Seebeck: I'm not in a position to advise the committee about cabinet deliberations.</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: Are you saying it's a cabinet deliberation?</p> <p>Dr Seebeck: A committee of cabinet.</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: I thought you said it was a ministerial committee?</p> <p>Mr Slater: It's a subcommittee of cabinet.</p> <p>Dr Seebeck: It is a subcommittee of cabinet.</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: Okay. It's a subcommittee of cabinet, so are you claiming public interest immunity on that?</p> <p>Mr Slater: Forgive my ignorance. Is that a technical term?</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: It's basically what you've got to do if you don't answer my questions. You don't understand that?</p> <p>Senator McGrath: Why don't we take that on notice.</p>			
30.	Digital Transformation Agency	Cameron / McAllister	Reporting to Cabinet	Digital Transformation Agency	<p>Senator CAMERON: What are you doing? What analysis has been undertaken by DTA in relation to this \$20 million disaster?</p> <p>Dr Seebeck: As I indicated before, we will be working</p>	FPA Monday 21 May 2018, page 108,		

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					<p>with the Department of Education and Training to work out, again, the lessons learnt, what things came out of the project over time and how best we can prevent those from happening in the future. We will also be working with the Department of Education and Training to help uplift their capability in a whole range of areas, including things like application of the Digital Service Standard, to make sure that we actually get fit-for-purpose applications and systems as part of the business requirements in future tendering processes.</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: So you accept there is a tendering issue that you need to look at?</p> <p>Dr Seebeck: There are a range of things we will be looking at.</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: When?</p> <p>Dr Seebeck: That process will be kicking off shortly. Again, we've been working with the Department of Education and Training for a while, so it is a process of sitting down and continuing to work with them.</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: Have you reported to this subcommittee of cabinet? Have you reported on this project?</p> <p>Dr Seebeck: Again, we report across a whole range of projects. We look at around 80 across the Commonwealth.</p>	109		

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					<p>Senator CAMERON: Can you just answer my question: have you reported on this project to the subcommittee of cabinet?</p> <p>Dr Seebeck: Again, we cover a whole range of projects, which include this one.</p> <p>Senator McGrath: Why don't we take that on notice?</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: Oh, you've got to be kidding me!</p> <p>Senator McGrath: We'll take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: You've got to be kidding me! Why would you have to take that on notice? So you can't even tell me if you've reported on this project?</p> <p>Senator McGrath: We'll take that on notice, Senator.</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: So the cover-up's on?</p> <p>Senator McGrath: Really? Seriously?</p> <p>CHAIR: Senator Cameron, please don't reflect on the witnesses.</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: Oh, come on.</p> <p>CHAIR: It's well within the witnesses' right to take questions on notice. I think they've been doing their very best to answer your questions so far.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Senator Cameron's asking about one of the projects that was previously on the list of 15 scheduled for 'engage'. Are you routinely reporting on those 15 projects to the cabinet</p>			

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					<p>subcommittee? Dr Seebeck: Again, we report to the subcommittee when it sits, yes. Senator McALLISTER: When it sits? Senator CAMERON: So when does it sit? Dr Seebeck: Again, that's up to the cabinet secretariat in terms of— Senator CAMERON: No, I am asking you: has it sat on the basis of receiving a report on these projects? Senator McGrath: It's longstanding practice not to disclose information about the operational business of cabinet. You are more than drifting into that sphere. Senator McALLISTER: Senator, it is also a longstanding practice that it's possible to ask about the processes of cabinet, the dates on which matters are considered, the parts of the organisation responsible for preparing advice. The content of deliberations and deliberative processes, we accept, are not up for discussion. But I am interested in understanding how many times that cabinet subcommittee has met since the July 2016 election, in all of its incarnations. Senator McGrath: Why don't we take that on notice? Senator McALLISTER: You're repping Mr Keenan here, aren't you? Senator McGrath: Yes.</p>			

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					<p>Senator McALLISTER: And Mr Keenan chairs this cabinet subcommittee?</p> <p>Senator McGrath: I'll take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Can anyone assist you? You haven't been briefed about it?</p> <p>Senator McGrath: I'll take it on notice.</p>			
31.	Digital Transformation Agency	Cameron	Australian Apprenticeships Management System	Digital Transformation Agency	<p>Senator CAMERON: Okay. Let me go back to this document you've just tabled—the DTA portfolio current engaged projects. If we go to the Australian Apprenticeships Management System, you say that Education ceased work on the project after testing with users revealed gaps between the product and user needs. What were those gaps?</p> <p>Dr Seebeck: I couldn't tell you in detail.</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: So you haven't monitored it?</p> <p>Dr Seebeck: We do monitor. We work with the department of education—</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: Can you tell me what monitoring you've done?</p> <p>Dr Seebeck: We've worked closely with the department of education on the project. It has slipped a couple of times. So, given the decrease in the delivery conference, we then sat down and looked at future options for the project.</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: So are these five dot points in</p>	FPA Monday 21 May 2018, page 109, 110		

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					<p>this report dot points that are from you, Dr Seebeck, or are they from the department? Dr Seebeck: We work closely with the department. They're aware of what we have in the report. Senator CAMERON: I'm asking: who wrote the dot points? Was it you? Dr Seebeck: We work closely with the department and we would have come up with those dot points together. Senator CAMERON: You would have come up with them together? Dr Seebeck: Yes, because— Senator CAMERON: Tell me about that process. Dr Seebeck: So, once the department of education advised that they were going to close the project, we then went back and looked at our records and worked out dot points and consulted with Education on them. Senator CAMERON: But you found out about this nearly 12 months ago? Dr Seebeck: Yes, and it takes— Senator CAMERON: More than 12 months ago. Dr Seebeck: As I said, yes, in April 2017 we first became aware. Senator CAMERON: What did you do between April 2017 and the decision to close the project down? Dr Seebeck: We would have worked closely with the</p>			

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					<p>department of education, sat down and talked through the issues that had arisen in the project and looked at how we could ensure that services would continue and then looked at the options for the next steps.</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: Were there formal meetings on this?</p> <p>Dr Seebeck: No, I don't believe so. I'm not certain. I'd have to take that on notice.</p>			
32.	Digital Transformation Agency	Cameron	Australian Apprenticeships Management System – Minutes and File Notes	Digital Transformation Agency	<p>Senator CAMERON: So \$20 million of public money going down the drain—it doesn't even generate a formal meeting to discuss \$20 million of wasted public money?</p> <p>Dr Seebeck: We attend a number of project boards. I don't have the details of what those boards would be in this case, but certainly we would sit down and talk and consult on a regular basis.</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: If you don't know, can you provide me on notice details of all minutes, all correspondence between DTA and Education in relation to this project, and any file notes on the project. You have them? Do you have any file notes? Dr Seebeck, do you have file notes?</p> <p>Dr Seebeck: I am not aware of them, personally.</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: So you don't even know if DTA has any file notes on \$20 million?</p>	FPA Monday 21 May 2018, page 111		

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					<p>Dr Seebeck: We do keep records of various meetings.</p> <p>Senator CAMERON: Of course you do. You've got a responsibility to keep records. Will you take that on notice?</p> <p>Dr Seebeck: I will take that on notice.</p>			
33.	Digital Transformation Agency	McAllister	Graduate Program	Digital Transformation Agency	<p>Senator McALLISTER: All right. Really quickly, I want to ask a couple of questions about the graduate program. How many graduates, cadets and apprentices have been placed over how many agencies?</p> <p>Mr Alexander: The graduates—I don't know the exact details of all the agencies, so I don't have the statistics. There were about 140 graduates a year. The number is between about 120 and 140 a year, in terms of placements through our graduate program.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: How do we distinguish between graduates, cadets and apprentices? Are they all essentially the same thing?</p> <p>Mr Alexander: No, they're different. A graduate is a person who has finished a university degree, a cadet is someone who is in the process of a university degree, and an apprentice is someone who has come straight out of school and is doing a CIT course.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: On notice, can I get a breakdown of that 140, into graduates, cadets and apprentices, and can I also have an understanding of</p>	FPA Monday 21 May 2018, page 115		

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					what the overall recruitment target is for this program over time and the associated expenditure over the forward estimates. Mr Alexander: Yes.			
34.	Digital Transformation Agency	McAllister	SES Recruitment	Digital Transformation Agency	Senator McALLISTER: Ms Cantle, are you able to briefly talk to us? I asked Mr Slater earlier about whether or not you have an updated org chart. Do you have one with you? Ms Cantle: I don't have one with me. I can certainly take that on notice. Senator McALLISTER: On notice, can you provide me with a list of the recruitment actions undertaken within the agency over the last six months at SES level? I am interested in understanding how many appointments have been made. I am not particularly interested in the individuals, although you will need to detail, I suppose, the roles that individuals have filled. But I am just trying to understand what the profile of recruitment is in that SES level. Ms Cantle: We can certainly take that on notice.	FPA Monday 21 May 2018, page 117		
35.	Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman	Kitching	Handling of Reviews by the NDIA	Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman	Senator KITCHING: So, in the few moments that we have remaining, I'll ask about the handling of reviews. You released your report about the handling of reviews by the NDIA. Could I ask about the internal issues that may be driving the inability to meet deadlines by the	FPA Monday 21 May 2018, page 131, 132		

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					<p>NDIA that were in your review. I think it was released last week—is that correct?</p> <p>Ms Hinchcliffe: It was. I think that questions that go to what the internal issues might be in the NDIA might be questions for the NDIA. We were pleased to see that the NDIA agreed with the recommendations that we made in relation to our report, and we will continue to follow up with them on their implication of those recommendations.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Lovely. Do you believe it was training or the number of staff that meant it couldn't deliver according to deadline?</p> <p>Ms Hinchcliffe: It was clear to us that there is a backlog in relation to reviews within the agency. The agency has reported that to us, and they have established a team to work on the backlog. Whether there are ongoing issues in relation to training or in relation to staffing numbers, again, may be better asked of the NDIA.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Is the backlog caused by the ICT system? Is that part of the problem? Is the ICT system fit for purpose?</p> <p>Ms Hinchcliffe: I believe that we were provided with information in relation to that, in relation to some of the responses that were given to us, or briefings that were</p>			

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					<p>given to us by the NDIA, which are set out in the report. I don't have anything else I can add to that.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: The reports states that complaints about reviews make up about 40 per cent of the complaints the ombudsman receives about the NDIS. What is the breakdown of the remaining 60 per cent? I'm happy for that to be taken on notice, Chair.</p> <p>Ms Hinchcliffe: We might take that on notice.</p>			
36.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Wong	One Nation Company Tax Agreement	PMO	<p>Senator WONG: ...</p> <p>I want to start with some questions about the involvement of the Prime Minister and Prime Minister and Cabinet in the company tax agreement that has been reported in the paper today. I will call it the 'One Nation agreement' for the purposes of shorthand. In relation to this One Nation agreement—or once was agreement—I assume, Senator Cormann, you were negotiating with Senator Hanson on behalf of the government?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: It's a matter of public record that the government has been engaging with all crossbench senators for some time in order to secure the necessary support in the Senate for what is a very important reform to strengthen our economy and create more jobs. Given Labor had turned its back on its longstanding position in favour of reducing the</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 3, 4		

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					<p>business tax rate even though Labor knows that it leads to more investment, stronger growth, more jobs and higher wages, that was the only option that was left to the government in the circumstances. I can confirm that, on behalf of the government, I have been pursuing those discussions with all crossbenchers, including One Nation senators.</p> <p>Senator WONG: I assume you had the Prime Minister's authority to negotiate on behalf of the government?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Indeed.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Can I ask how many meetings you think you had in relation to this One Nation company tax agreement?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I'll have to take that on notice, but there were quite a few meetings over an extended period of time.</p> <p>Senator WONG: At any of those meetings were officers of Prime Minister and Cabinet present?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: No.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Dr Gruen, you never attended any meeting?</p> <p>Dr Gruen: Certainly not.</p> <p>Senator WONG: At any of those meetings with Senator Hanson, were any departmental officials</p>			

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					<p>present? Senator Cormann: I'll have to take that on notice. Senator WONG: I will ask you again in Treasury. Senator Cormann: Sure. There have been a whole series of meetings. Whether it's the Labor opposition, the Greens or other crossbenchers, if there are other requests for briefings in relation to specific technical aspects, obviously that is facilitated in the usual way. But I'll have to take on notice the specifics in terms of our engagement with One Nation. Senator WONG: Sure. In relation to the company tax agreement, on how many occasions did the Prime Minister meet with Senator Hanson? Senator Cormann: I'll have to take that on notice. Senator WONG: Were you present at meetings where the Prime Minister did meet with Senator Hanson? Senator Cormann: I'll have to take that on notice. I've had a very long series of meetings directly with Senator Hanson and other One Nation senators and other members of the One Nation team. As you would expect, there have been other meetings with other members of the government. In terms of who was at what meeting, I'd rather be precise and accurate, so I will take that on notice. Senator WONG: You've taken on notice how many,</p>			

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					<p>but the question I just asked, which I would have assumed you could answer, Senator Cormann, was: were you present at any meetings between Senator Hanson and the Prime Minister?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: To be perfectly honest, I can't specifically remember because there have been a whole series of meetings. I have been involved in meetings with the Prime Minister, as you'd expect. I've been involved in meetings with crossbenchers. Indeed, I've been involved in meetings with other non-government senators across the Senate. As to who was at what meeting, I'd rather make sure I get that detail correct and give you that on notice.</p>			
37.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Wong	One Nation Company Tax Agreement – Meetings with Senator Hanson	PMO	<p>Senator WONG: How about this: to your knowledge has the Prime Minister met with Senator Hanson on any occasion in relation to this company tax agreement?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I certainly can confirm that the Prime Minister has meetings from time to time with non-government senators, including the leader of the One Nation party.</p> <p>Senator WONG: On notice, perhaps later today, can I have the dates on which the Prime Minister has met with Senator Hanson this year?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I'll take it on notice, and we'll</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 4, 5		

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					<p>answer it in the usual way when we're in a position to answer it.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Well, I'm requesting it for later today. I wouldn't have thought it would be particularly difficult to check the Prime Minister's diary. I've asked for a very limited period; it's only five months.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I've taken it on notice, and, when we're in a position to answer it, at the earliest opportunity, we will.</p>			
38.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Wong	One Nation Company Tax Agreement – Authority to Negotiate	PMO	<p>Senator WONG: Okay. You said earlier you were given the authority of the Prime Minister to negotiate on behalf of the government with One Nation—and other crossbench senators, but relevantly with One Nation—in relation to the company tax agreement. Can you tell me when you obtained that authority and when negotiations commenced?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: At the appropriate time. In terms of the specific dates when it commenced, I'll have to take that on notice.</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 5		
39.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Wong	One Nation Company Tax Agreement – Policy Authority	PMO	<p>Senator WONG: Which aspects of the One Nation company tax agreement were given policy authority by the Prime Minister, rather than going to the cabinet?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I'll have to take process questions on notice. ...</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 11		
40.	Department of	Wong	One Nation	PMO	Senator WONG: Is there anything else you've agreed	FPA		

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	the Prime Minister and Cabinet		Company Tax Agreement – Correspondence with Senator Hanson		<p>to with One Nation?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Again, I've already answered this. The conversations with the Senate crossbench are continuing. Up until today, as a matter of public record, we had the support of 37 out of the 39 senators we needed to secure the passage of this important economic reform. Senator Hanson clearly has put the support of three crossbench senators under a serious cloud, so it might well be that as of today we have the support of 34 crossbench senators. We need 39, so the conversations are continuing and, until such time as we've reached a consensus with a sufficient number of senators, there is nothing really to report.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Sure. But there's a distinction between what you agree with Senator Hanson, and the delivery of that. You have spent a lot of time discussing how that won't be delivered unless she votes for the tax cuts. I think we are all perfectly clear about that. But I'm asking about what was agreed. Let's try it this way: were the terms of your agreement with One Nation in relation to the company tax deal put into writing and, if so, where?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: At various times: of course. Things are put into writing in relation to aspects, and that is the usual process. And at the right time, if the government</p>	Monday 22 May 2018, page 13, 14		

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					<p>secures the necessary support of a sufficient number of senators, relevant public announcements will be made in the same way as they were made in March 2017.</p> <p>Senator WONG: In what form were they put into writing? Were they done by letter from you—no, I'm not asking about calligraphy. I'm asking, was it a letter from you to Senator Hanson, a letter from Mr Turnbull to Senator Hanson?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Again, I've done a number of these processes now, going quite a way back—you might remember the agreement we reached some time ago with the then Palmer United Party in relation to the mining tax repeal. I think you'll find that I tabled relevant correspondence at the appropriate time; similarly with then Senator Xenophon. Various things are put in writing at various times, and you would be safe to assume that the engagement with crossbench senators is consistent.</p> <p>Senator WONG: On how many occasions did you write to Senator Hanson outlining the agreement?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I sent a letter to all crossbench senators, which I think was actually published in <i>The Australian</i>. I sent the letter—from memory, that was sometime in February—to all crossbench senators.</p> <p>Senator WONG: But I'm asking in relation to the</p>			

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					<p>terms of the One Nation— Senator Cormann: This is the thing; there is a series of correspondence in relation to the merits of key and central economic reform proposals that go forward. There is a series of letters, and I will take on notice precisely what letter was sent when by whom. Senator WONG: Well, I'm asking for a copy of correspondence between the government and Senator Hanson in relation to the terms of a proposed agreement for support for the company tax policy. Senator Cormann: I'll take that on notice.</p>			
41.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Siewert	Aged-Care Task Force	Social Policy	<p>Senator SIEWERT: I want to ask about the aged-care task force. I understand that last year there was a task force set up within PM&C to examine ageing—correct? Ms Hatfield Dodds: That is correct. Senator SIEWERT: Could you outline when it was set up and if it had formal terms of reference or what the things were that it was covering—or is covering, because that is the other question: is it ongoing? Ms Hatfield Dodds: A task force was set up in the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet in the second half of last year. Mr Brown: The task force was set up on 21 August 2017 and ran until 15 May 2018.</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 14, 15		

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					<p>Senator SIEWERT: In other words, it no longer exists.</p> <p>Mr Brown: No, it's finished.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Could you tell me whether it had formal terms of reference? And if so, what were they?</p> <p>Ms Hatfield Dodds: Its terms of reference were subject to cabinet confidentiality, because the task force was set up under cabinet to advise cabinet on the development of the ageing package for the budget.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Why can't the terms of reference for a task force be made publicly available? Surely there's nothing secret in the terms of reference?</p> <p>Ms Hatfield Dodds: I think that's the convention around cabinet confidentiality. But what we can tell you, Senator, is that the task force reported to a ministerial group chaired by the Treasurer, and that group had oversight of the work of the task force.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Who was on the task force? I'm not asking about the cabinet, I'm asking about—</p> <p>Ms Hatfield Dodds: The task force was led from October to February by Dr Margot McCarthy, a deputy secretary from the health department who was seconded to Prime Minister and Cabinet for that period, and me. Then from February through to May, it was led by me. In February, Dr McCarthy commenced personal</p>			

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					<p>leave. I can give you a profile of the task force staff, if that's what you're after.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Yes, that's what I'm after next.</p> <p>Ms Hatfield Dodds: The task force leads were supported by a band 2 first assistant secretary, Dr Alison Morehead, who was seconded from the Department of Jobs and Small Business. The task force reported to the Treasurer as chair of the ministerial taskforce. In terms of headcount, we had two deputy secretaries, or one deputy secretary from February, from PM&C and Health; one SES band 2, a first assistant secretary from Jobs and Small Business; one SES band 1, from Social Services; four EL2s, from the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, Health, Jobs and Small Business, and Human Services; three EL1s, from Finance and Health, and one contractor; one APS6—</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: What does 'one contractor' mean?</p> <p>Ms Hatfield Dodds: Most staff were ongoing APS employees. The task force required some particular analytical skills, and the contractor is an ex-Treasury official who was between jobs.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: To provide that analytical skill?</p> <p>Ms Hatfield Dodds: Correct. And one APS6 officer from the Treasury; and one APS5 officer from the</p>			

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					Department of Health. That gives you a total of 13 people. But the headcount fluctuated a little over months, so I've got that breakdown as well if— Senator SIEWERT: I don't need that level of detail. Is that something you could table? Ms Hatfield Dodds: Yes.			
42.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Siewert	Aged-Care Task Force – Homeless Services	Social Policy	Senator SIEWERT: Okay. Are you aware that homeless people are being told to go and apply for NDIS before they get access to other funding sources? Ms Hatfield Dodds: I'm not aware of that. Senator SIEWERT: Is that something you could take on notice? Ms Hatfield Dodds: Yes, absolutely. Senator SIEWERT: Could you take on it notice to see if it is widespread—I've just been told of a few—or if it is just that there are a few particular people who have been told to go and apply for NDIS before accessing any home care or residential aged-care services? Ms Hatfield Dodds: We'll take that on notice.	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 17		
43.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McAllister	Review of PRRT Arrangements – Meeting with Industry	Economic	Senator McALLISTER: Dr Gruen, we were talking about whether you or PM&C had had any contact with industry around the PRRT. More specifically, have you been involved in any discussions or had anyone contact you about reforms to the PRRT in the period leading up to the budget?	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 20, 21		

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					<p>Dr Gruen: I hesitate because it is certainly possible that a peak body may have come to talk to me about their views, but that would have been initiated by a peak body, rather than by me. Peak bodies often come simply to inform PM&C of their position on a range of public policy issues. They were aware that this was something the government was considering because of the context of the Callaghan review.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Do you recall which peak body it was?</p> <p>Dr Gruen: I can take that on notice and get back to you on it.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: This was a face-to-face meeting?</p> <p>Dr Gruen: If I have the timing right, it was definitely a face-to-face meeting. I have met with them; the question is whether the timing fits with the question you've asked.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: I asked about before the budget, which is a fairly general time frame.</p> <p>Dr Gruen: I guess that's an infinite amount of time.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Do you think the meeting took place this year?</p> <p>Dr Gruen: I doubt it; I think not.</p>			
44.	Department of	McAllister	Review of	Economic	Senator McALLISTER: Dr Gruen, have you seen any	FPA		

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	the Prime Minister and Cabinet	/ Wong	PRRT Arrangements – Analysis Undertaken by Treasury		<p>analysis undertaken by Treasury or anyone else of a proposal to reform deductibility arrangements for the PRRT that would return \$6 billion to the government's coffers over the forward estimates?</p> <p>Dr Gruen: I am not saying whether I have or haven't, but, had I seen it, it would have been in the context of cabinet deliberations, and I don't discuss cabinet deliberations.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: It may have been or it may not have been. The evidence thus far isn't—</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Honestly, any questions on forecasting or projections of—</p> <p>Senator WONG: She's entitled to ask about his involvement, Mathias. Stop trying to pivot.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Let me finish.</p> <p>CHAIR: Order! The minister is part way through an answer.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: This is 100 per cent consistent—</p> <p>Senator WONG: No. She is entitled to ask about PM&C and this official's involvement.</p> <p>CHAIR: No-one is seeking to prevent Senator McAllister or anyone else from asking questions.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Let me be very clear: I will take on notice any question about forecasting and projection of revenue.</p>	Monday 22 May 2018, page 21, 22		

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45.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McAllister	Review of PRRT Arrangements – Meetings with Stakeholders	PMO	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Has the Prime Minister met with any stakeholders from the oil and gas sector in relation to the PRRT?</p> <p>Dr Gruen: Are you asking me this question?</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: I am, Dr Gruen.</p> <p>Dr Gruen: I can take it on notice. I don't have access to the Prime Minister's diary but I'm happy to take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Minister, are you aware of whether or not the Prime Minister has met with any stakeholders in the oil and gas sector?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I am not aware, but I can take it on notice. As a general response, from time to time, stakeholders in different areas of the economy and the community seek to meet the Prime Minister, and the Prime Minister meets many people. I'm not aware, myself, of any meetings but I will provide that information on notice.</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 24		
46.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Wong	One Nation Company Tax Agreement	PMO	<p>Senator WONG: Just a few questions to confirm. Senator Cormann, I am asking you to release the full details of the agreement you reached with One Nation, so that Australians can understand and scrutinise what you were prepared to do, across a range of policy areas, to get their votes.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I have taken that on notice.</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 26		

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47.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Wong	Departmental Liaison Officers	Government	<p>Senator WONG: Thank you for the opening statement, Ms Foster. I'm going to come back later today on a particular issue, and I just want to give you the opportunity to maybe get officials to look at the questions on notice that I want to explore. Senator Farrell asked questions, PM&C 207, and the answer is a reasonably narrow response. I want to flag with you that an analogous, virtually identical question was asked by Senator Bernardi, the then government backbencher, in February 2014, PM&C question 43 for the 2013-14 additional estimates, and the department was exceedingly helpful to Senator Bernardi and provided him with information spanning 2008, 2010, 2012 and 2013. I do want to understand why it is that that helpfulness disappeared or was somewhat limited when it came to the analogous question asked by Senator Farrell. I would like the same information provided and I would like an explanation as to why the department chose to provide different information to the opposition than it provided to Senator Bernardi. If we can come back to that later, I thought I would give you the opportunity to look at that.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator WONG: Okay, we'll come back to tax cuts. Ms Foster, can we go back to the question I gave you</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 3, 29		

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					<p>some notice of at the start, please? Could you explain to me why Senator Bernardi gets such helpfulness when he is a government senator from PM&C and why Senator Farrell is not treated with the same courtesy?</p> <p>Ms Foster: Senator, we weren't looking back at the 2014 response when we did the 2018 response. The reason for giving the most recent date was that we don't actually hold the data on the dates that Senator Farrell asked for.</p> <p>Senator WONG: How did you hold it for 2008, 2010, 2012 and 2013, but not for 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017?</p> <p>Ms Foster: We didn't have those exact dates either in 2014.</p> <p>Senator WONG: You went and found them from other people?</p> <p>Ms Foster: We gave slightly different dates. So we can do that for Senator Farrell, and I have staff trying to pull that together now.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Okay, let's not have a fight about this if we can avoid it. Can we just get the information? If you can give something analogous to the answers given to Senator Bernardi, I won't have to redo this or take an order for production in the Senate. I would appreciate it.</p> <p>Ms Foster: We can do that and we can give you some</p>			

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					information today and then give you a full set shortly after.			
48.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Kitching	Banking Royal Commission – Briefs to the Prime Minister	Economic	<p>Senator KITCHING: Thank you, Chair. I would like to ask some questions about the banking royal commission, but before we get to that, I wanted to check whether anyone in the department was tasked with keeping the Prime Minister up-to-date about misconduct in the financial and banking sector?</p> <p>Dr Gruen: Sorry, Senator, as the royal commission has progressed, is that what you are asking?</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: No, I am not at the establishment of the royal commission yet. Prior to that was anyone tasked with keeping the Prime Minister up-to-date about misconduct in the financial and banking sectors?</p> <p>Dr Gruen: Well as a general proposition we keep the Prime Minister up-to-date with all the things that are going on in the economy and in the community that we think are relevant. There was no specific tasking. In general, when there are developments, we would brief the Prime Minister about them.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Obviously there was discussion within political circles and also in the media around whether there should be a banking royal commission.</p> <p>Dr Gruen: Yes, there was.</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 29, 30		

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					<p>Senator KITCHING: So nobody thought that we should keep a bit of an eye on that?</p> <p>Dr Gruen: We keep an eye on it. To the extent that we are able to do it, we keep an eye on all things that are material, and that was certainly material.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Did the Prime Minister ask for any briefs to be prepared for him specifically about misconduct in the banking and financial sectors?</p> <p>Dr Gruen: I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: If you also take on notice: if or how many briefs did the Prime Minister specifically request from July 2016 to December 2016, from January 2017 to June 2017, from July 2017 to December 2017, and from January 2018 until the present day.</p> <p>Dr Gruen: Happy to take that on notice.</p>			
49.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Kitching	Banking Royal Commission – Briefs to the Prime Minister	Economic	<p>Senator KITCHING: When the Treasurer said on 4 April 2018, which is a month and a half ago approximately, 'These are not things the government was not aware of,' about the banking royal commission, any awareness was derived not from Prime Minister and Cabinet.</p> <p>Dr Gruen: When you say 'any awareness', the Treasury is the agency which has primary responsibility for this. We have close relations with the</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 30		

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					<p>Treasury so, to the extent that there are specific material things going on in the financial sector, we will both brief the Prime Minister ourselves and we will have discussions with the Treasury. When you asked me initially whether anyone was specifically tasked with telling the Prime Minister, someone is specifically tasked with keeping the Prime Minister abreast of developments in the financial sector. If you like, I can say that that person is specifically tasked, but they have a broader role than simply informing the Prime Minister about particular things that go on in the financial sector. We see our remit as rather broader than that.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: I will go back and ask: do you recall the Prime Minister or his office asking for any briefs in the last few months on the banking and financial sectors?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We will have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Dr Gruen has already agreed to take it on notice. I'm just hoping to jig his memory.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: It's taken on notice, so it's taken on notice.</p>			
50.	Department of the Prime	Kitching	Banking Royal	Economic	Senator KITCHING: In relation to the Commonwealth Bank financial advisers charging	FPA Monday 22		

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	Minister and Cabinet		Commission – Commonwealth Bank Charges		<p>commissions to dead customers, including in the instance where one customer was charged for up to a decade, did the Prime Minister know about this? If he did, can you please let us know the date of the first brief in which the Prime Minister was told about this.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: The royal commission of course, appropriately, is independent from government. It was set up by government. The government set the terms of reference. We chose the royal commissioner, and the royal commission appropriately does its work independently from government, as it should. The Prime Minister in the same way as anybody else becomes aware of what is raised in the royal commission, in the ordinary course of events. There is an agency in government that has got direct policy responsibility for this area of public policy—that is, the Treasury, which specifically has a group within it, which is the Markets Group, which is responsible for financial system and financial market regulatory and policy matters. If you want to get specific answers in relation to these sorts of questions, I will take all of these questions on notice—</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Thank you.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: because it's not a matter that the Prime Minister's portfolio, of course, has got prime</p>	May 2018, page 31		

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					responsibility for.			
51.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Kitching	Banking Royal Commission – National Australia Bank Introducer Program	Economic	<p>Senator KITCHING: No, once, I think. Evidence to the royal commission also revealed that the National Australia Bank's Introducer Program involved the forgery of pay slips to settle loans and white envelopes being stuffed with cash bribes. Did the Prime Minister know about this? Can you let us know the date of the first brief in which the Prime Minister was told about this? Is it true that the Prime Minister refused to start a royal commission despite knowing that AMP was charging clients for services never provided?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I reject the premise of the final question, and the other parts of the question I take on notice.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Evidence to the royal commission revealed that AMP misled ASIC in relation to an allegedly independent report by Clayton Utz. Did the Prime Minister know about this?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Again, as I've said to you, I will take all of these questions on notice. Let me just make a general—</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 34		
52.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Wong / Kitching	Banking Royal Commission – Advice to	Economic	<p>Senator WONG: Senator Cormann, the Treasurer made the statement that Senator Kitching has referenced. He said: Other agencies certainly have addressed many issues</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 34, 35		

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			the Prime Minister		<p>being raised. I think that will more directly impact on the public consciousness of these things, but they are not things that the government was not aware of. Senator Kitching has put a range of concerns and events to you, which have been aired at the commission. I actually want to understand what the Prime Minister says the Treasurer was referencing when he said, essentially, 'These are things we were aware of.' What does the Prime Minister understand the Treasurer to be referencing about the behaviour of the banks?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I'm not going to comment on what the Treasurer might think, because—</p> <p>Senator WONG: No, I didn't ask you that.</p> <p>CHAIR: Order, Senator Wong.</p> <p>Senator WONG: I didn't ask him that. I asked him what the Prime Minister thinks.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: What I have done and what I will continue to do is take on notice, in relation to all the instances that Senator Kitching is listing, as to what advice may or may not have been sought and what advice may or may not have been provided. That is what I have undertaken, and that is what we will provide.</p> <p>Senator WONG: I didn't ask you what the Treasurer</p>			

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					<p>thought; you are here representing the Prime Minister. I will try to put the question this way: what wrongdoing by the banks was the Prime Minister aware of as at April 2018, prior to the decision to agree to the royal commission?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I have taken that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: I might just go back. I think I have asked you to take this on notice. AMP misled ASIC in relation to an allegedly independent report by Clayton Utz. Did the Prime Minister know about this? Can you please let us know the date of the first brief in which the Prime Minister was told about this? Is it true that the Prime Minister refused to start a royal commission, despite knowing that AMP was lying to regulators?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I reject the premise of that last question, as I have before. I'll take the remaining questions on notice.</p>			
53.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Kitching	Banking Royal Commission – Letter from Banks	PMO	<p>Senator KITCHING: Can I just refer you to a letter dated 30 November 2017, addressed to the Treasurer. It's from the banks. I'm happy to read out the senders of the letter; they are the bank chairs and chief executive officers. I think you probably know the letter to which I am referring. Were you aware of the letter prior to the announcement regarding the royal commission?</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 36, 37		

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					<p>Senator Cormann: Sorry, I can't assist you with that. In estimates for the portfolio of Prime Minister and Cabinet, you're asking about a letter in relation to the Treasurer. You won't be surprised to hear me say—</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: I'm asking: were you—and you're here representing the Prime Minister—or the Prime Minister's department aware of the letter prior to the announcement?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Sorry, which letter are you talking about?</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: I'm talking about the letter from the banks to the Treasurer, dated 30 November. It's a letter from the banks—</p> <p>Senator Cormann: You're saying 2017?</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Sorry, yes, 2017—30 November last year.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: That is now nearly six months ago. I would have to take on notice what letter the Prime Minister and I were aware of at what time.</p>			
54.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Kitching / Wong	Banking Royal Commission – Letter from Banks	PMO	<p>Senator KITCHING: I do have a copy of this letter, Chair, and I'm happy to table it, or to give it to Senator Cormann.</p> <p>CHAIR: Which letter?</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: This is a letter from the banks to the Treasurer, dated 30 November last—</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 37, 38		

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					<p>CHAIR: I think it's a public document, so it's probably not necessary to table it. But it certainly might help to give a copy to the minister if you wish to ask questions about it.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I'd like to see it.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Thank you.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: So that's an article, that's not a letter that was sent.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: No—</p> <p>Senator WONG: No, sorry. It's actually a text that was printed. We can print out the actual letter. This is all on the public record. The article printed the full text of the letter, if you want a copy—</p> <p>Senator Cormann: No, look, sorry. Obviously, at the time there were a lot of conversations, as you would expect, between relevant ministers and within government. So I would have been aware, and the Prime Minister would have been aware, of the letter at the time. In terms of precise timing, I've got to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Okay. Maybe I could ask some questions about it, though? Was there any discussion between members of the government, or government staff, and the major banks about their producing that letter in time for the announcement?</p>			

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					<p>Senator Cormann: I'm not aware.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Would you be able to take that on notice?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I will take that on notice, yes.</p>			
55.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Patrick	National Security Legislation – Creation of ONI	National Security	<p>Senator PATRICK: Yes. In relation to some of the national security legislation that is coming before the parliament and, in particular, one piece of legislation that directly relates to your office—the creation of ONI—can someone assist me on that. I would be grateful if you could describe PM&C's role within the broad national security arrangements across government as a consequence of the establishment of the Home Affairs portfolio and the anticipated establishment of ONI.</p> <p>Mr McKinnon: We will obviously still have an overall coordinating role as a central agency. The Office of National Intelligence will also be a portfolio cousin within the broad Prime Minister and Cabinet portfolio. Separately and on any issue we will brief the Prime Minister as required and do whatever he asks us to do.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: Will you still carry out the traditional ONA role?</p> <p>Mr McKinnon: ONA as an organisation is being significantly changed and will be subsumed by ONI. It is the core of ONI. If my memory serves me correctly,</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 41, 42		

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					<p>it has about 110 people, heading up towards 200, taking on additional roles above and beyond its traditional role as a source of analysis for the Prime Minister. It will also take on a much bigger role in coordinating at a broad strategic level the whole national intelligence community of 10 agencies, including itself, and also coordinating the development of capability through a joint capability fund and also through an integrated capability investment plan, which will bring together intelligence related capabilities from across that whole community. It also will have a role in the assessment process for all of the intelligence agencies. So ONA is still there but will become ONI once the legislation is ready. ONA is already taking on some of those roles to some extent. We are organising how it is going to be done.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: Is that part of the work you still are doing as part of the Independent Intelligence Review Taskforce? What is left remaining in that work?</p> <p>Mr McKinnon: There are still some of the recommendations of the report to be finally considered and announced by government. The predominant focus of the work we are doing is the development of the legislation which will be the ONI bill.</p>			

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					<p>Senator PATRICK: You are principally responsible for the drafting of that bill. I note that that's one of the few bills that hasn't made it to the parliament yet. Is that just a function of resources or is it to do with complexity?</p> <p>Mr McKinnon: It's to do with complexity. We're not actually drafting the rules; the Commonwealth parliamentary office's drafters do it. So, if you think about it as a cascading thing, you had independent reviewers, Michael L'Estrange and Stephen Merchant, who gave a range of, if you like, policy related prescriptions or recommendations to the government. Then if you cascade down one level, if the government decides to accept those or not, we have to determine how they can be made into policy recommendations that are amenable to being turned into legislation.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: Sorry: I should have said that you're effectively instructing the drafters.</p> <p>Mr McKinnon: Exactly. We're working very closely with the drafters. And on the other side, we're working with the whole community to make sure that arrangements are sensible and workable within the way the community has to operate.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: And what role will ONI have in relation to assessment of domestic security issues—so,</p>			

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					focusing on your assessment there—and how will they relate to the statutory responsibilities of ASIO? Mr McKinnon: I'd like to take that one on notice.			
56.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Patrick	Operational Oversight of the Intelligence Community by the PJCIS	National Security	Senator PATRICK: The independent intelligence review canvassed issues relating to parliamentary scrutiny of the intelligence community and specifically of the role of the PJCIS. What consideration, if any, was given to expanding the oversight role of the PJCIS? Were there any specific obstacles involved in enhancing PJCIS oversight, particularly in relation to operational matters, as distinct from the current limitations to just administrative and financial matters. Mr McKinnon: That goes to matters that are still either under consideration or to be announced by the government, so I'd rather not comment. But I can say that when the Prime Minister announced the release of the public version of the independent intelligence review he made it very clear that he saw it as the basis for the reform of the intelligence community, and I have in earlier evidence to the committee reflected his positive appraisal, in the broad. We had to work through all the issues. As I said, Mr L'Estrange and Mr Merchant were not legal drafters and they had to go through normal government processes. I think that's probably as much as I would like to say about that.	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 42		

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					<p>Senator PATRICK: Has operational oversight been ruled out? You're saying that the report is just that: it's a report to be considered by government. Has operational oversight of the intelligence community by the PJCIS been ruled out?</p> <p>Mr McKinnon: No, I'm not saying that at all—nor ruled in. I'm saying that I don't think it's appropriate for me to comment on it at this stage. I will say, though, that when the Prime Minister did the launch he did clearly articulate that he saw the enhancement of oversight and integrity bodies' ability to oversight as being a fundamental core of all those reforms, and that was reflected in some of the things that have already been made public, such as a significant boost to the resources of the Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security to take their resources, I think from in the order of about 17 people to about 50. As much as I'd like to say anything about that, I see that it's very much within his own positive aspirations for the community that the intelligence and the oversight and integrity measures be strengthened.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: Okay. I presume that somewhere in your department you would have at least considered that oversight. I'm just trying to obtain from somewhere some consideration by government as to the pros and</p>			

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					<p>cons of operational oversight by the PJCIS, without regard to any decision that might flow from those pros and cons. Is it possible to table on notice to the committee perhaps a summary of the pros and cons that might have been considered?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We'll take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: I appreciate that. Have I still got some more time, Chair?</p> <p>CHAIR: One minute.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: How many meetings have there been of the National Security Committee of cabinet over the past year?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We would have to take that on notice.</p>			
57.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Wong	Allegation Relating to the Conduct of Mr John Lloyd	MO/PMO	<p>Senator WONG: Can I put on notice a question to Ms O'Dwyer: whether or not she has received any report in relation to Mr Lloyd from their Merit Protection Commissioner?</p> <p>Ms Foster: Of course that can be put on notice. I'd just refer back to section 50 of the Public Service Act, which says that a report of the results of any inquiry goes to the Presiding Officers.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Well, I've already asked that, and he didn't know anything about it. The requirement of public servants, in the Public Service Act and the APS</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 46		

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					<p>code, is to be apolitical—correct?</p> <p>Ms Foster: Yes. There is a set of values, the fifth one of which is 'Impartial', and it requires that the APS: ... is apolitical and provides the Government with advice that is frank, honest, timely and based on the best available evidence.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Does the government believe that the emails that Mr Lloyd has conceded writing on his work email meet the test of being apolitical?</p> <p>Ms Foster: I can't speak on behalf of the government.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I'm not actually aware of the emails. I obviously followed what happened yesterday. I'm not—</p> <p>Senator WONG: Perhaps you could take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Sure, happy to.</p>			
58.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Wong	Allegation Relating to the Conduct of Mr John Lloyd – Correspondence with IPA	PMO	<p>Senator WONG: Senator Cormann, I think Mr Lloyd has openly conceded writing emails from his work account to Mr Roskam from the IPA, which included reference, I think in a reasonably—I can't remember the wording, actually—negative way of me taking a swipe and then subsequently—</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Sorry, who taking a swipe?</p> <p>Senator WONG: me—and subsequently then writing a further email to Mr Roskam about Labor senators</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 46		

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					asking questions at Senate estimates about his earlier communications with the IPA, which he conceded he did because he was annoyed with us, or annoyed as a result of—I'm interested in the Prime Minister's opinion as to whether this is conduct befitting a statutory officer in his position. Senator Cormann: I will take that on notice.			
59.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McAllister	APS Review – Panel Remuneration	APS Reform Taskforce	Senator McALLISTER: On what basis are the panel serving? Have you engaged them as consultants or what? Mr D Williamson: Yes. We are in the process of finalising contracts at the moment. Administratively they will be consultants to PM&C, that's right. Senator McALLISTER: Are you able to provide details of the remuneration arrangements of the panel? Mr D Williamson: I can. We're settling the contracts now, so can I take that on notice. Once we have that locked in I am happy to provide it.	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 51		
60.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McAllister	APS Review – Secretariat Budget	APS Review Taskforce	Senator McALLISTER: You mentioned of the role of the secretariat in undertaking policy work and support for the panel. Have you engaged any private sector support at this point? Mr D Williamson: No, not as yet. Senator McALLISTER: Is it the intention to do so? Mr D Williamson: The option is there. It comes back	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 51		

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					<p>to decisions the panel will take on how it wants to proceed with the review. That is open to the panel.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: My understanding from the budget papers is that \$9.8 million has been allocated for this task. Is that correct?</p> <p>Mr D Williamson: Yes, that's right.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: The papers indicate that this will come from within the existing resources of PM&C.</p> <p>Mr D Williamson: That's correct.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: What does that \$9.8 million represent? Does it represent the staff costs, for example?</p> <p>Mr D Williamson: It is largely staff costs, but it's also potentially money set aside to commission work for the research; costs of various engagement mechanisms that we talked about before; the panel's remuneration. It's those sorts of things.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Is an internal budget being developed for the allocation of that \$9.8 million?</p> <p>Mr D Williamson: Yes, a high-level budget. I guess it was prepared with the caveat that the panel itself will drive a lot of the specific decisions around the spend; but, yes, there was a budget that produced that number.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Is it possible for that to be provided?</p>			

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					Mr D Williamson: Yes. I don't have it with me, but I am happy to provide it to you.			
61.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McAlister	Personal Income Tax Package	Economic	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Dr Gruen, I wanted to ask you about the role that your team played in the process of bringing together the personal income tax package, just from a process perspective.</p> <p>Dr Gruen: We played the usual role that PM&C plays, which is to work closely with the Treasury to provide advice to the government.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We captured this this morning. As Dr Gruen indicated to the committee this morning: on matters that go before cabinet or the deliberative processes of cabinet subcommittees like the Expenditure Review Committee, PM&C provides advice to the Prime Minister on those matters before cabinet and cabinet subcommittees as required and as appropriate.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Dr Gruen, you said you worked closely with the Treasury. What was the form of that collaboration? Was there a working group or some sort of task force?</p> <p>Dr Gruen: There were certainly discussions. We have a close working relationship with the Treasury, so there were discussions. There was no formal task force.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: This is essentially business as</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 52, 53		

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					<p>usual. You've got the cabinet and various cabinet subcommittees, and the Prime Minister provides policy authority to cabinet ministers to bring forward certain proposals. The Prime Minister's department would be providing the Prime Minister with advice in that context, I would have thought. Proposals come forward and, as proposals come forward and options are considered, the Prime Minister's department provides advice to the Prime Minister in the usual way, consistent with what we went through this morning.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Dr Gruen, you spoke about a series of discussions; not a formal task force or working group, but a collaborative process. Where did that commence, approximately?</p> <p>Dr Gruen: I'd have to take that on notice, but several months before the budget.</p>			
62.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Kitching	Religious Freedom Review	Government	<p>Senator KITCHING: I have some questions about the Religious Freedom Review. Last Friday, the Prime Minister made a statement confirming that he had received the final report from the Religious Freedom Review Expert Panel. When did he receive it? Did he receive it on the Friday?</p> <p>Mr Walter: That's right. He received it on Friday.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Thank you. Has the department itself reviewed and provided advice to the Prime</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 58, 59		

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					<p>Minister or his office in relation to the final report? Mr Walter: The secretariat, which I ran, was responsible for preparing the report in conjunction with the panel. We physically provided it to the Prime Minister, but there wasn't a briefing as such attached to it. Senator KITCHING: It was just a report? Mr Walter: Yes, just a report. You might have noticed from the Prime Minister's media release after he received it that he has asked the Attorney-General to take leadership of considering the report. Senator KITCHING: Did you receive a copy of the final report on Friday as well? Mr Walter: We drafted it with the panel. So we had it and then we handed it to the Prime Minister. Senator KITCHING: Has the Attorney-General received a copy and, if so, when? Mr Walter: Unfortunately, I can't answer that question. You would have to ask the Prime Minister's office. We provided it to the Prime Minister through the Prime Minister's office and through his briefing system. I don't know if it was distributed to other ministers following that. Senator KITCHING: Would you be able to take that on notice to see if it's gone to any ministers or their</p>			

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					<p>officers and when? Mr Walter: Sure. Senator KITCHING: Have any departments been provided with a copy? Mr Walter: Certainly not through us. Again, I'd have to take that on notice. If a minister got it, they might have passed it to their department. But I wouldn't know the answer to that. Senator KITCHING: I should really, just for the sake of completeness, ask: have any other parliamentarians, not just ministers, received a copy of the report? Mr Walter: Again, not from the department, the secretariat or the panel. If the Prime Minister's office distributed it, I would have to check. Senator KITCHING: If you could take that on notice, that would be great. Thank you. ...</p>			
63.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Kitching	Religious Freedom Review	Government	<p>Senator KITCHING: Is there a total cost for the review? Mr Walter: As at 30 April, which is the latest figure I've got, we are currently at \$505,540. The budget for the whole process is \$1.22 million. It will go up, obviously, from then but it won't be a substantial amount. I expect it will come in around the \$600,000 mark overall. We had a couple of costs this month because we had a few more legal costs, but I'd imagine</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 62, 63		

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					<p>it will be about that—a few hundred thousand under budget.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Is it possible to get a breakdown of the costs along the lines of administrative and staff fees, sitting fees for the panel members, travel fees for the panel members, secretariat travel costs, entertainment and hospitality and consultant fees? Were there consultant fees?</p> <p>Mr Walter: Yes, we did have a data consultant who we used.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Sorry; a consultant on what?</p> <p>Mr Walter: On data. Yes, we can do that. I can give you some information now. I can't give you all that. I can give you the panel costs if that would be of interest.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Yes.</p> <p>Mr Walter: And then the other ones I'd have to take on notice because we're kind of rounding out the budget now, if that makes sense.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: That's fine.</p> <p>Mr Walter: The total costs that we've spent on panel remuneration, including travel allowances, as at the end of the process was \$119,308. That covers the four panellists who we were paying. We weren't paying Rosalind Croucher because she is a full-time statutory office holder. However, we were paying for any costs</p>			

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					associated with her travel and meal allowances and those types of things. We just reimbursed the Human Rights Commission for those costs. Senator KITCHING: That's fine. I'd like to have all the other costs—secretariat travel costs, entertainment and hospitality, consultant fees, printing and design fees and any other costs—on notice if that's fine. Mr Walter: Yes.			
64.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McAllister	Establishment of the Home Affairs Portfolio – Correction to Evidence	National Security	Senator McALLISTER: Did any minister or member of a minister's staff speak with you about it? Mr McKinnon: No, not at all. Senator McALLISTER: Not at all? Mr McKinnon: Not at all. I spoke to the PMO about writing the letter—saying I wanted to write a letter and correct the confusion. I did say that, but it was my initiative and I told the PMO that's what I was going to do. Senator McALLISTER: Who's the relevant person in the PMO that you spoke with? Mr McKinnon: I will take that question on notice.	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 65		
65.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McAllister	Establishment of the Home Affairs Portfolio – Correction to	National Security	Senator McALLISTER: How did it come to be that a letter that was addressed to the Attorney-General was in the possession of a member of your staff at Prime Minister and Cabinet? Mr McKinnon: I think, as it referred to me, there was	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 66, 67		

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			Evidence		<p>a sense that maybe I should connect the parts of the system together and check to see whether I agreed with that.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Was there a request for advice?</p> <p>Mr McKinnon: No.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: No. It was just handed to someone?</p> <p>Mr McKinnon: I don't mean to make it sound casual. But my awareness of it was when someone brought it to me and said, 'This is what is being said.' I said, 'Well, that's not what I said.' That's when I began to check the record to see if you could interpret it another way.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: So this letter arrived without a Post-it note on the front of it, without any request for action, for you? It just arrived at Prime Minister and Cabinet and it wasn't handed to you but to a member of your staff. Did it arrive in the post?</p> <p>Mr McKinnon: Not that I'm aware. I'd like to take that on notice. As far as I can recall, one of my staff members brought it in and said, 'Here it is.' There was no Post-it note attached to it and no requests for me to act. But my guess is that it's just good government that, if there is a suggestion that someone has misled the Senate, we're made aware of that and given the</p>			

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					opportunity to consider the record and whether we agree with that and how we should respond to it.			
66.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McAllister	Establishment of the Home Affairs Portfolio – Oversight Arrangements	National Security	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Mr McKinnon, the goal is to establish the arrangements for the agencies in 2018, I think you said. How much longer after that will we have to wait to establish the arrangements for oversight?</p> <p>Mr McKinnon: It's up to the government when it considers and announces elements of the package, whichever ones are left to be announced. That's all I'm saying.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: We're proceeding very rapidly with some elements of this but not with the oversight. In fact, there's been no public discussion or consultation on it apart from our efforts to bring this through the committee system. Is there any intention to engage with the parliament about the mechanisms proposed for oversight of the intelligence community prior to the introduction of the legislation in any form?</p> <p>Mr McKinnon: I will take that on notice.</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 68		
67.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McAllister / Kitching	Politics in the Pub	PMO	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Thank you. Senator Cormann, in terms of the Prime Minister's recent Politics in the Pub events, is it the Prime Minister's office that would be responsible for compiling the guest list?</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 69, 70		

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					<p>Senator Cormann: It's the Prime Minister's office that is responsible for supporting the Prime Minister in organising various public events, including the sorts of events that you are referencing. How the logistics work in detail and who is responsible for which bits, I'm happy to take on notice. But I can confirm that there is no involvement of the department, in terms of a Politics in the Pub guest list. These sorts of functions and events are supported for our Prime Minister in the same way as they were supported for previous prime ministers of both political persuasions.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: How many people have attended this year's functions?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I would have to take that on notice. But these sorts of events are organised together with relevant local members of parliament—which I suspect is not dissimilar to the way these sorts of events are organised by the personal support staff of the Leader of the Opposition, as he travels around the country.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: If you could take it on notice that would be good. I guess that's also incorporating the question about whether records are kept on the numbers. Who pays for the events?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: These arrangements would be the usual arrangements. If you have any questions about</p>			

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					<p>specific events, I'm happy to take those on notice. But the arrangements that apply for this Prime Minister are the same arrangements that applied for previous prime ministers for these sorts of events, including for former prime ministers Rudd and Gillard. The arrangements, I suspect, would be similar when events are organised by the support staff for Mr Shorten in his capacity as Leader of the Opposition. I think it's entirely appropriate for senior representatives of parliament, on all sides of parliament for that matter, to engage with the public through these sorts of events, and it is appropriate for these events to be supported.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: So you will take that on notice, is that correct?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: To the extent that I can add to the information I have just provided you, yes.</p>			
68.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Kitching	Politics in the Pub – Guest Vetting	PMO	<p>Senator KITCHING: I'm going to come to some, but can I just ask about the vetting—does anyone vet the guest lists?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Again, I assume that, whether it is the Leader of the Opposition or the Prime Minister, there would be a level of scrutiny that is applied in the context of security requirements. How that works in practice, I'll take on notice whether there's anything I can add to that.</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 70, 71		

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					<p>Senator KITCHING: Would there be any specific vetting processes to ensure that nobody attended who could, for example, embarrass the Prime Minister or the government?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Are there vetting processes at Labor Party branch meetings that are attended by Bill Shorten? Are people from the Left faction excluded? How does that work in the Labor Party? Do you protect Bill Shorten from getting attacked by people from the wrong faction in Victoria? What sort of question is that?</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Are you aware of any guest vetting done for an event at the Carindale Hotel on 17 March?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I'm not aware of the specific arrangements for and logistics of an event for the Prime Minister on the 17 March, but if you would like me to enquire with the relevant people in relation to specific arrangements for that event, I'm very happy to assist and provide that information on notice.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: That would be very useful, if you could.</p>			
69.	Department of the Prime Minister and	Kitching	Politics in the Pub – Apology	PMO	<p>Senator KITCHING: Has the Prime Minister apologised for pushing in?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I have not had a conversation with</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018,		

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	Cabinet				the Prime Minister about this event. I am not aware. I have no idea. I'm happy to ask him and, if you want me to provide an answer on notice to that question— Senator KITCHING: Yes, please.	page 75		
70.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Kitching	Politics in the Pub – Peachtree Hotel	PMO	Senator KITCHING: Can I move to another event at the Peachtree Hotel. It's also known as the 'Peachy' event, which I understand was held on 14 May. Was any vetting of the venue itself done? Is any vetting done of venues where the Prime Minister goes? Senator Cormann: I've already told you that I'd take that sort of question on notice. You've asked that question on several occasions before. I've taken it on notice on several occasions. I'm not aware—myself, personally—what the specific arrangements are. I think you'll find, as I also said on previous occasions earlier today, that it probably depends on the nature of the event and the venue where the event takes place. Senator KITCHING: So, you're going to take on notice whether vetting is done and whether vetting of the Peachtree Hotel, which is also known as the Peachy, was done. Are you aware that the New South Wales police minister, Troy Grant, named the Peachtree Hotel as one of New South Wales's most violent licensed venues in 2015 and that the Peachtree recorded 15 violent events in that year?	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 75		

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71.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Kitching	Cabinet Meeting Catering	Cabinet	<p>Senator KITCHING: How much does Prime Minister Turnbull require his ministers to contribute towards the cost of catering for cabinet meetings?</p> <p>Ms Cass: This arrangement ceased in September 2015.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: So, nil contribution.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: The officer has already answered that question. What the officer has indicated is that the arrangement was found to be cumbersome and that it ceased in September 2015.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: September 2015: that was Prime Minister Abbott. Prime Minister Turnbull didn't reinstate the requirements for ministers to contribute?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I don't know the specific date. Have you got the specific date?</p> <p>Ms Cass: The arrangement of the trust fund, I understand, ceased in September 2015, and since then PM&C has funded moderate—average—costs for the catering at cabinet and committee meetings.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I've got to say, adding to this, I'm not aware ever of the trust fund having been in operation. So it might have existed. It's the first I've heard of it myself, so there you go.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: I followed your stellar career, Senator Cormann! So, when have you been in cabinet?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: September 2013. To the best of my</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 77, 78		

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					<p>recollection, I can't remember ever having been asked to contribute to a trust fund.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: So from September 2013 no minister would have contributed? The trust fund might have existed, as you say, but no one's made—</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Well, it may have existed. For all I know, it might have existed under the previous government, and the arrangement under the previous government, for a period, might have been the same. I'm quite happy to provide you that further information on notice. But what Ms Cass has indicated to you is that at some point the decision was made that the process was cumbersome and inefficient. I have never had any awareness at all that there was such a process. That's the first I've heard of it—to the best of my recollection, I should hasten to add.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Thank you. I appreciate your clarifying that. In fact, from September 2013, when former Prime Minister Abbott was elected, no-one made any contributions?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: It's the only period over which I have any recollection, because I wasn't there prior to September 2013. What I will identify on notice is precisely at what time contributions to the trust fund</p>			

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					<p>that may have continued to stay in existence, but by the sounds of it was dormant, stopped being made.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Can I ask, Senator Cormann: why did the Liberal government decide that the taxpayer should foot the entire bill for ministers' food?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I'm not confident that that is what happened.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: But you've just said that you have never made a contribution. In fact, it's news to you now that in fact this arrangement—</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Yes, but your question assumes that the arrangement was being applied and administered under the previous Labor government. I'm not accepting that assumption. So I will take it on notice and check, on notice, what the arrangements were, now that you've raised the issue.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Thank you.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I will check what the arrangements were under the previous Labor government.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Sorry, in this current government?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: In the previous Labor government. I will check what the arrangements were.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: In the former government, the Rudd-Gillard government, ministers did make a</p>			

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					<p>contribution.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Up to a period, is what I've heard Ms Cass say.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: No, I think what Ms Cass said was that that arrangement ceased—I think this is correct, Ms Cass—in September 2015.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: No, Ms Cass said that the trust fund ceased. That is a very different—</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: So the trust fund existed. We can ask—</p> <p>Senator Cormann: That is a very different—</p> <p>Senator WONG: Hang on: Chair, I've just walked back in—</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Hang on; I haven't finished.</p> <p>Senator WONG: She hasn't finished the question. You're interrupting her again.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: No, she had actually finished her question, and I was—</p> <p>Senator WONG: Yeah, I've made a contribution. Is that what it was?</p> <p>CHAIR: Order!</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I was trying to get an answer out and she was coming up with the next question. The time of ceasing the trust fund is not the same as the time of ceasing the arrangement that you're describing,</p>			

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					<p>Senator Kitching. What I need to identify on notice is precisely when the arrangement that you are talking about ceased. In my estimation, that wasn't September 2015.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: I think Ms Cass said that the contribution for the cabinet meeting catering did occur during the Rudd-Gillard government; I think that's correct, Ms Cass, that there were payments made?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We are taking on notice when these arrangements—</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: We can go back to the <i>Hansard</i> tomorrow.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: What she said was that this happened at some point in the past and that at some point—</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: No.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: She made the point that at some point the arrangements—</p> <p>Senator WONG: Maybe we should ask her what she said.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: It is actually on the <i>Hansard</i> record.</p> <p>CHAIR: Order!</p> <p>Senator Cormann: The point that was made, and I'm answering on behalf of the government—</p>			

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					<p>Senator WONG: Be quiet, Ms Cass!</p> <p>Senator Cormann: is that there was an arrangement in place and at some point it was discontinued because it was found to be cumbersome. That is the word that Ms Cass used, and I have taken on notice the precise time at which the arrangement changed. What I'm saying to you is that the ceasing of the trust fund is not the same time period, I believe, as the ceasing of that arrangement. The trust fund may well have remained in place, dormant over a period while—</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: We can, in fact, just ask Ms Cass now, again. But my understanding from Ms Cass was that the Rudd-Gillard government ministers made a contribution to cabinet meeting catering. Is that correct, Ms Cass?</p> <p>Ms Foster: Could I answer?</p> <p>Senator WONG: Yes—it's correct. As a former cabinet minister. Thank you.</p> <p>Ms Foster: We don't have a start date for this. What we have is an end date. We could take that on notice to find out.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Prior to the end date, can you confirm that was the arrangement?</p> <p>Ms Foster: We will do that on notice.</p>			

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72.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Kitching	Cabinet Meeting Catering – Billing and Payment Arrangements	Cabinet	<p>Senator KITCHING: Is it possible to break down the cost of catering for cabinet and cabinet committee meetings into the following categories: food, beverages—there are no alcoholic beverages, but other beverages, and any other costs? And is the catering provided directly by the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, or by the Prime Minister's office, or is it provided by an external contractor?</p> <p>Ms Cass: The catering is provided by the Department of Parliamentary Services.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: By DPS, okay. Does DPS pay for it—do they owe money to their own catering department? Yesterday we had evidence from DPS that there was quite a significant amount of money outstanding for catering. The catering is within their department, but how does that get charged?</p> <p>Ms Cass: They invoice the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Are they longer than a 30-day payee? Do they owe money for more than 30 days?</p> <p>Ms Cass: I don't know about the billing and payment arrangements, so I will check that for you.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: You are going to take on notice how much PMC owes DPS, is that right? OK, good. Are we able to get a copy of those invoices?</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 79, 80		

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					Senator Cormann: We will take that on notice.			
73.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Kitching / Wong	Response to PQoN 688	PMO	<p>Senator KITCHING: Can I just let you know that I am still waiting for responses to QONs, for example No. 688, which I asked on 5 February. I asked for a breakdown of the cost of catering for cabinet and cabinet committee meetings. I'm happy to table the QON again. I have been waiting since early February. I've had no response. It's not good enough. I don't want to keep taking it on notice. It will be another two and a half months, and we will be back here for the spring session!</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I will take questions on invoices on notice and I will—</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: I would like them responded to within the prescribed period, as all QONs should be.</p> <p>CHAIR: Indeed, Senator Kitching. You may well be aware that ministers have mixed records in this area, including from your time in government.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: I am happy to table my QON from 5 February if that facilitates a response.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Can I just ask PM&C: what is the reason for that question on notice not being answered yet?</p> <p>Ms Cass: I will need to check on the answer.</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 80		
74.	Department of	McAllister	Media Article	National	Senator McALLISTER: Mr McKinnon, you would be	FPA		

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	the Prime Minister and Cabinet		– Surveillance of Australian Citizens	Security	<p>aware that <i>The Sunday Telegraph</i> had a story on 29 April which was entitled 'Let us spy on Aussies'. It revealed that there had been discussions between the Department of Defence and the Department of Home Affairs to allow their ministers to approve the surveillance of Australian citizens by the Australian Signals Directorate. When did the department first become aware of these discussions between Defence and Home Affairs?</p> <p>When did the department first become aware of those discussions between Defence and Home Affairs?</p> <p>Mr McKinnon: I was out of Australia at the time, but the department, I know, only became aware on the same day that it became public in the newspaper.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: The journalist appears to have had access to classified documents, and they're photographed and published in the paper—or part of them are. They reveal that the Secretary of the Department of Home Affairs, Mr Pezzullo, wrote to the Secretary of Defence, Mr Moriarty, in February. Then a memo is produced, I think, from Defence to Minister Payne on 13 March. So you find out about it when it's published in April and it's drawn to your attention just because it's in the papers. A member of staff brings it to your attention?</p>	Monday 22 May 2018, page 81, 82		

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					<p>Mr McKinnon: That's right.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: So the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet had not been involved in any of those discussions between Defence and Home Affairs up to that point?</p> <p>Mr McKinnon: That's right.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: What did you do when you found out? Did you make contact with either Mr Pezzullo or Mr Moriarty to clarify the situation?</p> <p>Mr McKinnon: What I can say—and I think you may be aware of this, Senator—is that it has been confirmed by the Secretary of Home Affairs, the Secretary of Defence and the Director of ASD in a joint public statement on the issue that there is no such proposal for increased ASD powers to monitor Australian citizens. I did keep one eye on the proceedings yesterday for the Home Affairs portfolio where Secretary Pezzullo was quite clear. He said, 'I have not proposed nor would I ever propose that ASD powers be expanded in the way described in this'—</p> <p>what he called—'false reporting.' He confirmed that he had asked the heads of Defence and ASD about whether the agency could be involved in disrupting cybercrime in cases where criminal networks used Australian telecommunications structures, but he made</p>			

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					<p>the clear distinction between signals intelligence and that sort of cyberactivity.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: First, I'm just a little confused. I take the point that he disputes the specifics about what was under discussion, but plainly a discussion was taking place between ASD, Defence and Home Affairs—you don't dispute that?</p> <p>Mr McKinnon: You say you're not disputing the specifics or there is some discussion about the specifics. That makes it sound like a trivial distinction, but they are very, very clear. There is no proposal, and never has been, to increase monitoring of Australian citizens or anything of that nature—no proposal for ASD powers to monitor Australians. So that's fundamental rather than specifics. I should say too, Senator, that I didn't—again, I was away at the time—but Secretary Parkinson did speak with the Prime Minister, Secretary Pezzullo and Secretary Moriarty about the leak itself on the day that it was in the media.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: So you spoke to Mr Pezzullo and Mr Moriarty about the fact that the materials were in the media.</p> <p>Mr McKinnon: That's right.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Did you make that phone call?</p>			

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					<p>Mr McKinnon: I was away, and I have Kylie Bryant here who was acting in my position at that time.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Ms Bryant, this was drawn to your attention and you rang the gentleman in question?</p> <p>Ms Bryant: No, the phone call was made between Dr Parkinson and the other secretaries. It was just brought to my attention by Dr Parkinson that the leak had occurred and that we had the statement from the secretaries.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: What was the purpose of Dr Parkinson's call?</p> <p>Mr McKinnon: We don't know, but you can only assume that it was to establish that he has a complete and accurate grasp of all of the facts and before he speaks to the Prime Minister. That would be my assumption, but I can check that for you.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Right. So when did he first brief the Prime Minister on this question?</p> <p>Mr McKinnon: On that day.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: On that same day?</p> <p>Mr McKinnon: I say 'brief'. He was in contact with the Prime Minister but, again, PM&C was not aware of this issue until it was out in the media that day.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: In his exploration of those issues, did he discover whether any other ministers or</p>			

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					their officers had been aware of the discussions between Mr Pezzullo and Moriarty prior to their publication in the <i>Sunday Telegraph</i> ? Mr McKinnon: We are not aware. We'll take that on notice.			
75.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McAllister	Media Article – Surveillance of Australian Citizens – Joint Statement by Departments of Defence and Home Affairs	National Security	Senator McALLISTER: In any case, Ms Bryant, Dr Parkinson spoke to these gentlemen for the first time after the document was published? Ms Bryant: That's my understanding. Senator McALLISTER: And did they inform him then that they had already agreed to make a joint statement, or was this a conversation that occurred later? Ms Bryant: I think we would have to take on notice the exact sequencing of the discussion with Dr Parkinson.	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 82, 83		
76.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McAllister	Proposal to Expand the Role of Australian Signals Directorate	National Security	Senator McALLISTER: Let's talk, then, about proposals to expand the role of ASD. This conversation is underway between Mr Pezzullo and Mr Moriarty, isn't it? That's not disputed? Mr McKinnon: There are a range of conversations underway, because of the changed cyberenvironment that we are in. Whether that relates to the way that they assist in the job of ensuring that the cybersecurity arrangements of Australian agencies, Australian	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 84		

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					<p>business and ordinary Australians are up to the task or challenge that they face now or whether they are talking about degrading the servers of criminals who are streaming appalling things into Australia's own internet environment, those sorts of things are being discussed.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: They've been discussed to the point where Mr Moriarty is receiving correspondence from Mr Pezzullo and preparing a memo to his minister which contains some very specific proposals to expand the remit of ASD—and that's what's reported on the 29th of April by the <i>Sunday Telegraph</i>.</p> <p>Mr McKinnon: As Mr Pezzullo says, he says that that was false reporting.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: I find it hard to reconcile that with a picture of a document—and you and I know documents can be doctored—that says ASD is a statutory agency; further amendments to the Intelligence Services Act. It does sound like there is something reasonably specific; the journalist isn't writing about nothing. I haven't seen the documents.</p> <p>Mr McKinnon: Again, I would suggest that, were there to be something involving proposed changes of legislation, we would be aware of it.</p>			

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					<p>Senator McALLISTER: Have you seen copies of the documents referred to in the article, Mr McKinnon?</p> <p>Mr McKinnon: No I haven't. And, again, when I got back from overseas that statement saying that there was never any contemplation of collection against Australian citizens was what I paid attention to. The idea that other aspects of ASD's performance could be considered, we would expect would be a constant part of the discussion. How do our intelligence agencies react to a very dynamic changing environment? If they're not considering that, they're not doing their job.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Well, it does cause quite a lot of confusion, doesn't it? Because the Minister for Home Affairs is asked about the proposal two days later, and he says there's a case to be made. Minister Bishop, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, says on 29 April, 'There is no plan.' I'm interested to understand what role the department played to ensure that there wasn't any confusion between the Department of Home Affairs and the Department of Foreign Affairs.</p> <p>Mr McKinnon: I'm not aware that we did play any role, but I will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Can you rephrase your answer. That was one of those double negatives that could be misunderstood. Could we have another go?</p>			

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					<p>Mr McKinnon: I'm not sure that we played any role at all, but I will check to see whether we did. There are meetings at all times at all levels, and so there's a secretaries committee and other different committees. I don't know whether there was any discussion at any stage at any of those as I was not there, but I will check.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Can you assist, Ms Bryant?</p> <p>Ms Bryant: A similar answer, Senator, from me: when Mr McKinnon was away, I also had no direct involvement in any of these discussions.</p>			
77.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McAllister	Proposal to Expand the Role of Australian Signals Directorate – Referral to the AFP	National Security	<p>Senator McALLISTER: The following day, on 30 April, the ABC reported that the security leak about ASD had been referred to the AFP. Can the department confirm that the matter has been referred to the AFP?</p> <p>Mr McKinnon: I can.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: How did you become aware of that referral?</p> <p>Mr McKinnon: I would just like to take that back because I saw a referral yesterday but now I'm not sure whether it was that ASD leak referral.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Ms Bryant was shaking her head no at the precise time that you were answering yes. Can I just get some clarity about whether your department has knowledge of a referral of this issue to</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 89		

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					<p>the AFP.</p> <p>Ms Bryant: The reason I was shaking my head was to say that the referral was not done by PM&C. We are aware, in general terms, that the referral was made. I would have to check exactly how we were made aware of the referral.</p> <p>Mr McKinnon: I don't know personally, but my briefing says, 'As this matter is being investigated by the AFP, it would be inappropriate for me to comment.' I can give you details of when the referral was made and exactly by who, but we will have to get that for you.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: I wonder if you could seek assistance now.</p> <p>Mr McKinnon: Okay.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: We can go on with our questioning. But, if it is possible to obtain that information, that would be helpful. And, Ms Bryant, I think your evidence is that the department did not have a role in that referral?</p> <p>Ms Bryant: That's my understanding, but I would have to check specifically on that.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: It's quite a significant thing, isn't it, to have a document marked 'Secret', 'AUSTEO', 'Covering Top Secret' printed in <i>The Sunday Tele</i>? Did</p>			

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					<p>anyone in the department initiate any conversation about a referral of this leak to the AFP at any time?</p> <p>Ms Bryant: I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Ms Foster, do you know whether Dr Parkinson spoke about that with any of the secretaries involved?</p> <p>Ms Foster: I don't know that, but what I am advised is that Defence did the referral to the AFP—and that would be expected. It would be unusual for us to refer something that wasn't our own. It's normally the agency from whom the material has been leaked who would make the referral.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Do you know what day that referral was made?</p> <p>Ms Foster: I don't, but I'll try and find out.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Okay. Do you know how the department became aware of the referral—</p> <p>Ms Foster: No, I don't.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: and the means by which?</p> <p>Ms Foster: No, I don't.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Right. Did the Prime Minister discuss the possibility of a referral of the leak to the AFP with Dr Parkinson?</p> <p>Ms Foster: Not to my knowledge, but we'd have to confirm that with Dr Parkinson.</p>			

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78.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Wong	South African Farmers - Visas	National Security	<p>Senator WONG: Were you aware, prior to it being published, that Ms Bishop had communicated with her counterparts and/or DFAT had communicated with their counterparts to clarify the status of Australian policy?</p> <p>Mr McKinnon: I think that on 26 March Ms Bishop wrote to her foreign minister counterpart, Minister Sisulu, to congratulate her on her appointment. That was the reason why she wrote. In that context, she reiterated that Australia's humanitarian visa program was non-discriminatory, with each application assessed on its merits as we have been saying here.</p> <p>Senator WONG: My question is a process question as to whether or not, prior to that letter being sent, that aspect of the letter was something of which PM&C were aware?</p> <p>Mr Hayhurst: I was aware that, because it was a new government in South Africa, the minister was going to write to her counterpart.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Can I re-ask my question, because your answer was non-responsive?</p> <p>Mr Hayhurst: I can't recall the specific contents, but I knew that the foreign minister was writing to her new counterpart.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Did you know or did anyone from</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 95		

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					<p>PM&C know that that letter would contain a clarification or a confirmation about the continuation of a non-discriminatory immigration policy?</p> <p>Mr Hayhurst: I'll have to check to be sure, but I would expect that the message consistent with what the Prime Minister had already said about our visa program would have been included in that letter.</p> <p>Senator WONG: That wasn't my question. Sorry.</p> <p>Mr Hayhurst: Sorry. Can you repeat the question?</p> <p>Senator WONG: I'm happy to repeat the question: I'm asking whether you or any officer of PM&C were aware prior to Ms Bishop's letter being sent that the letter would include a confirmation of the retention of Australia's non-discriminatory immigration policy?</p> <p>Mr Hayhurst: I don't think we always see the final versions of letters, but we were in discussion with DFAT about the fact that the foreign minister was going to write to her new counterpart and the proposal was for her to reference the remarks already made by the Prime Minister about the non-discriminatory nature of the visa program in Australia.</p> <p>Senator WONG: So PMC were aware of that prior to the letter being sent?</p> <p>Mr Hayhurst: I'm pretty sure, but I'd have to check messages and what have you.</p>			

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					Senator WONG: Yes, you can check on notice. I understand. I will take it with the caveat, Mr Hayhurst. Mr Hayhurst: That's right.			
79.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Wong	Relationship with China	International	Senator WONG: The transcript also says, 'There has clearly been some tension in the relationship'. Anyway, I want to go to process. So we have obviously a lot of agencies that have some interaction with China—internationally. In addition to DFAT, there would be aspects or work—Treasury, Attorney-General's, Home Affairs, education and so forth. Can you just clarify for me: is there a whole-of-government role in terms of coordinating our official relationship with China? If so, which department has that responsibility? Mr McKinnon: There is a secretaries committee on China which plays a role there. China, being the important partner that is across so many fields—and you nominated some of them, but I'd venture that it's just about every agency—is discussed at a range of senior meetings and at the political and at the senior bureaucratic level. It's obviously daily fare almost. As a particular role, I think the secretaries committee on China is the senior co-ordinating one at the bureaucratic level. Senator WONG: Can you tell me which department is the lead?	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 97		

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					<p>Mr McKinnon: That one is PM&C. Senator WONG: Who chairs it? You chair it? Mr McKinnon: No, I don't. That's at secretaries level. Senator WONG: Which departments are on that committee? Mr McKinnon: I'd have to check that. Mr Hayhurst: I don't have the full range of departments. We can take it on notice, but DFAT, Treasury, Defence— Senator WONG: Home Affairs? Mr Hayhurst: Probably, but let me check. Senator WONG: Sure. How often does it meet? Mr Hayhurst: I'm not sure if it has a fixed schedule, but it meets two, three, four times a year. Senator WONG: Has it met more frequently of late? Mr Hayhurst: Not to my knowledge. Mr McKinnon: We can take that on notice; I'm not sure.</p>			
80.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Wong	Ministerial Visits to China	International	<p>Senator WONG: Prior to last month's visit by Mr Ciobo, can PM&C tell me when the last ministerial visit to China by a member of the cabinet was? Mr Hayhurst: I'd have to take that on notice.</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 98		
81.	Department of the Prime Minister and	Wong	Proposed Ministerial Visit to China	International	<p>Senator WONG: I understand that the Prime Minister has publicly said he's planning a visit to China later this year. Have preparations for that visit commenced, Mr</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018,		

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	Cabinet				<p>McKinnon?</p> <p>Mr McKinnon: No, they haven't, but it's too far out to be preparing for that.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Well, has the prospect of a visit been raised with Chinese counterparts?</p> <p>Mr McKinnon: I'll have to take that on notice, but in the normal way of these things it's a matter of finding a time that suits the schedules.</p> <p>Senator WONG: But Mr McKinnon, that isn't what I asked.</p> <p>Mr Hayhurst: The answer is that I am aware that it has been raised.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Thank you. Who raised it?</p> <p>Mr Hayhurst: I don't have that information. I'd have to find out which official did it.</p> <p>Senator WONG: No, sorry—I don't need to know the individual. Was it PM&C?</p> <p>Mr Hayhurst: No. This would have been raised, I think, by our colleagues posted in China.</p> <p>Senator WONG: That's what I'm saying. So, the post has raised these, but not the—</p> <p>Mr Hayhurst: That's what I think, but I want to check, to be sure.</p>	page 98, 99		
82.	Department of the Prime	Wong	Boao Forum for Asia	International	Senator WONG: Has PM&C been advised or is it aware of any issues with visas being provided to	FPA Monday 22		

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	Minister and Cabinet				<p>Australian officials or Australian businesspeople? Mr Hayhurst: We're not aware of anything about officials. I don't know about businesspeople. Senator WONG: What about ministers? Mr Hayhurst: We're not aware of any issues. Senator WONG: Were any ministers granted any visas to attend the Boao Forum for Asia? Senator Cormann: I'm not aware of any ministers having sought visas. I'm intrigued that you asked that question, because I was asked a question along similar lines by journalists, and the premise of their question was wrong. When the question was directed at me— Senator WONG: I asked the question very flat, so I suggest the response should be equally flat. Senator Cormann: I'm just saying I'm not aware—my evidence is consistent—of any such proposition. Mr McKinnon: I think the answer is no. No minister has been denied a visa. As you would know, ministers don't always attend the Boao forum anyway, so that in itself is not a surprise. Senator WONG: Is the answer that you're not aware of any minister seeking a visa for the purposes of attending the Boao forum, or is the answer—I'm not quite sure what that answer meant. Mr McKinnon: The answer is that we are not aware of</p>	May 2018, page 99		

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					any minister having sought and been denied a visa. Senator WONG: Okay. Mr McKinnon: I'd like to say that means it didn't happen, but I can check that if you would like me to. Senator WONG: Thank you.			
83.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Rice	Implementation of the Australian Government Guidelines on Recognition of Sex and Gender	Corporate	Senator RICE: I have some questions in relation to the department's implementation of the Australian government guidelines on recognition of sex and gender. I have been asking questions of the Attorney-General's Department over the last couple of estimates about how departments are going and haven't got the best of results, so I thought I would just go around and ask department by department how things are going and basically start with what steps your department has taken to implement these guidelines? Ms Tressler: So PM&C has met all the requirements of the guidelines for employee sex and gender information. So all of our employees may identify as nonspecified or as X within our record management systems. Senator RICE: Right. So you've fully redesigned all of your forms and your records? Ms Tressler: Yes, so if someone wishes to identify that way then they can do so. Senator RICE: Do you have any outward facing forms	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 100		

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					or interactions that you've needed to redesign as well? Ms Tressler: I'd need to take that on notice in terms of how the implementation has been done, but I do know that we can capture that.			
84.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Rice	Australian Government Guidelines on Recognition of Sex and Gender - Policies	Corporate	<p>Senator RICE: Have you got policies to assist staff in managing any relationships both internally and any external facing staff with gender identity and people identifying as a gender other than their biological sex?</p> <p>Ms Tressler: So PM&C actually introduced a gender affirmation and transitioning policy earlier this year. The intent of the policy was to ensure that staff who transition while working at PM&C are supported by clear guidance about how the department can assist them. So that's one of the policies that we've implemented.</p> <p>Senator RICE: Good. Have you got agencies underneath you that form part of the department and have they been responsible, if so, for their own implementation or is PM&C's implementation flowing through to them?</p> <p>Ms Tressler: We've only been working with our department. I would need to take on notice what other agencies have been doing within our portfolio.</p> <p>Senator RICE: Right so basically agencies that fall within PM&C?</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 100		

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					<p>Ms Foster: Agencies which are if you like within the PM's portfolio, but not within the department are each an employer in their own right, and so whilst we can share policies et cetera with them, each of them actually needs to implement their own policies.</p> <p>Senator RICE: So what agencies are they?</p> <p>Ms Foster: So well until recently for example, the Office of the Inspector General for Intelligence and Security was a portfolio body within PM&C within the PM's portfolio.</p> <p>Senator RICE: So they would know that they have to implement the guidelines. Do you know whether they have implemented them? Do you track at all whether those agencies that fall within PM&C have implemented the guidelines?</p> <p>Ms Foster: We wouldn't typically track those things because, as I said, they have all the kind of powers and accountabilities of an employer in their own right.</p> <p>Senator RICE: So in terms of tracking down how well the guidelines have been implemented, that would mean that I'd need to go to the next level down and talk to each of those agencies?</p> <p>Ms Foster: There's no simple way to capture it, but let me think about that.</p> <p>Senator RICE: If you could take on notice what each</p>			

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					of those agencies are and what you know about whether they have implemented them or whether you've got any ability to know that, that would be helpful. Ms Foster: Certainly.			
85.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Moore	Sustainable Development Goals – Voluntary National Review	Economic	Senator MOORE: Ms Hatfield Dodds, I had particular questions on the meeting process—stakeholders, who was at them and what the focus was? I will put that all on notice, because I think that the particular question about how that stakeholder engagement happened is not listed anywhere in a public way. Ms Hatfield Dodds: Sure. Senator MOORE: If I could put that on notice. I'm particularly interested on the contact with the state and local government networks, because I've been having some difficulty connecting with the state and local governments. From my perspective, and I know I'm not official, it's has been patchy in terms of the knowledge, engagement and willingness to discuss. So I know that you said that it went out to the state governments in August 2017. It can go on notice. Can I get when you got responses from the states? Ms Hatfield Dodds: Yes.	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 103		
86.	Department of the Prime	Patrick	Governor-General's	Government	Senator PATRICK: The line of questioning I was going to go to was that, in effect, from Constitution	FPA Monday 22		

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	Minister and Cabinet		Responsibilities		<p>section 63 and then 68, the Governor-General has certain responsibilities, interacting with cabinet, to deal with domestic matters when it comes to the defence forces. I'm happy if these end up being taken on notice, but I'm just trying to explore whether that change of command is exercised or has been exercised during this term of government.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I am really sorry, but the officers at the table probably will not be able to assist you with this. But, if you're happy to put these questions on notice, we'll make sure that we get swift answers for you. I suspect that some of these matters are probably also able to be pursued through the Defence portfolio. But we'll assist you through this committee as best we can.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: For example, I asked the Governor-General's secretary last night, and he advised me that the Governor-General has not been involved, during his term as Governor-General, in any exercises of that nature.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I'm not aware, but I hear what you've asked and we'll pursue it.</p>	May 2018, page 106, 107		
87.	Department of the Prime Minister and	Patrick	Lithium Processing	Industry, Infrastructure and	Senator PATRICK: Fantastic. Dr Gruen, I've got a paper that's been released by the Association of Mining and Exploration Companies in relation to lithium. I've	FPA Monday 22 May 2018,		

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	Cabinet			Environment	<p>actually asked a few agencies about this because it crosses a few portfolios, but I am just wondering about the PM's perspective. We have a lot of lithium, particularly in Western Australia, that we're digging out of the ground. When turned into batteries in particular, it is quite a disruptive technology, which is a good thing. Australia traditionally, in the past, has taken its rocks and sent them overseas, where the value was added, and then we bring them back. In some sense, this paper is suggesting that there is an opportunity to perhaps change that sort of modus operandi. Are you familiar with the paper at all? I understand there are probably lots of papers you read.</p> <p>Dr Gruen: I'm sorry, but I'm not familiar with that paper.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: The paper basically suggests there are five stages of processing in the lithium value chain and which involve, basically, mining and concentration, and then, the next stage, refining and processing. Of course, mining and concentration are things we do very well. As for refinement and processing, I think there is something being set up now in Kwinana, in Western Australia, in that regard. Then there are electrochemical processes, producing cells and then producing batteries. My interest in this is that</p>	page 106, 107		

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					<p>the mining and concentrate level projections out to 2025 are \$11 billion or thereabouts worth of value, but, by the time you get up to producing batteries, you are up to \$1.3 trillion. I am wondering whether the government has a view or whether the Prime Minister's Office has a view on this, noting it would cut across multiple portfolios: energy, industry, innovation. There are a whole range of areas it would cover. It also leads to the situation where, by the time we get to producing batteries—I'd rather have an Australian produced battery than an Elon Musk produced battery—the potential is there. Is that something that is being considered by the Prime Minister's office or would be considered by the Prime Minister's office?</p> <p>Dr Gruen: I can't speak for the Prime Minister's office. As you say, this is thinking about a future potential technology, or future potential value added for a mineral that is becoming increasingly important. I wonder if it makes sense for us to find a way to get access to that paper, give it and, perhaps, find someone who can give you some assessment of what the government's position is. I don't know enough about it but, probably, if we get access to this paper we can take it from there and perhaps help you.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: I will provide it to the secretariat,</p>			

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					perhaps, chair. To help you out, I did ask, for example, ARENA and the Clean Energy Finance Corporation, what are the constraints for each of the stages. But this is more than just a technology; it is a potential industry for Australia. If you wouldn't mind doing that, Mr Gruen? Dr Gruen: We can at least try and find someone who can give you a commentary on it. Senator PATRICK: That would be fantastic.			
88.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McAllister	CO2 Emissions	Industry, Infrastructure and Environment	Senator McALLISTER: The coalition chair of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on the Environment and Energy, Mr Kelly, recently posted on his Facebook page about the coming ice age: And here's a question—if the solar cycle theory is correct, and another mini Ice age is just around the corner, should we try to emit more CO2 to take action on preventing global cooling? I just wanted to ask: in relation to the sort of helicopter view that PM&C takes in terms of oversight and government activity, is there any work being done in government about the need to increase CO2 emissions to prevent an ice age? Senator Cormann: Sorry, are you sort of being funny? Senator McALLISTER: I'm interested to know. Senator Cormann: I'll take that on notice.	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 111		

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89.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McAllister	Royal Visit for Commonwealth Games – Advance Visit Costs	Ministerial Support	<p>Senator McALLISTER: You may have this with you, but I would understand if you had to take it on notice: are you able to break down that \$131,000 into international flights, domestic flights, ground transport, accommodation, meals and other incidentals?</p> <p>Ms Ganly: I will do that for you. I don't appear to have the breakdown here with me at the moment for the advance, but I will double-check that as well. No, the full breakdown isn't here, but I can provide that.</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 114		
90.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McAllister	Royal Visit for Commonwealth Games – Travelling Party	Ministerial Support	<p>Senator McALLISTER: I think you mentioned that we place a cap on the number we're willing to fund as part of the travelling party and we cap it at 15. Did the royal party bring more people beyond that cap that they funded themselves?</p> <p>Ms Ganly: I don't believe they did on this occasion. I think it was simply the 13. The 15 includes their Royal Highnesses.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Did they bring any chefs or people who assist them with food preparation?</p> <p>Ms Ganly: No.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: What about policy and protocol advisers?</p> <p>Ms Ganly: Generally, the people that travel with them, the personal private assistants, do all the protocol work. But, generally, we're looking after—through</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 115, 116		

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					<p>CERHOS—protocol arrangements that are appropriate for Australia and we liaise with the Clarence House staff.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Any other household staff?</p> <p>Ms Ganly: I will have a look. I'll see if I've got anything on my computer because at the moment I don't have a full list of staff here in my papers.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Perhaps you might provide such a list. Again, I'm not really interested in the names, more just the kinds of functions we're supporting.</p> <p>Ms Ganly: Certainly.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Did they all travel on the single flight to Singapore or did some of them travel separately?</p> <p>Ms Ganly: On this occasion, I believe that they were on the RAAF flight. On previous occasion, when there has been a larger number, some have come commercially. Generally, what we do to ensure value for money is put as many people that we are funding on the RAAF plane.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: And, on this occasion, it was possible?</p> <p>Ms Ganly: I believe it was possible, but again I will confirm.</p>			

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					<p>Senator McALLISTER: If there were additional flights from Singapore to Wagga Wagga or any other Australian destination, I would appreciate an itemised list of those flights and the costs associated with it.</p> <p>Ms Ganly: Yes. Anything else would have been a commercial flight. We certainly wouldn't have put on a special flight for overflow.</p>			
91.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McAllister	Royal Visit for Commonwealth Games – RAAF Flight Schedule	Ministerial Support	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Understood. Once they arrived in Australia—we ran through some of the destinations—how did they move about domestically?</p> <p>Ms Ganly: On the RAAF aircraft.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Is it possible to provide a copy of the flight schedules for each of the VIP flights taken by the royal party?</p> <p>Ms Ganly: I don't have a flight schedule here with me, but we could give you the destinations they travelled too, yes.</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 116		
92.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McAllister	Royal Visit for Commonwealth Games – Total Costs	Ministerial Support	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Do you have a total cost for all of this? I think you gave me the cost for—</p> <p>Ms Ganly: the visit, yes. The total cost, which includes the advanced visit, was \$620,000.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Does that \$620,000 include all of the airfares?</p> <p>Ms Ganly: That includes all the airfares, but, as we've discussed, not RAAF flights, which are not factored</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 117, 118		

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					<p>into that.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: So it is \$620,000, which includes the airfares, and \$131,000, which is associated with the advanced visit.</p> <p>Ms Ganly: That's correct.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: If you were able to break down that \$620,000 figure in the terms that I requested earlier on notice, including flights to and from Australia, internal flights, ground transport, accommodation, meals and incidentals, I would appreciate it.</p> <p>Ms Ganly: Certainly. The internal flights within Australia were—</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Of course, they were covered by the VIP for the most part.</p> <p>Ms Ganly: RAAF.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: There were no commercial flights required at any time?</p> <p>Ms Ganly: There were some commercial flights, primarily for CERHOS staff to travel to and from the locations to support, because they wouldn't all fit on the VIP aircraft, and there were also a couple of visits where members of the royal household moved ahead to check out arrangements.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: So you will include any costs</p>			

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					associated with those flights? Ms Ganly: That's correct. They all form part of that \$620,000. So that also includes the cost of the staff from the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and from Comcar.			
93.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Kitching	Official Gifts Guide	Ministerial Support	Senator KITCHING: Do ministers always comply and does the Prime Minister always comply? Ms Ganly: Yes. I have reviewed that in the last few days and all declarations are up to date, except for the gifts over that value. Senator KITCHING: But just for the Prime Minister? Ms Ganly: For the Prime Minister, yes. Senator KITCHING: It is not coordinated through PM&C, so if I wanted to ask about other minister is that— Ms Ganly: The ministers have an obligation also with regard to their ministerial and other declarations here that should be placed on record, but I would imagine that they are with their own departments, because we don't have it. I will just check. Senator KITCHING: So it is held by each minister's department? Ms Ganly: Ministers are aware of their requirement to declare, so I am not sure if their departments are holding it or it's purely the parliamentary declaration.	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 118, 119		

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					Ms Foster: I think the answer is: we don't know and we can get that answer for you on notice.			
94.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Kitching	Official Gifts Guide – Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade	Government	<p>Senator KITCHING: I note that recently the foreign minister declared a pair of limited edition custom-made Jimmy Choo shoes. How much did the minister pay to keep those shoes?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: The foreign minister has received leather goods from a luxury designer brand. Did the foreign minister on that occasion pay the difference to keep the gift and, if so, how much did she pay?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We'll have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: There were two occasions on which she received luxury leather goods from this company. On both occasions, did the foreign minister pay the difference to keep these gifts?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I'll have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: In March 2017, the foreign minister received leather flats—so, shoes. Did she pay the difference to keep this gift?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I'm not necessarily accepting all of these assertions, but assuming that the assertions are right then I'll get an answer on notice.</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 122, 123		

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					<p>Senator KITCHING: Thank you. Has the department or the Prime Minister received declarations of gifts, hospitality, shareholdings or interests of the foreign minister's partner?</p> <p>Ms Foster: We'll have to take that on notice. I don't have that information to hand.</p>			
95.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Kitching	Official Gifts Guide – Partners	Government	<p>Senator KITCHING: Does the department view it as acceptable that a partner of a minister has not declared any interests?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: You are asking the official for an opinion now, and that is obviously not something that the official can assist you with. Obviously, it is incumbent on every individual minister to comply with all requirements. If you want to ask a question in relation to this matter, as far as Ms Bishop is concerned, then the question is best directed at either Ms Bishop or raised in the Foreign Affairs portfolio.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: The only reason I ask that is that I'm just trying to work out whether it is compliant with the guidelines.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: When you say 'Do you believe it is appropriate?' that is very much an opinion question.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: I think she is reframing the question.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Has the partner of the foreign</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 123		

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					<p>minister declared any interests? CHAIR: I think that question was already taken on notice. Senator KITCHING: Thank you. If they have not been declared— Senator Cormann: That is a hypothetical question. Senator McALLISTER: Perhaps you could let her finish. Senator Cormann: No. A question that starts with 'If they have not'— Senator McALLISTER: Let Senator Kitching finish. CHAIR: Senator Kitching, finish your question. Senator KITCHING: Because the information is not at hand and it has been taken on notice, it is not possible for me to say other than 'if'. If the information is here and is able to be provided, we could move from the hypothetical stage, Senator Cormann. Senator Cormann: We're not going to answer hypothetical questions in relation to a question that we don't know the answer to. Senator KITCHING: Is the purpose of those guidelines in order to ensure that the minister is not—so, any minister—open to potential corrupting influences? Is that the purpose of those requirements? Maybe you can take that question.</p>			

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					<p>Senator Cormann: I think the officer was about to say something, if you're able to just listen to the answer.</p> <p>Ms Foster: I'm not conscious of seeing or hearing the phrase 'open to corrupting influences'.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Who is not?</p> <p>Ms Foster: I'm not conscious of hearing or seeing that in discussion around that, but I would have to take that on notice.</p>			
96.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Kitching	Official Gifts Guide – Gifts for Partners	Government	<p>Senator KITCHING: If the partner of a minister was to receive a gift from either a foreign government or a private source—I don't want to limit it just to this, but, as an example, if a minister was overseas and the minister's partner was with them, is the partner also subject to the declaration or to complying with the gift-receiving guidelines?</p> <p>Mr Martin: I think there are certainly some extensions of the members' and senators' interests rules that apply to partners. I'd have to check to make sure how that relates to the other compliance systems.</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 124		
97.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Kitching	Response to PQoN 689	Ministerial Support	<p>Senator KITCHING: Thank you. Could I let you know that I've got another chamber question on notice which has not been answered, and that's QON 689. I sent it. It was presented on 5 February last, and it says: 'With reference to the guidelines relating to official gifts received, can an itemised list be provided of all</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 125		

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					<p>payments made to the collector of public moneys in relation to gifts purchased by the Prime Minister, ministers and assistant ministers/parliamentary secretaries in the 2017 calendar year? This itemised list should show (a) a description of the gift purchased; (b) the date of each payment; (c) the sum of each payment; and (d) the minister (or Prime Minister, assistant minister or parliamentary secretary as the case may be) who made the payment.' I'm still waiting for that QON to be answered.</p> <p>Ms Foster: We'll chase that for you, senator.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Thank you. It would have made these questions a lot easier and this discussion a lot easier if I'd had the QON answered in the time limits.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Why hasn't it been answered, Ms Foster?</p> <p>Ms Foster: I don't know off the top of my head, and I'll have to have someone check.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Has an answer been prepared by PM&C?</p> <p>Ms Foster: I'll have to check, Senator. I don't have a—</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Well, as you are taking this question on notice, has an answer been prepared by PM&C and, if so, on what date was it provided to the Prime Minister's office?</p>			

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					<p>Ms Foster: We'll take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: So you'll let us know the date. I'd like to know where in the process it's been stuck.</p> <p>Ms Foster: I understand.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Or has it not even started to be answered?</p> <p>Ms Foster: I understand, Senator.</p>			
98.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Kitching	Response to Additional Estimates QoN 31	Government	<p>Senator KITCHING: Thank you. I asked at additional estimates on 26 February about the recent alterations to the Statement of Ministerial Standards, in particular to the revised version of February 2018. You indicated that from time to time ministers are reminded of the requirement to comply with certain requirements. I'm looking at question on notice No. 31, in which the department indicated that the Prime Minister wrote to ministers and assistant ministers sworn in on 26 February and 5 March about governance and probity matters, including conduct and obligations of ministers, guidelines for the giving and receiving of gifts and ministerial entitlements. Does this mean that existing ministers, so those MPs and senators who were ministers prior to 26 February, did not receive correspondence from the Prime Minister with respect to the revised version of the Statement of Ministerial Standards at that time?</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 125		

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					<p>Ms Foster: Can you just give me the QON number again?</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: It is QON 31.</p> <p>Ms Foster: Senator, I can see why you're asking the question. I'm not sure if that's just the way we framed the answer or not, so—</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Do you know?</p> <p>Ms Foster: we'll ask the question and find out.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Okay. What I want to know is: did existing ministers receive correspondence from the Prime Minister with respect to the revised version of the Statement of Ministerial Standards? And, given that your answer indicated that from time to time ministers are reminded anyway, what's the frequency? When you say 'time to time' in the response, what does that mean? Is that—I don't know—every six months? Is it annually if people are reminded or given a refresher or something?</p> <p>Ms Foster: Yes, we'll—</p>			
99.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Kitching	Responses to PQoNs	Ministerial Support	<p>Senator KITCHING: We're going to get some more information back, hopefully, within the time periods that are set. That would be good, because now I am going to go on to questions on notice that took 15 months to answer. I'd like to refer to answers provided to Senate questions on notice Nos 359, 361, 362 and</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 128		

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					<p>363. They were asked by Senator Wong on 10 February 2017. These answers were only supplied on Thursday, 10 May, 2018, after the Senate passed a motion compelling production of them on Wednesday, 9 May 2018. Why did it take 15 months for these answers to be provided and only after the Senate compelled production of them?</p> <p>Ms Foster: I am afraid I don't know. I'll have to take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: You'll have to take it on notice about the questions on notice? Okay. On what date were those answers forwarded to the Prime Minister? This is what I would like you to also take on notice. Are we going to get these back promptly?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: In the ordinary course of events.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: In the ordinary course of events, these took 15 months to come back to us, so I am hoping that's not the ordinary course of events.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I can only speak for myself. I pride myself on making sure that answers that I've taken on notice in my areas of responsibility are provided within the deadlines set by the committee.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: On what date were these answers forwarded to the Prime Minister's office by the department?</p>			

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					<p>Senator McALLISTER: Are you taking that on notice, Ms Foster?</p> <p>Ms Foster: I am. I thought Senator Kitching had already acknowledged that I would take this bunch of questions on notice because I don't have the details of all the QONS aside from those—</p>			
100.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Kitching	Response to PQoN 359	PMO	<p>Senator KITCHING: Thank you. Question 359, paragraph (d), asked, with reference to the claim by the Prime Minister on the 7.30 report on 1 February 2017 that he had donated \$1.75 million to the Liberal Party during the 2016 federal election campaign, whether the Prime Minister had made a declaration of interest in any subsequent cabinet discussion about political disclosure rules. The answer provided was: 'The details of donations are a matter of public record.' That is the response. That is the only response, in fact, to the whole question. But the question was not about the donation. It was about whether the Prime Minister had declared a conflict of interest to cabinet. Do you see the point, Ms Foster? Why was this question avoided?</p> <p>Ms Foster: Again, I don't have the details in front of me and I'll have to take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Did the Prime Minister declare a conflict or not?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: The officer has answered that</p>	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 128, 129		

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					<p>question by saying that she's taking that question on notice. It is not something that the officer could possibly be expected to have firsthand knowledge of and, on that basis, it's entirely appropriate to take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: My first question was not the question that we were just referring to. My first question was: why was this question avoided? The other one was: did the Prime Minister—</p> <p>Senator Cormann: You're making assertions I don't necessarily accept.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Let me read this back out to you: 'Has the Prime Minister declared a declaration of interest in any subsequent cabinet discussion about political disclosure rules?' The response back was: 'The details of donations are a matter of public record.'</p> <p>Senator Cormann: That's right.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: That was not the question.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: It's an important part of managing conflicts, of course. But the officer has already agreed to see what other information she might be able to provide. I hasten to add that I don't accept the premise of the way you have put this, but nevertheless, if we can add to the answer, then we will add to it on notice.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Did the Prime Minister declare</p>			

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					a conflict or not? You're taking that on notice? Senator Cormann: I've already said that.			
101.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Kitching	Response to PQoN 362	PMO	Senator KITCHING: There was a question asked about the role of private advisers. There is no response to that. Maybe we could get a fuller response to that one. In response to question 362, Senator Wong asked the Prime Minister about the Seven Locks Enhanced Fund Ltd, which was disclosed by the Prime Minister on his statement of registerable interests, and the same answer was given: "The Prime Minister keeps his register updated in accordance with the rules." Senator Cormann: Which is right. I would just like to remind you, because you keep trying to create this false impression that somehow there is some overlap between what you describe as the Prime Minister's private interests and private advisers and his public responsibilities. I need to remind the committee and I need to remind you that the Prime Minister's investments, as he has said on several occasions now, are managed by an independent investment manager at arm's length from the Prime Minister, precisely to avoid conflicts. The answer that was provided to that question on notice is entirely appropriate, because it indicates to you that the Prime Minister takes responsibility for keeping his relevant declarations up	FPA Monday 22 May 2018, page 130		

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					<p>to date.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Senator Cormann, I have no problem with what you have said, because let me read the full question, which was: '(a) what is the nature of the Seven Locks Enhanced Fund? (b) which manager wound up the fund? (c) on what date was the fund wound up? (d) what is the quantum of the small amount withheld pending an audit? (e) why was an audit required? (f) on what date was the audit completed? Then the response back was: 'The Prime Minister keeps his register updated in accordance with the rules.'</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Indeed.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Can I ask all of those questions again on notice, Ms Foster?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: And then we will have a conversation next time when the Prime Minister again says that he keeps his register up to date in accordance with the rules, and you will say that you are not satisfied with that answer. If you want us to provide you the same answer to the same question again, I am happy to do that.</p>			
102.	Indigenous Land Corporation	Dodson	Enterprise Agreement	Indigenous Land Corporation	Senator DODSON: Thank you, Mr Maher, for your opening statement. There is an area which you may have alluded to in your report. Thank you for that	FPA Friday 25 May 2018, page		

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					<p>report. It is the area around enterprise bargaining that I want to go to primarily. We understand that the ILC has been involved in the enterprise bargaining process for some years now. Can you please advise at what stage the negotiations are currently at?</p> <p>Mr Maher: I might defer to Tricia on that, given that she's one of the key executives leading the negotiations.</p> <p>Ms Button: Thank you, Senator. The ILC has been in negotiation with its staff on the enterprise agreement for some time now. We currently have our enterprise agreement before the APSC. We have as late as last week updated staff on the progress of that and reassured staff that when it comes back from the APSC, we will commence immediately into staff consultations and we'll take a roadshow around the various offices before we take the new enterprise agreement to the vote.</p> <p>Senator DODSON: Can you tell me what advice you received from the APSC?</p> <p>Ms Button: On the latest version of the EA?</p> <p>Senator DODSON: Yes.</p> <p>Ms Button: I'm sorry, Senator, but I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator DODSON: So is the APSC requiring that any of the agreed conditions be removed from the draft?</p>	4, 5		

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					Ms Button: Again, Senator, I apologise. I will have to take on notice specifics around the feedback and the points of contention with APSC, if that's all right.			
103.	Indigenous Land Corporation	McCarthy	Enterprise Agreement	Indigenous Land Corporation	Senator McCARTHY: I want to go back to the domestic violence issue. Do you know what position the APSC has taken on the inclusion of this condition? Ms Button: Not as yet, sorry, Senator. I'm not up to speed with the latest response from APSC. I'll add that into my response to the question on notice, if that's okay.	FPA Friday 25 May 2018, page 6		
104.	Indigenous Land Corporation	Siewert	Voyages	Indigenous Land Corporation	Senator SIEWERT: It's fairly short. I want to follow up one of the questions that I asked last time about Voyages and the answer that you gave. It was question 71. It gave the operating loss and capital expenditure on Voyages from 2013-14 to 2016-17. The operating loss has reduced substantially, as presumably the changes that have been made to the operations have kicked in. Mr Maher: And occupancy has increased dramatically. Senator SIEWERT: I'm presuming they are interlinked— Mr Maher: Yes, they are interlinked, yes. Senator SIEWERT: through the work you've been doing. When do you expect to get to the point where you don't have any operating losses to ILC?	FPA Friday 25 May 2018, page 9, 10		

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					<p>Mr Maher: Well, I'm really pleased to report—and I mentioned in my opening statement—that with the increasing occupancy and the execution of some of the recommendations from the ILC report last year, as we speak, nine months to March, we have a very modest positive contribution at the bottom line.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: So this financial year?</p> <p>Mr Maher: I'm certainly hoping that will continue for the next three months.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: So this financial year you're expecting to have no losses?</p> <p>Mr Maher: It could be the first year ever that we don't have an operating loss.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: And the capital expenditure will remain?</p> <p>Mr Maher: The capital expenditure will still remain given that there's no doubt that Voyages is quite a capital hungry asset. We are going to continue to improve profitability. We can't not spend some capital on continuing to maintain and improve the asset.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: It has gone up considerably since 2013-14, where it's \$6.2 million. It's now \$13.8 million. Do you expect to see that decrease, or do you expect to see that remaining at that level?</p> <p>Mr Maher: I would say that would remain at that</p>			

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					<p>level.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: At about \$13.8 million or \$14 million?</p> <p>Mr Maher: Yes. Depending on how things work out with the runway, it could even increase. We have to upgrade the runway this year.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Yes. You did mention that on another occasion. Can you take on notice to provide figures? By the time you take it on notice and report in October—</p> <p>Mr Maher: Yes, sure.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: we'll have the end of year.</p> <p>Mr Maher: Yes, this financial year.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Can you take on notice, then, updating that table for this financial year?</p> <p>Mr Maher: Yes, sure. I'm happy to do so.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Thank you.</p> <p>Senator MOORE: In terms of the profile, with the information you provide to the committee, do you have any analysis of the ages and where the people are coming from who are visiting? This is on notice as well.</p> <p>Mr Maher: Yes, definitely.</p> <p>Senator MOORE: I thought you did. I thought I've seen it in the past.</p>			

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					<p>Mr Maher: Yes. We have really strong data on that.</p> <p>Senator MOORE: If we could get some data on that, that would be lovely.</p> <p>Mr Maher: I don't have it with me now. That is one we can get definitely.</p> <p>Senator MOORE: On notice, that would be really useful. That would also show where the increases have been in those particular areas.</p> <p>Mr Maher: It's an interesting flux between international and domestic as well.</p> <p>Senator MOORE: Lovely.</p>			
105.	Indigenous Business Australia	McCarthy	Home Loans	Indigenous Business Australia	<p>Senator McCARTHY: What is the value that the home loans range from?</p> <p>Mr Viswanathan: On average it's about \$330,000. That's the average home loan.</p> <p>Senator McCARTHY: And whereabouts are we talking in terms of the average? Is this right across Australia? You've broken it down into three areas—urban, regional and remote.</p> <p>Mr Viswanathan: The average would obviously differ in urban from regional because of house prices in major cities.</p> <p>Senator McCARTHY: So what would your average be in an urban area?</p> <p>Mr Viswanathan: I don't have that precise figure. I</p>	FPA Friday 25 May 2018, page 12		

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					<p>can provide that on notice. Senator McCARTHY: If you could. What about your average in regional? Mr Viswanathan: Again, I would have to provide that. If you want the averages for remote, regional and urban— Senator McCARTHY: Yes, please. Mr Viswanathan: I would have to provide that on notice.</p>			
106.	Indigenous Business Australia	McCarthy	Remote Housing Loans	Indigenous Business Australia	<p>Senator McCARTHY: All right. Let's look at your remote housing loans. Are you able to identify where in the remote areas you have provided those housing loans? Mr Viswanathan: Yes. I can provide them on notice. They are all across the country. Senator McCARTHY: You don't have that with you? Mr Viswanathan: I don't have the list of every remote location with me. I can tell you that, out of the 5,000 overall home loans, 475 are in remote or very remote areas. Senator McCARTHY: So 475 in very remote areas? Mr Viswanathan: Remote or very remote. Senator McCARTHY: Are you able to provide those 475 home loan locations, such as state and territory jurisdictions?</p>	FPA Friday 25 May 2018, page 12		

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					<p>Mr Viswanathan: We can provide a detailed breakdown on notice.</p> <p>Senator McCARTHY: Could you also provide the average home loan provided for those areas?</p> <p>Mr Viswanathan: We can do that.</p>			
107.	Indigenous Business Australia	McCarthy	Home Loans	Indigenous Business Australia	<p>Senator McCARTHY: Do you keep data on where your loans have progressed to?</p> <p>Mr Viswanathan: Beyond our refinance?</p> <p>Senator McCARTHY: That's right.</p> <p>Mr Viswanathan: We know when they are refinanced. Beyond that, the customer moves to a bank and we won't have continued information from that customer.</p> <p>Senator McCARTHY: But of the information that you do have, do you maintain data on that?</p> <p>Mr Viswanathan: Yes, we do.</p> <p>Senator McCARTHY: Would you be able to provide for the committee data on which banks the home loans go to?</p> <p>Mr Viswanathan: I will endeavour to provide that.</p>	FPA Friday 25 May 2018, page 13		
108.	Indigenous Business Australia	McCarthy	Departmental Expenses - Subsidiaries	Indigenous Business Australia	<p>Senator McCARTHY: When you say subsidiaries, who are you referring to?</p> <p>Mr Viswanathan: We invest alongside Indigenous organisations in a range of ventures. We've got co-investments in the Kakadu properties and Wilpena Pound Resort.</p>	FPA Friday 25 May 2018, page 15		

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					<p>Senator McCARTHY: What are the Kakadu properties?</p> <p>Mr Viswanathan: Coinda Lodge and the Crocodile Hotel. We have similar investments in different industries around the country. That would include the solar investment that we just talked about. So the expected financial performance of all those subsidiaries is consolidated into these figures.</p> <p>Senator McCARTHY: And how many would there be?</p> <p>Mr Viswanathan: We have 12 direct investments in ventures or assets and then we have five trusts that we also manage.</p> <p>Senator McCARTHY: All right. Could you provide for the committee on notice those 12 direct investments and your assets?</p> <p>Mr Viswanathan: Sure.</p>			
109.	Indigenous Business Australia	Keneally	Home Loans	Indigenous Business Australia	<p>Senator KENEALLY: I have some questions regarding the home loans. Do you keep data on 30-day debt defaults?</p> <p>Mr Viswanathan: Yes, we do. We keep arrears data, yes.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: Are you able to provide that to the committee?</p> <p>Mr Viswanathan: Yes. We can provide a breakdown</p>	FPA Friday 25 May 2018, page 15		

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					on notice, if required. Senator KENEALLY: That would be helpful. Take this on notice as well; do you have any comparisons between your 30-day debt default rates and that of the traditional, for lack of a better word, banking sector? Mr Viswanathan: We do, recognising that our portfolio is very different and our charter is very different. But we do have that, yes.			
110.	Indigenous Business Australia	Keneally	Departmental Expenses - Subsidiaries	Indigenous Business Australia	Senator McCARTHY: Are you able to provide on notice some more details about the solar panels in Perth,? Mr Viswanathan: Sure. We will. That's been reported widely in the press as well. But we're able to do that.	FPA Friday 25 May 2018, page 15		
111.	Aboriginal Hostels Limited	Dean Smith	Indigenous Employees	Aboriginal Hostels Limited	Senator DEAN SMITH: What does the retention rate of Indigenous employees look like? Mr Usher: I will have to take that on notice, I think. I can say that the consistency of the percentage is strong. So I guess the answer would be it's consistent, but I wouldn't be able to give you the exact number.	FPA Friday 25 May 2018, page 21	29/6/18	
112.	Office of Township Leasing	McCarthy	Township Leasing	Office of Township Leasing	Senator McCARTHY: I might move on to Yarralin. Have you been involved in discussions with township leasing at Yarralin? Ms Weedon: My role in the negotiations is very technical. At the request of the traditional owners, when the department may start negotiations, we are	FPA Friday 25 May 2018, page 27	29/6/18	

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					<p>requested to provide technical advice on how the township lease operates. With regard to Yarralin, we have visited the community twice.</p> <p>Senator McCARTHY: When was that?</p> <p>Ms Gregory: About two years ago.</p> <p>Senator McCARTHY: So two years ago you went twice?</p> <p>Ms Weedon: Two years ago. We also invited the Yarralin owners—</p> <p>Senator McCARTHY: Sorry. Can I get the dates for those visits?</p> <p>Ms Weedon: I would have to take that on notice and get those dates back to you.</p>			
113.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Dodson	Housing Investment / Funding	Housing, Land and Culture	<p>Senator DODSON: The report indicated that something like 2,700 homes are needed—it may be more beyond that—in Western Australia, South Australia and Queensland to reduce the overcrowding. Are you confident that through these negotiations, particularly in Western Australia and South Australia—we'll come back to Queensland—you will be able to sustain that sort of target or go towards that target?</p> <p>Senator Scullion: Well, that's the whole idea. We're using those targets. We did the inquiry to give us a look at exactly what was required. For example, I can speak about the Northern Territory agreement. I commend the</p>	FPA Friday 25 May 2018, page 36, 37		

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					<p>territory government. It's quite a small jurisdiction with a total population of three suburbs in Brisbane. They've managed to match dollar for dollar. It's quite a large amount. This almost doubles the original investment. The intention from the territory government was to say, 'Well, let's try to get in front of the curve.' We've been able to do that. As I said, that's the intent of our negotiating mandate—to ensure we have some sustainable footing into the future. It's also to ensure that the states start taking on their responsibilities for public housing provision across their jurisdiction, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in remote areas. It's their responsibility, and that has to be part of the negotiations into the future.</p> <p>Mr Tongue: Just for the record or in case anybody is listening or watching, you're using the updated 2016 number. That 2,700 number is the latest number.</p> <p>Senator DODSON: Is that the latest number? They talk about an overall need of 5,500.</p> <p>Mr Bulman: I might be able to assist.</p> <p>Senator DODSON: What is the updated number—5,500 or 2,700?</p> <p>Mr Bulman: The 5,500 is the number recorded in the review we did a year or so ago. That was based on earlier census data as well as some 2014-15 NATSISS</p>			

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					<p>data. Since the 2016 census, information has come in. We've got some updated figures. The minister was using some of them. For example, 387 additional houses are required in Queensland at 2018 to reduce overcrowding.</p> <p>Senator DODSON: What is the updated number— 5,500 or 2,700?</p> <p>Mr Bulman: The 5,500 is the number recorded in the review we did a year or so ago. That was based on earlier census data as well as some 2014-15 NATSISS data. Since the 2016 census, information has come in. We've got some updated figures. The minister was using some of them. For example, 387 additional houses are required in Queensland at 2018 to reduce overcrowding.</p> <p>Senator DODSON: It would be useful if you tabled some of that. It's a bit hard to get it clear.</p> <p>Senator Scullion: It would be useful if we gave it for the four jurisdictions.</p> <p>Senator DODSON: Jurisdiction by jurisdiction would be great.</p> <p>Mr Bulman: We'll provide those on notice.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: And could you provide it for what year you're assessing that, too? You've said based on the 2016 census data. What are your predictions for?</p>			

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					<p>What year are you using for those predictions? Mr Bulman: I will. I will be able to take on notice a prediction at 30 June 2018 based on the 2016 census data and population growth. Senator SIEWERT: Thanks. What definition of overcrowding are you using? Mr Bulman: I can provide that on notice with the table as well.</p>			
114.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Dodson	Housing Investment / Funding	Housing, Land and Culture	<p>Senator DODSON: In terms of these rollover funds, as I call them, are you saying that the apprentices taken on by the companies and the Indigenous companies, particularly in Queensland and other places, will be guaranteed the completion of their apprenticeships with the amount of funds being provided? Mr Tongue: Principally, it is a matter for Queensland. However, we can see money in the system, as Mr Bulman has talked about, that can be phased out. In our discussions with Queensland, we are absolutely conscious of the apprentices. The minister has met with the mayors. We have met with the mayors. We understand the problem. In a financial sense, subject to the decisions that the federal government might like to take, we are trying to work through how we can get the best possible outcome for those apprentices. Senator DODSON: In terms of the Indigenous</p>	FPA Friday 25 May 2018, page 39		

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					businesses that have also been part of the programs to date, have any of them closed or folded in the uncertainty of this, or are they still contracted to deliver? Mr Tongue: I would have to take that on notice.			
115.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McCarthy	NPARIH	Housing, Land and Culture	Senator McCARTHY: I want to put a couple of questions to you on housing in Borroloola. I will declare that, as a TO from the region, it's a place very close to my heart. The rest I'll just put on notice because I'm conscious of time to move forward. What funding was to be contributed by the Commonwealth under NPARIH for housing, for clarity's sake? Senator Scullion: I will go to an officer for some details. I can say, Senator McCarthy, that we embargoed. There were a lot of conversations of great difficulty about land, as you know. It is very complex. But we set aside funds that were allocated. We've set those funds aside for Borroloola. They remain set aside for the— Senator McCARTHY: So they're still there? Senator Scullion: Yes. That's correct. Senator McCARTHY: And how much? Senator Scullion: We'll go to Mr Bulman for the details. Mr Bulman: I can confirm that it's \$14.6 million	FPA Friday 25 May 2018, page 39, 40		

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					<p>allocated to Borroloola.</p> <p>Senator McCARTHY: When was that funding agreed to by the NT government and the Commonwealth? Was it 2011?</p> <p>Mr Bulman: I may have to come back and confirm on notice. The allocations are generally agreed very early in the national partnership agreement.</p>			
116.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Siewert	CDP	Community and Economic Development	<p>Senator SIEWERT: Have you estimated how many people on CDP you expect will be subject to failures at points five, six and seven?</p> <p>Ms Lewis: No.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: You haven't?</p> <p>Ms Lewis: The department of jobs has done some modelling, but it's not based on the behaviours that we expect to change with the improvements to the program. So we can't guess what the change in behaviours will be. For example, if we are in the reform part of the package, and if you are in the zero to 14-hour requirement, you will have less contact with Centrelink. Therefore, you're going to be less likely to be receiving a penalty that you would currently receive. Until we work through the micro detail of that in the next few months, I think it's just not appropriate to guess those numbers.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: So what modelling has been</p>	FPA Friday 25 May 2018, page 43		

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					<p>done? What modelling has been done? Ms Lewis: The Department of Jobs and Small Business has done some modelling to help with the costing process of the cabinet submission. Senator SIEWERT: What was the modelling around then? If it wasn't around? Ms Lewis: It would have been based on the application of the framework outside of remote Australia. Senator McCARTHY: So that was your advice to cabinet? You said the modelling was done in a cabinet submission. Obviously that's your advice to cabinet? Ms Lewis: I can't say what advice was given in that regard. I want to clarify that it was in terms of understanding the cost to the system changes that might be required if they need to be made for the TC F or CDP. Senator McCARTHY: Senator Siewert is trying to get to the bottom of your modelling analogy. You've obviously used something to get to that particular outcome. So your advice to cabinet— Ms Lewis: Can I take that on notice? I think it would be inappropriate for me to talk about modelling that has been done by another department. I would prefer to take that on notice and come back in a written form to you with that response.</p>			

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					Senator Scullion: We can take that on notice inasmuch as we can ask the other department within the timeframe to provide it to you. We consider it has been asked here.			
117.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Siewert	CDP	Community and Economic Development	<p>Senator SIEWERT: Is the process of the providers, when they do their reassessment, appealable? Is any decision made by the provider appealable?</p> <p>Senator Scullion: I will get some clarification. The one that is done by the provider is a discussion to see what you think. It's not something where the provider says, 'I think you can do five' and somebody else says, 'I can only do half an hour or four hours.' It's having a conversation about perhaps one of the reasons that you're not able to attend as often or as frequently as you can is because of something I don't know. So the provider's process is really by consent—to come to an agreement with someone—rather than them having to dictate. That's why there are two processes at hand. In terms of the detail, Ms Lewis might be able to assist.</p> <p>Ms Lewis: I don't know whether it's appealable. We'll try to find out in this session. If not, we'll take it on notice.</p> <p>Mr Denny: I can clarify that. Job seekers will continue to be able to appeal any financial penalties, first, internally through DHS and then through the</p>	FPA Friday 25 May 2018, page 47, 48		

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					Administrative Appeals Tribunal. Mr Tongue: That doesn't help your question. Senator Scullion: That doesn't help with your question? Senator SIEWERT: No. Senator Scullion: We understand. Can we take that on notice? Senator SIEWERT: Yes			
118.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Dodson	Out-of-Home Care	Education, Community Safety and Health	Senator DODSON: Thank you. Minister and staff, my questions are about the out-of-home care matters. How many First Nation children are currently in out-of-home care? Ms Hefren-Webb: I don't have the exact figure with me. I will ask if Ms Saastamoinen, the assistant secretary, has the figure. Senator DODSON: Did you say you don't have the figure? Ms Hefren-Webb: No. But my colleague Ms Saastamoinen may have the figure. I'm just checking with her. Ms Saastamoinen: I don't have the figures on me, but I can get someone to give them to me, if not by the end of today, then on notice. Senator DODSON: Thank you. Can you break those figures down into states and territories?	FPA Friday 25 May 2018, page 48		

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					<p>Ms Saastamoinen: Yes. We will do what we can with the figures that we get.</p> <p>Senator DODSON: I presume there are First Nation figures and there are non-First Nation figures. Can you make sure that bracket is also covered?</p> <p>Ms Saastamoinen: Yes.</p>			
119.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Dodson	Child Placement	Education, Community Safety and Health	<p>Senator DODSON: I will return to that maybe in a minute. Can you tell me what percentage of children in each state and territory are placed with Aboriginal families or First Nation families?</p> <p>Senator Scullion: I can tell you that the Australian figure is 68 per cent of Indigenous children apply to the child placement principle. They are placed with an Indigenous family and adhere to that principle. Of course, the principle has the general exemption about the safety of the child. I am sorry that I can't recall the exact words, but the placement principle is that it will be an Indigenous family or an Indigenous group unless it impacts on the safety of the child. So it is 68 per cent across Australia. Perhaps the officers can provide me with a state-by-state breakdown.</p> <p>Senator DODSON: What is the figure you are talking about? Is it 16,000? Are you talking about 68 per cent of 16,000?</p> <p>Senator Scullion: I might even have to be corrected on</p>	FPA Friday 25 May 2018, page 49, 50		

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					<p>the figure. I'm pretty sure I'm right. It's 68 per cent of children who are placed in out-of-home care are placed with an Indigenous family.</p> <p>Senator DODSON: Okay. So that could be very small. I appreciate you getting the figures. Can you tell me what percentage of the 16,000 or 18,000 children who are in out-of-home care now are being placed with Aboriginal families?</p> <p>Ms Saastamoinen: That's the 68 per cent.</p> <p>Senator DODSON: Well, I thought the minister was giving me a different answer.</p> <p>Senator Scullion: No. Sorry. That was the 68 per cent.</p> <p>Senator DODSON: You said those who were applying for it.</p> <p>Senator Scullion: My apologies. I didn't mean that. But that is a straight answer to your question.</p> <p>Senator DODSON: I understand that, but I was asking a different question. How many of all of those people—</p> <p>Ms Saastamoinen: All of those children in out-of-home care—</p> <p>Senator DODSON: Yes. Are being placed with First Nations people?</p> <p>Ms Saastamoinen: It is 68 per cent. I can take on notice, again, trying to find what that is by jurisdiction breakdown as well.</p>			

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					<p>Senator DODSON: My understanding is that there has been a decrease in the number of placements that are going to Indigenous families. Is there a trend showing the placements going downwards or increasing?</p> <p>Ms Saastamoinen: Over the long term, it has been reasonably stable. I would have to look to see what is happening in the last couple of years. There are some fluctuations at times. It's best to give you an accurate answer by going back and having a look at the data.</p> <p>Senator DODSON: I appreciate that. The number seems to be incrementally increasing. I'm not sure whether the placements to the families are increasing.</p> <p>Ms Saastamoinen: We can give you some trend data as well, if you would like.</p>			
120.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Dodson	Child Placement	Education, Community Safety and Health	<p>Senator DODSON: It sounds like very little of that is being effective. I must say that when I sit back and see these figures escalating, I'm not impressed that we are being effective with the public sector dough that's supposed to be reducing it.</p> <p>Ms Hefren-Webb: I share the frustration, Senator, around this.</p> <p>Senator DODSON: What is happening to improve the situation that has remained frustrated?</p> <p>Senator Scullion: I think a bit more data that I haven't seen would be useful. I'm not asking a question on your</p>	FPA Friday 25 May 2018, page 50, 51		

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					<p>behalf, but I think it would be useful to know the nature of each of the removals. The low hanging fruit from my perspective—I have shared your concerns—are those children who are removed as a consequence of domestic violence rather than the perpetrator. That is low hanging fruit. Why are children being removed and why would you possibly, as an abused woman, report it if you were at threat of losing your children? These are appalling circumstances, Senator; I agree entirely. I'm not just saying that this is about the states and territories. I will be meeting in the coming weeks with representatives of the Aboriginal legal aid service, NAAJA, to try to say, 'Well, what can we do where we can do this to change some of the policies?' When police officers turn up at a place, they're obliged to follow whatever the child services process is. They turn up. When they turn up, invariably they'll say, 'There is domestic violence. We're taking them away' rather than take a much more sophisticated approach. The default position should be that the woman and children stay in the home. Anyway, I share your frustration on this. If you have some particular views and ideas about how the Commonwealth can influence the jurisdictions who have ownership over the policy and the process, I will be delighted to hear about it.</p>			

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					<p>Senator DODSON: I would be delighted to see how effective you are in the discussions. I take your point and I appreciate what you say, Minister. In the short term, we're not in power. You are. I'd like to see some action that will take place.</p> <p>Ms Saastamoinen: We can also get you—again, possibly it's only available at the national level—some data on some of the reasons why Indigenous children compared with non-Indigenous children are being taken out of the care of their families. I don't have the detail. At a general level, more Indigenous children than non-Indigenous children are taken away for reasons of neglect. More non-Indigenous children than Indigenous children are taken away for abuse. As I said, we can give you some more precise data on that.</p> <p>Senator DODSON: And the causation principles, as it were.</p> <p>Ms Saastamoinen: Yes.</p>			
121.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Dodson	Child Protection	Education, Community Safety and Health	<p>Senator DODSON: No. My questions are very specific. Once they are in the custody or care of the Commonwealth or the state or some other institutional arrangement, what is happening to them when they get abused and mistreated?</p> <p>Ms Hefren-Webb: As you would know, the Commonwealth does not have any custodianship. In the</p>	FPA Friday 25 May 2018, page 52		

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					<p>states and territories— Senator DODSON: But do you know what is happening? Ms Hefren-Webb: Each state and territory would have its own arrangements. Senator DODSON: We've just had an offer to have that map. Thank you. Ms Hefren-Webb: For the reporting of mistreatment in care and for the investigation of any allegations of mistreatment in care, generally the state and territory children's commissioner has some sort of responsibility. Senator McCARTHY: What about the national commissioner? Ms Hefren-Webb: We don't have any children in out-of-home care under Commonwealth control, so the National Children's Commissioner doesn't have a role in that. Senator DODSON: So you don't know if any children are being mistreated or abused? Ms Hefren-Webb: How possibly could I know if any child is being abused? Senator DODSON: This is the Commonwealth government we're talking about. Senator Scullion: I can help.</p>			

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					<p>Senator DODSON: The minister has expressed a concern in this area.</p> <p>Senator Scullion: Senator, I can help with that. I will not correct Ms Hefren-Webb. I am aware that, as a consequence of the royal commission you're referring to, we asked all of the agencies. Australian Hostels Limited, or AHL, had had some reports. They sent those reports and made a submission to that process and have amended a whole range of their procedures since then. So these are historic processes. Yes, in some of our institutions, that is alleged to have taken place. From the top of my head, I think one went to prosecution and was found not guilty. The remainder didn't go to prosecution. In any event, that's to the extent I know. I will take that on notice to ensure that there are not some other institutions that the Commonwealth is responsible for.</p>			
122.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Siewert	RTS Program	Education, Community Safety and Health	<p>Senator SIEWERT: Thank you. I have some more questions, but I will put them on notice. I want to go to the school attendance figures. Could you take on notice the most up-to-date school attendance figures? Obviously the point-in-time figures aren't going to help. Can I have the last two years in terms of school attendance figures under the new program?</p> <p>Ms Hefren-Webb: So under the RTS program?</p>	FPA Friday 25 May 2018, page 53		

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					<p>Senator SIEWERT: Yes. Ms Hefren-Webb: We can provide that on notice. Senator SIEWERT: Thank you. Much appreciated. Jurisdiction by jurisdiction. Thank you.</p>			
123.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Siewert	Youth Services / Support	Education, Community Safety and Health	<p>Senator SIEWERT: Can you take on notice, then, currently what services and supports the Commonwealth is funding into Kalgoorlie-Boulder, please? Senator Scullion: Yes.</p>	FPA Friday 25 May 2018, page 54		
124.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Siewert	Interdepartmental Committee on the findings of the NT Royal Commission	Education, Community Safety and Health	<p>Senator SIEWERT: Is there an allocation of funding for that? The taskforce had an allocation in the budget. Ms Hefren-Webb: For the taskforce within DSS, we've contributed staffing resources. There wasn't a separate allocation in the budget, but we've contributed resources. Senator SIEWERT: To the taskforce? Ms Hefren-Webb: Correct. Senator SIEWERT: I'm talking about for the NT royal commission. Ms Hefren-Webb: Yes. Senator SIEWERT: Can you take on notice what the commitment of resources is that you've made? As far as I am aware, it's not in the budget papers. Senator Scullion: Just to save time, is it usual that an interdepartmental working group would be allocated</p>	FPA Friday 25 May 2018, page 57		

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					<p>funds? I'm not sure.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: The taskforce was.</p> <p>Senator Scullion: I know. But it's a different thing.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: I know it's a different thing. That's why I'm asking about this one.</p> <p>Ms Hefren-Webb: We've committed staffing resources. But I can provide that on notice.</p>			
125.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Keneally	Closing the Gap Refresh	Closing the Gap Taskforce	<p>Senator KENEALLY: We'll wait to see on that. I have one more question on this. I note that, in answer to questions on notice from October, the department advised that the targets that are not expiring in 2018 will continue in the Closing the Gap Refresh. How are those targets that are not expiring they being funded?</p> <p>Senator Scullion: That would depend on each target.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: I might put that on notice.</p> <p>Senator Scullion: Perhaps Mr Sloan can help you with that.</p> <p>Mr Sloan: The minister is correct. There would be a range of mechanisms that would be funding each of those targets, including the life expectancy and child mortality. There would be things in the health department portfolio that would be targeting those sorts of things. There is year 12 equivalent attainment. There would be things within the education portfolio designed to make sure school children reach year 12. So it just</p>	FPA Friday 25 May 2018, page 60		

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					<p>depends on the target and the investments of governments. I think that's important because, as the minister has said on many occasions, we need to recognise that governments, both at the Commonwealth—</p> <p>Senator Scullion: I might be able, for completeness and your benefit—I know you're tight on time—to take on notice each of the targets that are continuing.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: That would be helpful.</p> <p>Senator Scullion: And what the Commonwealth investment makes on each target.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: That would be helpful. Thank you, Minister.</p>			
126.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Dodson	Evaluation Program	Policy, Analysis and Evaluation	<p>Senator DODSON: How many do you expect to get done in the next financial year?</p> <p>Mr Johnson: Many of these evaluations cross over financial years. Some of them are quite big. Some of them will take a number of years to undertake. We will continue to update the plan, so we'll have a new evaluation plan for the—</p> <p>Senator DODSON: So you have no notional target as to how many you want to achieve within a fiscal year?</p> <p>Mr Johnson: In this fiscal year, we've already completed 11. We'll look to complete a—</p> <p>Senator DODSON: But, going forward, do you have a</p>	FPA Friday 25 May 2018, page 61		

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					<p>notion of the number you want to try to complete? You may not get them done, but have you got any notion of how many you want to achieve?</p> <p>Mr Johnson: The ideal would be to try to get the evaluations that we have on the work plan completed within reasonable timeframes. These evaluations can run into all different types of complexities.</p> <p>Senator DODSON: I understand that. I'm sorry, but I understand that. I won't pursue it any further. It would be useful to know within the four-year period whether they are going to cover the other 39 or so programs or you're not or you're going to cover a portion of them.</p> <p>Mr Johnson: No. That is our intention, Senator.</p> <p>Prof. Anderson: Some of them are quite big programs of evaluation. Some of them are quite small. We can just take it on notice and actually give you an estimation at this stage how we're going to track.</p>			
127.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Stoker	Referendum Council – Consultations	Indigenous Employment and Recognition	<p>Senator STOKER: You might have to take this on notice; I'm not sure. In relation to the digital platform consultations, how many submissions were made in total on that platform?</p> <p>Mr Fox: I would have to take that on notice. I note that the Referendum Council's report gives details of that as well.</p> <p>Senator STOKER: When you take it on notice, could</p>	FPA Friday 25 May 2018, page 63		

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					you give a breakdown of those that were made by Indigenous Australians and those made by non-Indigenous Australians, please? Mr Fox: I might need to look at that. I don't know that that division would be immediately apparent on the face of the submissions.			
128.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Stoker	Referendum Council – Consultations	Indigenous Employment and Recognition	Senator STOKER: Was the proposal to establish a voice to the parliament specifically consulted upon in the digital platform consultations? Mr Fox: I'm not aware. Senator STOKER: Is that something you can take on notice? Mr Fox: Yes. I will take that on notice. Senator STOKER: When you do so, perhaps you could also indicate whether there was a consensus of support from those submissions for a voice to parliament by non-Indigenous Australians. Mr Fox: Yes. We'll look at that as well.	FPA Friday 25 May 2018, page 63		
129.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Stoker	Referendum Council Final Report	Indigenous Employment and Recognition	Senator STOKER: Thank you. What steps did the Referendum Council take to satisfy itself that a voice to parliament would win a majority of votes in a majority of states before they delivered their final report? Mr Fox: I'm not aware what the council did. That's a matter for the council. CHAIR: The council was funded generously by	FPA Friday 25 May 2018, page 63		

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					taxpayers through the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet. Surely you can inquire as to what steps were taken. Mr Fox: I can do that, certainly. The senator asked me if I was aware. CHAIR: I'm just making sure you take that on notice.			
130.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Stoker	Response to AE 2017-2018 QoN 87	Indigenous Employment and Recognition	Senator STOKER: I have a couple of questions about question on notice No. 87. Can you confirm if I've understood your answer correctly, which is that it appears the recommendations of the expert panel were rejected? Mr Fox: That is the answer that was provided to question on notice No. 87, yes. Senator STOKER: On what basis was the work of the expert panel rejected by the Referendum Council? Mr Fox: I'm not aware. I'm not sure of the basis on which the Referendum Council reached that conclusion. Senator STOKER: Can you take that on notice? Mr Fox: Yes. I suspect it might have been canvased in the report, but I don't know.	FPA Friday 25 May 2018, page 64		
131.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Georgiou	Remote Indigenous Housing	Housing, Land and Culture	According to the 2018-19 Budget Papers: <i>"The Government will provide \$550.0 million over five years from 2018-19 (including 110.0 million in 2022-23) for a new five-year bilateral agreement with the</i>	Written	29/5/18	

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					<p><i>Northern Territory Government on Remote Indigenous Housing”.</i></p> <p>The NT Government is said to match the commitment by the Federal Government as part of the 5-year bilateral agreement. Can you confirm this is the case? a) Can you also confirm the source of the NT Government’s contribution is made up funds which have been allocated to the NT by the Commonwealth? If so, is it fair to say that essentially \$1.1b of Commonwealth money will be spent over five years on Remote Indigenous Housing? b) What exactly is the money to be spent on?</p>			
132.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Georgiou	Remote Indigenous Housing	Housing, Land and Culture	a) Is it true that \$5.4b has been spent as part of the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Housing (NPARH) in the last 10 years? b) Is it true that the houses built in the last 10 years are “concrete block structures which require constant air conditioning and are literally nothing like the sort of homes that these people want to live in”, as reported on Sky News? c) What consultation has been done with the residents of these houses to determine what homes are appropriate for their living conditions? d) How much to date has been spent on construction	Written	29/5/18	

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					<p>of new homes as part of the NPARH?</p> <p>e) How much to date has been spent on the maintenance of existing homes as part of the NPARH?</p> <p>f) Are there measures in place to ensure that the residents of the houses maintain the houses to a reasonable standard?</p> <p>g) What existing measures were put in place to ensure the efficiency of the NPARH spending?</p> <p>h) Are there any new review measures as part of this 2018-19 budget funding agreement which will ensure the money is spent efficiently?</p> <p>i) Are we just throwing money at this problem and are there efficiencies that can be achieved in this spending?</p>			
133.					No question allocated to this number			
134.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Keneally	Closing the Gap - Targets	Policy, Analysis and Evaluation Division	The 2018 <i>Closing the Gap</i> report showed that only three of the program's seven targets were being met. This comes after a decade of work, and Indigenous services expenditure reaching \$33.4bil each year at last measure. Do you believe this is an acceptable outcome?	Written	31/5/18	
135.	Department of the Prime Minister and	Keneally	Closing the Gap Refresh	Indigenous Employment and	Dr Janet Hunt from the Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research at the Australian National University has said that Uluru Statement's "most powerful"	Written	31/5/18	

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	Cabinet			Recognition	aspiration for “a very different relationship between governments and First Peoples” was aimed at being “recognised as First Peoples, not just disadvantaged citizens” and that “starting from this basis would change the relationship dynamic”. Given that less than half of the Closing The Gap targets are currently on track, and given that the government is refreshing its approach to this program, don't we also need to change the relationship dynamic between First Peoples and governments?			
136.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Keneally	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs	Indigenous Employment and Recognition	Last month at the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in New York, National Congress of Australia's First Peoples co-chair Jackie Huggins said that Australia had reached a crisis point in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs. Do you agree that this reflects poorly on Australia, particularly on such a significant international stage?	Written	31/5/18	
137.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Keneally	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs	Indigenous Employment and Recognition	Ms Huggins said that Foreign Minister Julie Bishop's statements about Australia's proud human rights record and support for indigenous people were “hypocritical in the extreme” and that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people were “sceptical, disillusioned after many years of paternalism, hollow rhetoric, and empty promises.” Is the Department concerned that a First Peoples Voice to the Parliament will give a further	Written	31/5/18	

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					platform for criticisms of the Turnbull government's policies and failures in Aboriginal affairs?			
138.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Keneally	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs	Indigenous Employment and Recognition	Ms Huggins pointed to the rejection of the Uluru Statement of the Heart and the failure to meet Closing the Gap targets as reasons for why Indigenous people in Australia were feeling disempowered and disillusioned. "We have been pressing the government to work with us, rather than developing ineffective, short-term policy options that are paternalistic and assimilationist in nature" she told the world. Doesn't this fly in the face of all of the Minister's protestations that he has been working effectively with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities?	Written	31/5/18	
139.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Keneally	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs	Indigenous Employment and Recognition	Doesn't an Indigenous voice to Parliament offer a practical solution which would enable Indigenous Australians to engage with the government on policy and legislation designed to close the gap?	Written	31/5/18	
140.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Keneally	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs	Indigenous Employment and Recognition	The Prime Minister has said that enshrining an Indigenous voice in Parliament is "inconsistent with a fundamental principle of our democracy". Do you share this view? a. Has New Zealand's Treaty of Waitangi made it any less of a democratic country? b. Are you aware that <i>The Economist's</i> 'Democracy Index' actually ranked New Zealand as more	Written	31/5/18	

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					democratic than we are?			
141.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Keneally	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs	Indigenous Employment and Recognition	<p>Could the Minister advise whether they had seen an Institute of Public Affairs briefing published 28 July, 2017 titled "Four Reasons to reject the Referendum Council Recommendations"?</p> <p>a. The IPA has stated that the Uluru Statement from The Heart is a "proposal for radical constitutional change" that is "divisive and undemocratic". Why did the government initially support the Council's efforts if it was only ever going to listen to the IPA?</p> <p>b. Is the real threat here that the IPA will become the supposed 'third chamber' of Parliament if they keep dictating policy to the Turnbull government?</p>	Written	31/5/18	
142.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Keneally	JSCCR	Indigenous Employment and Recognition	<p>How often has the Joint Select Committee on Constitutional Recognition met?</p> <p>a. Has the Minister met with the Committee?</p>	Written	31/5/18	
143.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Keneally	JSCCR	MO	How does the Minister understand the Committee's scope and remit?	Written	31/5/18	
144.	Department of the Prime Minister and	Keneally	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	Indigenous Employment and	An interim report by the Committee is expected by 30 July. Has the Prime Minister pre-empted the findings of the Committee with his comments saying that he	Written	31/5/18	

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	Cabinet		affairs	Recognition	<p>“does not believe such a radical change to our constitution’s representative institutions has any realistic prospect of being supported by a majority of Australians in a majority of states”?</p> <p>a. Given that the PM said that the Uluru Statement from the heart is neither “desirable or capable of winning acceptance at a referendum”, are we at an impasse between what Aboriginal people want and what the Turnbull government will tolerate?</p>			
145.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Keneally	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs	Indigenous Employment and Recognition	<p>Minister Ken Wyatt has said that he is ‘optimistic’ that an Indigenous voice to Parliament could potentially be introduced through legislation rather than through the constitution. Is this option being considered by the Committee?</p> <p>a. What is your own view on this?</p> <p>b. Why do we need to rely on a legislative change when recent polling showed that 61% of Australians would support an Indigenous voice to Parliament in a referendum?</p>	Written	31/5/18	
146.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Keneally	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs	Indigenous Employment and Recognition	<p>The Referendum Council Chair Mark Leibler said in his submission to the Joint Committee that there are really only two options from here – either adopt the Uluru Statement, or advise the Parliament to stop progress towards recognition at this time. Given that one of the terms of reference is that the committee’s</p>	Written	31/5/18	

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					recommendation must be something that Aboriginal people support, aren't these the only two remaining options?			
147.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Siewert	Community Development Programme	Community and Economic Development	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Department took on notice at the estimates hearing the number of compliance failures the Department is expecting under the changes to CDP. Could the Department please provide the assumptions for the modelling used to calculate these numbers? 2. Please breakdown the expected compliance failures for the next three years. 3. Which agency/agencies are responsible for decision making on allocation of wage subsidies? 4. Are there limits on the number of wage subsidies any agency can attract? If so, what are they? 5. What are the criteria under which the wage subsidy scheme will operate? 6. Please provide the latest employment outcomes for CDP, please provide on a regional basis. 	Written	4/6/18	
148.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Siewert	Torres Strait Islands	Housing, Land and Culture	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has the Government developed a strategy to address the impact of rising sea levels on Torres Strait Islands? 2. Is the Government prepared to provide funding for further construction of sea walls on Torres Strait Islands? If so, what level of funding will be made 	Written	4/6/18	

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					available? If not, why not?			
149.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Siewert	Custody Notification Service - WA	Education, Community Safety and Health	Has there been, or will there be, Commonwealth funding committed to the Aboriginal Legal Service of Western Australia to deliver a much needed custody notification system?	Written	4/6/18	
150.					No question allocated to this number			
151.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Siewert	Social and Emotional Wellbeing Framework	Education, Community Safety and Health	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When will implementation of the Framework commence? 2. What funding has been made available for implementation of the Framework and for what programs has it been provided? 3. If no funding has been committed, when will funding be committed? 	Written	4/6/18	
152.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Siewert	Captain Anniversary	Housing, Land & Culture	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Was the Minister consulted in the process of decision making on allocation of funding to the Anniversary? 2. Does the Minister support the allocation of resources to the Anniversary project? 3. Did the Minister consult First Nations peoples? If so, what organisations did he consult with? Did he consult with individuals? 	Written	4/6/18	
153.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McCarthy	Community Development Program	Community and Economic Development	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. According to the ANAO, funds allocated to Community Development Program (CDP) over the last three years have averaged \$434.7m per annum. The 2018-19 Budget refers to a commitment of 	Written	4/6/18	

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					<p>\$1.1b over four years – that is, \$275m per annum. Please explain the reasons for this reduction (\$159.7m per annum).</p> <p>2. The Government previously stated that CDP participants would be excluded from some new measures in the <i>Social Services Legislation Amendment. (Welfare Reform) Bill 2017</i>, including the new “targeted compliance framework” and the removal of exemptions for those whose illness, accident or special circumstance is due to substance dependence. Can the Government explain why it is proposed (as announced in the 2018-19 Annual Budget) that these measures will now apply to CDP participants?</p> <p>3. In an ABC online article published on the 9th of May 2018 a PM&C spokesperson said that the government’s planned changes to the CDP “were co-designed by community leaders and job-seekers. Please provide the names of community leaders who have co-designed the new scheme and how their views were sought.</p> <p>4. Please provide details of the reference group established following the release of the “Discussion Paper on Remote Employment and Participation”</p>			

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					<p>in December 2017 (including composition, reasons and processes for recruitment to reference group, purpose of reference group and any terms of reference)</p> <p>5. Please provide details of any targeted or other community consultations following the release of the “Discussion Paper on Remote Employment and Participation” (including names of communities to be consulted, reasons for consulting those communities, material provided to communities prior to and during consultations, processes for feedback to be incorporated from those consultations)</p> <p>6. In consultations, what views have been expressed any communities about the Government’s proposal to apply the new job seeker compliance framework to CDP participants?</p> <p>7. Will the Government release the evaluation of the CDP?</p> <p>8. The Minister advised the Committee on 25th May 2018 that he believed that the new measures would reduce the number of penalties applied to CDP participants. Please provide the evidence and analysis that underpins this assessment.</p> <p>9. What proportion of the current CDP caseload has a</p>			

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					<p>participation requirement of less than 15 hours per week (and will therefore be able to access reduced DHS reporting requirements)?</p> <p>10. What has the average rate of attendance, valid non-attendance and invalid attendance over the last quarter? What are the rates by region?</p> <p>11. Pls provide the maximum rate and the minimum rates of attendance, valid non-attendance and invalid attendance over the last quarter.</p> <p>12. Have warnings been issued to any regions over their 'valid' attendance rate? Have any investigations been initiated because of the 'valid' attendance rate?</p> <p>13. Under the new targeted compliance regime, what discretion will local providers have to allow non-attendance in cases where (i) people have a substance abuse problem but treatment services are limited or (ii) where the provider believes that it is likely that a financial penalty may increase an individual's risk of homelessness, domestic violence or a health crisis?</p>			
154.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McCarthy	Closing the Gap Refresh	Closing the Gap Taskforce	<p>1. Was there any independent review of the Closing the Gap framework prior to commencing the Refresh process and when did this occur?</p> <p>2. Does the Refresh process include an analysis and</p>	Written	4/6/18	

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					<p>evaluation of the National Indigenous Reform Agenda (NIRA), which is the framework within which the Close the Gap targets were embedded? If not, why not?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. What will replace the NIRA and how will state and territory governments be involved in its replacement? What mechanisms will exist to ensure coordination across state/territory/Commonwealth jurisdictions? 4. Were briefing materials provided to participants in the Refresh consultation process in advance of the consultations? What were they and how much notice was provided? Was an agenda provided in advance of the consultations and what was on it? 5. Was there any prior agreement between COAG/PMC and peak Indigenous organisations (please name them) regarding the consultation process and its purpose? Who decided how the consultation process would proceed and its design? 6. Has a timeline been publicly disseminated for the consultation process? 7. Will submissions to the Refresh process be published publicly? 8. Will a report be published summarising the consultation process? 			

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					<p>9. Will there be independent assessment of the quality of the consultation process?</p> <p>10. How will the decision-making process about possible changes to Closing the Gap involve peak Indigenous organisations? Will future changes to Closing the Gap be negotiated with peak Aboriginal organisations (and if so, who)?</p>			
155.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McCarthy	Housing	Housing, Land and Culture	<p>1. On 24 April 2018, the Government announced that it would match the Northern Territory's funding to contribute \$550million to remote housing in the Northern Territory. On what date was the decision made by the Government to contribute this funding? Who made this decision (Cabinet, which Ministers)?</p> <p>2. Pursuant to what agreement or arrangements will the funding be provided to the Northern Territory? Can a copy be provided of any such agreement or arrangements?</p> <p>3. Pursuant to what agreement or arrangements will Commonwealth funding be allocated for remote housing in the NT, and how (eg to which communities, and within those communities in what proportions the funding is for new housing construction, maintenance or property management services)? Can a copy be provided of any such</p>	Written	4/6/18	

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					<p>agreements/arrangements?</p> <p>4. Please provide correspondence between the Minister and the NLC regarding all negotiations regarding housing leases or township leases at Yarralin community since 2015.</p>			
156.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McCarthy	Partnership agreement	Housing, Land and Culture	<p>1. In the 2018 Budget (p 43 of Budget Paper 3), there are amounts set aside for payments to the NT under the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Aboriginal Investment in the NT. What specific programs does this money fund in the Northern Territory?</p> <p>2. This partnership agreement was signed on 21 April 2016 and will expire on 30 June 2018 – what will replace this agreement? What stage are negotiations at? When will it be concluded?</p> <p>3. There is a difference between the Commonwealth's financial contributions as set out in Agreement (and the 2017 Budget), and the figures in the 2018 Budget (totalling a reduction in \$10m over four years). Can you explain these differences and the rationale for the difference? Will there be an impact on existing programs, staffing, or services as a consequence?</p>	Written	4/6/18	
157.	Department of the Prime	McCarthy	Native Title	Housing, Land and Culture	<p>1. Late last year the then Attorney General released an options paper on proposed reforms to the Native</p>	Written	4/6/18	

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	Minister and Cabinet				<p>Title Act;</p> <p>2. When will the exposure draft of proposed Government amendments to the Native Title Act be released?</p> <p>3. What consultation will occur with native title holders on the exposure draft?</p> <p>4. What is the proposed timeline for legislative change?</p>			
158.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Moore	Sustainable Development Goals	Office for Women	A request for the portfolio department with responsibility as a lead agency for particular Sustainable Development Goals(SDG), to provide information around any public speeches referring to the SDGs, any plans to include the SDG agenda in annual reports, on the department's website and in work plans for the coming year.	Written	5/6/18	
159.	Commonwealth Ombudsman	Patrick	Defence Abuse Reparation Scheme	Commonwealth Ombudsman	<p>1. How many applications have been made to the Commonwealth Ombudsman under the Defence Abuse Reparation Scheme?</p> <p>2. How many reparation payments have been recommended?</p> <p>3. How many reparation payments have been made?</p> <p>4. Have many applications have been rejected?</p>	Written	5/6/18	
160.	Commonwealth Ombudsman	Patrick	Travel Expenditure	Commonwealth Ombudsman	<p>1. Please provide details of the Qantas/Virgin split for official travel in terms of:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">a. Total number of tickets</p>	Written	5/6/18	

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					<p style="text-align: center;">b. Total value spent for official travel?</p> <p>2. In the event there is a disparity of greater than 65/35 in the split (either way), please provide a detailed reasons for the split in the context of a lowest practical fare policy.</p> <p>3. How many people in your organisation have been invited to (on the basis of their official position), and accepted, memberships from only the Qantas Chairman's Lounge?</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a. Could you please provide a breakdown of the travel for each of those individuals between Qantas and Virgin?</p> <p>4. How many people in your organisation have been invited to (on the basis of their official position), and accepted, memberships from only Virgin's The Club?</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a. Could you please provide a breakdown of the travel for each of those individuals between Qantas and Virgin?</p> <p>5. How many people in your organisation have been invited to (on the basis of their official position), and accepted, memberships from both the Qantas Chairman's Lounge and Virgin's The Club?</p>			
161.	Department of the Prime	Patrick	National Security	Cabinet	1. How many meetings of the National Security Committee of Cabinet have been held in the past	Written	5/6/18	

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	Minister and Cabinet		Committee of Cabinet		<p>year?</p> <p>2. How many meetings were held in Canberra? Were any NSC meetings held outside Canberra?</p> <p>3. Does the Cabinet Secretary attend all NSC meetings? If not, who serves as a substitute?</p>			
162.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Patrick	National Counter-Terrorism Exercises	National Security	<p>1. What is PM&C's role in national counter terrorism exercises? Do those exercises involve simulated meetings of the National Security Committee of Cabinet?</p> <p>2. What national counter-terrorism exercises have the Prime Minister and other NSC ministers been involved with in the life of the current government? Which ministers have been involved? Can you provide details, dates, and a broad description of the nature of those exercises?</p> <p>3. Did any of those exercises involve simulated Executive Council meetings or other meetings relating to the possible call out of the Australian Defence Force under the Defence Act 1903?</p> <p>4. If the Governor-General or his office were not involved in any such deliberations, who substituted for the role of the Governor-General in any such exercises?</p> <p>5. With regard to each exercise, under which sections of the Defence Act 1903 did the Governor-General,</p>	Written	5/6/18	

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					or his substitute, simulate ordering a call out the Defence Force?			
163.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Patrick	Travel Expenditure	Corporate	<p>For FY 16/17</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please provide details of the Qantas/Virgin split for official travel in terms of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Total number of tickets b. Total value spent for official travel? 2. In the event there is a disparity of greater than 65/35 in the split (either way), please provide a detailed reasons for the split in the context of a lowest practical fare policy. 3. How many people in your organisation have been invited to (on the basis of their official position), and accepted, memberships from only the Qantas Chairman's Lounge? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Could you please provide a breakdown of the travel for each of those individuals between Qantas and Virgin? 4. How many people in your organisation have been invited to (on the basis of their official position), and accepted, memberships from only Virgin's The Club? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Could you please provide a breakdown of the travel for each of those individuals between Qantas and Virgin? 	Written	5/6/18	

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					5. How many people in your organisation have been invited to (on the basis of their official position), and accepted, memberships from both the Qantas Chairman's Lounge and Virgin's The Club?			
164.	Australian Public Service Commission	Patrick	Travel Expenditure	Australian Public Service Commission	<p>For FY 16/17:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please provide details of the Qantas/Virgin split for official travel in terms of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Total number of tickets b. Total value spent for official travel? 2. In the event there is a disparity of greater than 65/35 in the split (either way), please provide a detailed reasons for the split in the context of a lowest practical fare policy. 3. How many people in your organisation have been invited to (on the basis of their official position), and accepted, memberships from only the Qantas Chairman's Lounge? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Could you please provide a breakdown of the travel for each of those individuals between Qantas and Virgin? 4. How many people in your organisation have been invited to (on the basis of their official position), and accepted, memberships from only Virgin's The Club? 	Written	5/6/18	

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					<p>a. Could you please provide a breakdown of the travel for each of those individuals between Qantas and Virgin?</p> <p>5. How many people in your organisation have been invited to (on the basis of their official position), and accepted, memberships from both the Qantas Chairman's Lounge and Virgin's The Club?</p>			
165.	Workplace Gender Equality Agency	Patrick	Travel Expenditure	Workplace Gender Equality Agency	<p>For FY 16/17:</p> <p>1. Please provide details of the Qantas/Virgin split for official travel in terms of:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">a. Total number of tickets</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">b. Total value spent for official travel?</p> <p>2. In the event there is a disparity of greater than 65/35 in the split (either way), please provide a detailed reasons for the split in the context of a lowest practical fare policy.</p> <p>3. How many people in your organisation have been invited to (on the basis of their official position), and accepted, memberships from only the Qantas Chairman's Lounge?</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">a. Could you please provide a breakdown of the travel for each of those individuals between Qantas and Virgin?</p> <p>4. How many people in your organisation have been</p>	Written	5/6/18	

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					<p>invited to (on the basis of their official position), and accepted, memberships from only Virgin's The Club?</p> <p>a. Could you please provide a breakdown of the travel for each of those individuals between Qantas and Virgin?</p> <p>5. How many people in your organisation have been invited to (on the basis of their official position), and accepted, memberships from both the Qantas Chairman's Lounge and Virgin's The Club?</p>			
166.	Digital Transformation Agency	Patrick	Travel Expenditure	Digital Transformation Agency	<p>For FY 16/17:</p> <p>1. Please provide details of the Qantas/Virgin split for official travel in terms of:</p> <p>a. Total number of tickets</p> <p>b. Total value spent for official travel?</p> <p>2. In the event there is a disparity of greater than 65/35 in the split (either way), please provide a detailed reasons for the split in the context of a lowest practical fare policy.</p> <p>3. How many people in your organisation have been invited to (on the basis of their official position), and accepted, memberships from only the Qantas Chairman's Lounge?</p> <p>a. Could you please provide a breakdown of</p>	Written	5/6/18	

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					<p style="text-align: center;">the travel for each of those individuals between Qantas and Virgin?</p> <p>4. How many people in your organisation have been invited to (on the basis of their official position), and accepted, memberships from only Virgin's The Club?</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a. Could you please provide a breakdown of the travel for each of those individuals between Qantas and Virgin?</p> <p>5. How many people in your organisation have been invited to (on the basis of their official position), and accepted, memberships from both the Qantas Chairman's Lounge and Virgin's The Club?</p>			
167.	Office of the Inspector General of Intelligence and Security	Patrick	Travel Expenditure	Office of the Inspector General of Intelligence and Security	<p>For FY 16/17:</p> <p>1. Please provide details of the Qantas/Virgin split for official travel in terms of:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a. Total number of tickets</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">b. Total value spent for official travel?</p> <p>2. In the event there is a disparity of greater than 65/35 in the split (either way), please provide a detailed reasons for the split in the context of a lowest practical fare policy.</p> <p>3. How many people in your organisation have been invited to (on the basis of their official position),</p>	Written	5/6/18	

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					<p>and accepted, memberships from only the Qantas Chairman's Lounge?</p> <p>a. Could you please provide a breakdown of the travel for each of those individuals between Qantas and Virgin?</p> <p>4. How many people in your organisation have been invited to (on the basis of their official position), and accepted, memberships from only Virgin's The Club?</p> <p>a. Could you please provide a breakdown of the travel for each of those individuals between Qantas and Virgin?</p> <p>5. How many people in your organisation have been invited to (on the basis of their official position), and accepted, memberships from both the Qantas Chairman's Lounge and Virgin's The Club?</p>			
168.	Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General	Patrick	Travel Expenditure	Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General	<p>For FY 16/17:</p> <p>1. Please provide details of the Qantas/Virgin split for official travel in terms of:</p> <p>a. Total number of tickets</p> <p>b. Total value spent for official travel?</p> <p>2. In the event there is a disparity of greater than 65/35 in the split (either way), please provide a detailed reasons for the split in the context of a</p>	Written	5/6/18	

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					<p>lowest practical fare policy.</p> <p>3. How many people in your organisation have been invited to (on the basis of their official position), and accepted, memberships from only the Qantas Chairman's Lounge?</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a. Could you please provide a breakdown of the travel for each of those individuals between Qantas and Virgin?</p> <p>4. How many people in your organisation have been invited to (on the basis of their official position), and accepted, memberships from only Virgin's The Club?</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a. Could you please provide a breakdown of the travel for each of those individuals between Qantas and Virgin?</p> <p>5. How many people in your organisation have been invited to (on the basis of their official position), and accepted, memberships from both the Qantas Chairman's Lounge and Virgin's The Club?</p>			
169.	Australian National Audit Office	Patrick	Travel Expenditure	Australian National Audit Office	<p>For FY 16/17:</p> <p>1. Please provide details of the Qantas/Virgin split for official travel in terms of:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a. Total number of tickets</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">b. Total value spent for official travel?</p>	Written	5/6/18	

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					<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. In the event there is a disparity of greater than 65/35 in the split (either way), please provide a detailed reasons for the split in the context of a lowest practical fare policy. 3. How many people in your organisation have been invited to (on the basis of their official position), and accepted, memberships from only the Qantas Chairman's Lounge? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Could you please provide a breakdown of the travel for each of those individuals between Qantas and Virgin? 4. How many people in your organisation have been invited to (on the basis of their official position), and accepted, memberships from only Virgin's The Club? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Could you please provide a breakdown of the travel for each of those individuals between Qantas and Virgin? 5. How many people in your organisation have been invited to (on the basis of their official position), and accepted, memberships from both the Qantas Chairman's Lounge and Virgin's The Club? 			
170.	Office of National Assessments	Patrick	Travel Expenditure	Office of National Assessments	For FY 16/17: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please provide details of the Qantas/Virgin split for 	Written	5/6/18	

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					<p>official travel in terms of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Total number of tickets b. Total value spent for official travel? <p>2. In the event there is a disparity of greater than 65/35 in the split (either way), please provide a detailed reasons for the split in the context of a lowest practical fare policy.</p> <p>3. How many people in your organisation have been invited to (on the basis of their official position), and accepted, memberships from only the Qantas Chairman's Lounge?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Could you please provide a breakdown of the travel for each of those individuals between Qantas and Virgin? <p>4. How many people in your organisation have been invited to (on the basis of their official position), and accepted, memberships from only Virgin's The Club?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Could you please provide a breakdown of the travel for each of those individuals between Qantas and Virgin? <p>5. How many people in your organisation have been invited to (on the basis of their official position), and accepted, memberships from both the Qantas Chairman's Lounge and Virgin's The Club?</p>			

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171.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Dodson	Out-of-Home Care	Education, Community Safety and Health	<p>Senator DODSON: I'm following up on the Closing the Gap conference that was held, where delegates asked about a target to reduce the rate of First Nation children in out-of-home care, given that they are COAG goals or they are mutually agreed goals. I'm not sure even where those goals are at the moment, but I'll come to that.</p> <p>Senator Scullion: I have written to the first ministers in every jurisdiction. We have had discussions on this matter. I guess you should take some credit for that. I've asked them and urged them to address the issues of overrepresentation of Indigenous children in child protection. I've made it clear that I'm also keen to hear from them about what opportunities they may see for a collaborative effort between our governments.</p> <p>Senator DODSON: I'm not wanting to jeopardise any confidentiality, Minister, but is it possible to have the letter tabled at some point?</p> <p>Senator Scullion: Usually the process would be to check, but I'm quite sure I will be able to get that. Where we can, we will. I will check for those letters.</p> <p>Senator DODSON: It would be very helpful, thank you, Minister.</p>	FPA Friday 25 May 2018, page 48, 49		
172.	Department of the Prime	Siewert	Report – Youth	Education, Community	Senator SIEWERT: ... I'm not sure whether this is the right place to ask this question, so tell me if it's the next	FPA Friday 25 May		

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	Minister and Cabinet		Summit	Safety and Health	<p>one. I'm going to mangle the pronunciation, so I apologise already. The report that is being done into the youth voices, the <i>Guthoo</i>—</p> <p>Ms Hefren-Webb: The <i>Women's Voices</i> report?</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: No. Not that. I asked extensively Commissioner Oscar yesterday about it. It's the program, as I understand it, that was commissioned by PM&C on following up in Kalgoorlie the approach in Kalgoorlie. I think it was the Aboriginal youth—</p> <p>Ms Saastamoinen: Is that the youth summit?</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: A study has been done which I understand was commissioned by PM&C. I think the summit was part of it.</p> <p>Senator Scullion: Yes. There was a survey conducted as part of that.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Yes.</p> <p>Senator Scullion: The youth conducted it themselves.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: The report has now gone to you, I understand.</p> <p>Senator Scullion: Yes.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: And had some worrying findings. What is the process from here? How do you intend responding to it?</p> <p>Senator Scullion: Well, the report was part of this whole process. I'm actually surprised it's not public</p>	2018, page 53, 54		

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					<p>already. I'll have to find out the status of the report shortly. I'll try to get back to you.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: It's on the website.</p> <p>Senator Scullion: So it's made public.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Yes.</p> <p>Senator Scullion: So in terms of our response—</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: I knew you'd tell me it's coming.</p> <p>Senator Scullion: I wasn't contemplating a formal response to it. There are some broad recommendations that will follow in terms of infrastructure and some of our youth investment, some of which we've already done, which is not the infrastructure stuff. As is usually the case, whilst that report makes particular recommendations about sites to do things, there are other groups in the community who say, 'Well, we're not happy with that.' That's okay. We're using the report as a basis for further discussion with the community. We're adopting some of those recommendations that are pretty self-evident. I was actually at the symposium and working with kids. There was a theme that came through about some sort of investments we had to make. I'm more than happy to take some of our responses on notice. Unless someone can remind me otherwise, it wasn't my intention to have some sort of a formalised response to the report. It wasn't the nature of</p>			

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					that report.			
173.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McAllister	Report of the Religious Freedoms Review	Government	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Prime Minister announced that he received the report of the Religious Freedoms Review last Friday, the 18th of May. When will the Government release that report to the public? 2. What is the reason for the delay? 3. Why is the Government unwilling to let the public see the report of the Religious Freedoms Review now? 	Written	5/6/18	
174.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McAllister	Report of the Religious Freedoms Review - Response	Government	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Prime Minister asked the Attorney-General to lead the Government's deliberation and response to the Report. Did the Prime Minister set a deadline for the Attorney-General to provide a response? 2. When does the Government expect to release its response to the Report? 	Written	5/6/18	
175.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McAllister	Report of the Religious Freedoms Review - Deliberations	Government	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the process for the Government's deliberations on the Report? 2. Which Ministers will be consulted as a part of the deliberations? 3. Is the process of deliberation internal to the Attorney-General's Department and the Department of Prime Minister & Cabinet? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) If the process is not only internal to the PM&C and the AGD, will Members of Parliament be consulted? 	Written	5/6/18	

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. If yes, which Members of Parliament will be consulted? ii. If yes, which Members of Parliament have been consulted as at 5 June 2018? b) If the process is not only internal to PM&C and AGD, which external stakeholders will be consulted? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. If yes, which external stakeholders will be consulted? ii. If yes, which external stakeholders have been consulted as at 5 June 2018? 			
176.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McAllister	Religious Freedoms Review - Cost	Government	What was the total cost of this Religious Freedoms Review?	Written	5/6/18	
177.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McAllister	Religious Freedoms Review - Submissions	Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many submissions were received by the Review? 2. How many of those submissions were “form letters”? 3. How many of those submissions are public? 	Written	5/6/18	
178.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McAllister	Religious Freedoms Review – Consultations	Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Were consultation meetings conducted in private? 2. If consultation members were conducted in private, why was the decision made to conduct the hearings in private? 	Written	5/6/18	
179.	Department of	McAllister	Religious	Government	1. Were records kept of the evidence given during the	Written	5/6/18	

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	the Prime Minister and Cabinet		Freedoms Review – Records of Evidence		<p>consultations?</p> <p>2. If records were not kept, why were no records kept of those consultation meetings?</p> <p>3. Were people and organisations making submissions advised of the fact that no records were to be kept from their oral evidence given during the consultations?</p> <p>4. Is it correct that submitters were informed that: "Panel members and the Secretariat will take notes but there will not be a formal record of the meeting</p> <p>5. If it is the case that records were not kept, and transcripts of evidence were not prepared, is it standard practice to not make formal records of consultation meetings?</p> <p>6. If evidence and records were not kept, why was the practice of not keeping a record of the evidence given during the consultation adopted?</p> <p>7. Who made the decision that records should not be kept?</p>			
180.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McAllister	Religious Freedoms Review – Analysis of Submissions	Government	<p>1. Did the Secretariat supporting the Inquiry provide an analysis of the written submissions to panel members?</p> <p>2. If so, will the Government release that analysis?</p>	Written	5/6/18	
181.	Department of	McAllister	Religious	Government	How was it decided who would be invited to attend	Written	5/6/18	

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	the Prime Minister and Cabinet		Freedoms Review – Consultations		consultation meetings?			
182.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McAllister	Religious Freedoms Review – Threats	Government	In the six months since marriage equality become law, are you aware of any threats to religious freedom that have arisen from the change to our laws, a change that was overwhelmingly supported by the Australian public and both Houses of the Federal Parliament?	Written	5/6/18	
183.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McAllister	Religious Freedoms Review – Panel Members	Government	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why was an additional panel member, Professor Aroney, added to the panel sometime after the original panel composition was announced? 2. Was consideration given to the possibility of additional panel members other than Professor Aroney? 3. If consideration was given to the possibility of additional panel members, who else was considered? 4. If no other candidates were considered, what made Professor Aroney the right person for the job? 5. Who made the final decision to appoint Professor Aroney? 	Written	5/6/18	
184.	Digital Transformation Agency	McAllister	Digital Transformation Cabinet Subcommittee	Digital Transformation Agency	Senator McALLISTER: Before we leave that, can I just check what it is doing that is different from the old digital transformation subcommittee. It's a serious question. We used to have one. Then <i>The Australian</i>	FPA Friday 21 May 2018, page 107		

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					<p>reports, in a big splash, that there's going to be a cabinet subcommittee to make billions in savings to digitise data and increase online services. In what way is this cabinet subcommittee any different at all, Minister, to the previous cabinet subcommittee, which existed to do, as far as I can tell, exactly the same thing?</p> <p>Senator McGrath: To assist you in terms of answering that question, I think perhaps that could be put to PM&C tomorrow.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: You are the repping minister here at the table.</p> <p>Senator McGRATH: But I think it's more appropriate. I can take it on notice, but I would suggest, to be more helpful, that the questions could be put to PM&C tomorrow.</p>			
185.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Wong	Apprenticeship Program Agreement	PMO	<p>Senator WONG: Was the apprenticeship program agreement, which involves the expenditure of public money, agreed by the cabinet or a subcommittee of the cabinet?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: All aspects of our engagement with crossbench senators, including One Nation senators, went through the appropriate processes at all times and had the appropriate authority at all times.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Senator Cormann, it is not a difficult</p>	FPA Friday 22 May 2018, page 8		

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					<p>question. I'm not asserting there's not an appropriate process; I'm asking whether or not it went to cabinet. That is a legitimate question to ask and ought be answered.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I'll take that on notice to make sure I give you the appropriate answer. However, what I can say to you is that, at all times, anything that was put on the table, so to speak, in the course of the discussions with One Nation senators or other senators had the appropriate policy authority to be put forward in that fashion.</p>															
186.	Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General	Wong	Budget Measures	Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General	<p>With reference to Budget Paper No. 2 on page 167, which states the Office of the Official Secretary has received \$1.4 million of additional funding “to support the activities of the Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General including for outreach and engagement activities and to maintain the Australian Honours and Awards System”:</p> <p>Governor-General — additional funding</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Expense (\$m)</th> <th>2017-18</th> <th>2018-19</th> <th>2019-20</th> <th>2020-21</th> <th>2021-22</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General</td> <td>-</td> <td>1.4</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The Government will provide \$1.4 million in 2018-19 to support the activities of the Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General including for outreach and engagement activities and to maintain the Australian Honours and Awards System.</p> <p>(1) Was this funding the result of new policy proposals</p>	Expense (\$m)	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General	-	1.4	-	-	-	Written	6/6/18	
Expense (\$m)	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22															
Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General	-	1.4	-	-	-															

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					<p>or other submissions from the office?</p> <p>(2) Were any new policy proposals or other submissions made by the office into the budget process?</p> <p>(3) Noting the evidence given by the Official Secretary in the hearing, can further detail of how the office intends to utilise this additional funding be provided, for example, will additional staff be employed?</p> <p>(4) Was the Office of the Official Secretary required to demonstrate any efficiencies or savings in return for this extra funding and if so, what are these?</p>			
187.	Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General	Wong	Budget	Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General	<p>(1) What is the overall budget for the office for 2018-19?</p> <p>(2) Does this represent an increase, decrease or no change from 2018-19?</p> <p>(3) What is the trajectory for the budget over the forward estimates?</p> <p>(4) How does this affect the capacity of the office to execute its functions in support of the Governor-General, including the operation of the official residences?</p> <p>(5) Are there are any other budget measures affecting the office, including for other portfolios where these may have an impact on the Office of the</p>	Written	6/6/18	

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					Official Secretary and if so, what are these?			
188.	Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor- General Transferred - Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Wong	Royal Wedding	Ministerial Support	(1) Were any gifts presented to the Duke and Duchess of Sussex on behalf of the people of Australia? (2) If so, what were the gifts? (3) What was their value?	Written	6/6/18	
189.	Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor- General	Wong	Order of Australia – Instructions to the Council for the Order of Australia	Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor- General	(1) Have there been any instructions issued to the Council for the Order of Australia to look more favourably on nominations of women? (2) Have any structural changes been considered in addition to current initiatives as outlined by the Official Secretary in the hearing, such as quotas or targets?	Written	6/6/18	
190.	Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor- General	Wong	Order of Australia - Promotions	Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor- General	Noting recent examples of women who held an award at one grade, such as Member of the Order of Australia, being promoted to a higher grade, such as Officer of the Order of Australia: (1) How do such promotions come about? (2) Are they the result of targeting by the Council for	Written	6/6/18	

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					<p>the Order of Australia, or by the Office of the Official Secretary, or by the Commonwealth Government, or any other body?</p> <p>(3) Is there a concern that women have not just been underrepresented, but that they have been selected for awards below what men with equivalent records of service have achieved?</p>			
191.	Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General	Wong	Order of Australia – Council Vacancies	Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General	<p>Noting that on page 108 of the 2016-17 Annual Report it identifies three of the state appointees to the Council for the Order of Australia were unfilled:</p> <p>(1) Are there currently any vacancies on the Council, and if so, for what categories of member?</p> <p>(2) What processes are in place to ensure the Council retains its full complement of members?</p>	Written	6/6/18	
192.	Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General	Wong	Contact with the Executive Government	Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General	<p>(1) Outside of meetings of the Executive Council, are any arrangements in place for regular or irregular meetings between the Official Secretary and any members of the Executive Government, including ministers and their staff?</p> <p>(2) Does the Official Secretary or any of his staff meet with the Prime Minister or his office in advance of appearances at estimates hearings?</p> <p>(3) If so, when was the last time the Official Secretary or any of his staff met with the Prime Minister or</p>	Written	6/6/18	

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					his office? (4) At whose request are these meetings held? (5) Where do these meetings take place? (6) What matters are discussed?			
193.	Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor- General	Wong	Contact with the Executive Government – Meetings with Government Departments or Agencies	Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor- General	Does the Official Secretary meet with any secretaries or other officers of government departments or agencies, be it the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet or others, on a routine or any other basis?	Written	6/6/18	
194.	Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor- General	Wong	Staff Travel with their Excellencies	Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor- General	(1) How many staff usually travel with the Governor-General and Mrs Cosgrove? (2) Is there a standing complement of staff that would advance any event and attend with Their Excellencies? (3) Does His Excellency always have a senior staff member travel with him? (4) How are the number of staff who travel, and the individual personnel, determined?	Written	6/6/18	
195.	Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor- General	Wong	Overseas Travel	Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor- General	(1) What overseas travel has been undertaken by the Governor-General since the 2017-18 Budget estimates? (2) How many of these trips were as the result of invitations?	Written	6/6/18	

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					(3) How many were at the request of the Commonwealth Government? (4) How many were of His Excellency's own initiative?			
196.	Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General	Wong	Overseas Travel – Approval and Funding	Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General	(1) What the process for approval of travel by the Governor-General, for example, is approval required from Executive Council or a minister? (2) Is funding for travel at the sole discretion of the Office of the Official Secretary? (3) Does it come from the office's overall budget, or is there a separate fund? (4) What is the budget for overseas travel by Their Excellencies in 2018-19?	Written	6/6/18	
197.	Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General	Wong	Domestic Travel	Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General	(1) How have Their Excellencies have divided their time between the different states and territories of the Commonwealth? (2) How have schedules for domestic travel been prioritised?	Written	6/6/18	
198.	Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General	Wong	State Visits	Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General	(1) How many state visits to Australia have been hosted by the Governor-General since the 2017-18 Budget estimates? (2) What countries have been represented?	Written	6/6/18	
199.	Office of the Official	Wong	Facilities Upgrades –	Office of the Official	(1) What further upgrades have occurred in the official residences, Government House in Canberra and	Written	6/6/18	

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	Secretary to the Governor-General		Official Residences	Secretary to the Governor-General	Admiralty House in Sydney, since the 2017-18 Budget estimates? (2) How many of these have been programmed works and how many have been the result of equipment failure or unforeseen need? (3) What is the budget for facilities upgrades of this nature?			
200.	Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General	Wong	Facilities Upgrades – Admiralty House	Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General	The 2016-17 Annual report states, at pages 3 to 4: <i>The official Houses are at once uniquely Australian and unpretentious, but befitting of their representational roles. This year, the Office has commenced a substantial program of works at Admiralty House to improve disability access, work health and safety enhancements, and to restore functionality to back-of-house service areas. It will be back 'on-line' later in 2017.</i> (1) When was the work at Admiralty House completed? (2) When did the property come back 'on-line'? (3) What was the total cost of these works? (4) Can a breakdown be provided?	Written	6/6/18	
201.	Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-	Wong	Facilities Upgrades - Status	Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-	The 2016-17 Annual report states, at page 4: <i>In 2017-18 we will complete the major program of works at Admiralty House, and move on to other programmed works including replanting of the Bravery</i>	Written	6/6/18	

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	General			General	<i>Garden, a Fire Services System Upgrade, and HVAC replacement in the Chancery.</i> What is the status of these projects, costs where applicable or where relevant, budgeted costs?			
202.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Wong	Andrew Fisher Building – Construction Work	Corporate	<p>(1) Noting are a number of transportable huts located on the Parliament House side of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet’s headquarters, the Andrew Fisher Building, which are visible from Kings Avenue:</p> <p>(2) Can the Department advise what building or construction work is taking place in the Andrew Fisher Building?</p> <p>(3) What necessitated this construction?</p> <p>(4) Who ordered the construction?</p> <p>(5) What is the cost of the construction work?</p> <p>(6) Who is meeting the costs and how are they to be met, from within ordinary departmental expenditure or has there been a special appropriation or policy proposal?</p> <p>(7) What is its expected timeline?</p> <p>(8) Have staff been relocated as a result of the building work?</p> <p>(9) If so, have they been relocated to another place within the Andrew Fisher building, or externally?</p> <p>(10) If externally, to what location?</p>	Written	6/6/18	

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203.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Wong	Andrew Fisher Building - Occupancy	Corporate	(1) Is the Andrew Fisher Building currently at capacity? (2) If not, what percentage of office space is vacant? (3) Is the Andrew Fisher Building exclusively occupied by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, or are staff of other agencies located in this building, including agencies within the Prime Minister's portfolio? (4) If there are staff of other agencies, how many and which other agencies? (5) Is the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet anticipating any changes to the composition of staff located in the Andrew Fisher Building in the next twelve months? (6) If so, which staff are moving in and which staff are moving out? (7) Who determines whether staff are located in the Andrew Fisher Building or elsewhere, or if an agency is relocated there?	Written	6/6/18	
204.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Wong	Andrew Fisher Building - Name	Corporate	(1) Is the name of the Andrew Fisher Building referenced on official departmental letterhead? (2) If not, why not?	Written	6/6/18	
205.	Department of the Prime	Wong	Conflict of Interest	Cabinet	With reference to Senator Birmingham's response to a question at the 2018-19 Budget estimates hearings of	Written	6/6/18	

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	Minister and Cabinet				<p>the Education and Employment Legislation Committee on 31 May 2018, where he said he is aware of a cabinet colleague who has an interest in a child care and declared this to cabinet in 2015 when changes to childcare system were first discussed:</p> <p><i>BIRMINGHAM: But I can certainly recall that colleague who does have, have interest in the space, has declared that he reminded people of, of the interest in the discussions taking place. Um, in relation to the budget decisions taken in 2015 and handling of any, any declarations of interests at that time, I would suggest that questions are noticed to the department of the Prime Minister and cabinet would be the right way to, to seek that clarification but I am confident based on the experience since I've been a member of the cabinet that, that my colleagues, those I'm aware have interests certainly made clear that, that they are declared at the time.</i></p> <p>(1) Given the Senator has confirmed a conflict was identified declared, can the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet clarify who this minister is?</p> <p>(2) Can Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet confirm if this person has declared their conflict to cabinet in line with the Declarations of Private</p>			

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					<p>Interests section of the Cabinet Handbook that was in force at the time?</p> <p>(3) Can Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet confirm if this minister withdrew from discussions and decisions about the matter they declared a conflict?</p> <p>(4) Can Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet confirm if this minister has declared their conflict to cabinet, in line with the Declarations of Private Interests section of the Cabinet Handbook, in this term of parliament and, if so, why they needed to disclose it?</p> <p>(5) Can Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet confirm if this minister withdrew from discussions and decisions about the matter they declared a conflict in this term of parliament?</p>			
206.	Department of the Prime Minister & Cabinet	McCarthy	Community Development Program	Community and Economic Development	(1) how many/what proportion of participants are likely to move into the CDP penalty zone in year one, and then year two of the framework's application based on current levels of non-compliance; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. what proportion of these currently have an identified capability limitation; b. what proportion are Indigenous; c. what proportion are youth. 	Written	8/6/18	

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207.	Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman	Kitching	Complaints – Defence Force Ombudsman	Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman	(1) How many complaints have been received to date by the Defence Force Ombudsman in relation to abuse in the Defence Force? a. How many complaints have been completed? b. What is the breakdown in terms of the categories of abuse? c. How many complaints have been recommended for repatriation payments?	Written	8/6/18	
208.	Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman	Kitching	Incident Investigations	Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman	Has any charges cases been referred to Defence or other agencies to investigate an incident? If yes, how many?	Written	8/6/18	
209.	Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman	Kitching	Reports	Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman	Are any of the reports against current members of the ADF? If yes, how many? What is the process in these circumstances?	Written	8/6/18	
210.	Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman	Kitching	Standard of Proof	Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman	Can the Department detail the practical changes with regards to the changes in standard of proof between the DART and the DFO?	Written	8/6/18	
211.	Office of the	Kitching	Categories of	Office of the	The DART had four categories of abuse while the DFO	Written	8/6/18	

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	Commonwealth Ombudsman		Abuse	Commonwealth Ombudsman	only has two; can the department explain this change and how they will ensure those who would have been eligible under DART do not miss out under these changes?			
212.	Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman	Kitching	Interactions Between Agencies	Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman	What is the interaction between complaints made to the DFO and the Department of Veterans' Affairs, if it appears that an individual may be eligible for further assistance from the Department of Veterans Affairs?	Written	8/6/18	
213.	Workplace Gender Equality Agency	Moore	Functions	Workplace Gender Equality Agency	In relation to any events or functions hosted by the Office in the 2017-18 financial year, could the following please be provided: list of functions; list of attendees; function venue; itemised costs (GST inclusive); details of any food serviced; details of any wine or champagnes served including brand and vintage; and details of any entertainment provided.	Written	14/6/18	
214.	Workplace Gender Equality Agency	Moore	Staffing	Workplace Gender Equality Agency	Could you please provide: a. The budgeted ASL, how many of these positions are currently filled and whether staff are permanent or on contract b. The current organisational chart for the	Written	14/6/18	

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					Workplace Gender Equality Agency			
215.	Australian Public Service Commission	Moore	Balancing the Future Strategy – Maternity Leave Review	Australian Public Service Commission	In response to question on notice number 161, about the Balancing the Future strategy commitment to review the Maternity Leave Act (p. 13), you told us that work on the review has not begun and you hadn't even decided who will conduct the review. a. Does the APSC still plan to conduct a review the Maternity Leave? b. When will the review begin? Who will be conducting it.	Written	14/6/18	
216.	Australian Public Service Commission	Moore	Balancing the Future Strategy – Differential Impact of gender training	Australian Public Service Commission	The Strategy also commits the APSC to develop training on the differential impact of gender in mainstream policy development. In response to a QoN from 2017 Supplementary Estimates, we were told that an MoU had been signed with the Office for Women that came into effect on 26 June 2017 but that formal agreement to the project had not been provided through the Secretaries Equity and Diversity Council. a. Has agreement since been provided? b. Why was the commitment included in the Balancing the Future Strategy if the council had not agreed to it? c. Has work now commenced? d. When will the materials and training be implemented?	Written	14/6/18	

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217.	Australian Public Service Commission	Moore	Balancing the Future Strategy - training	Australian Public Service Commission	(1) Has the APSC released its best practice guide and training on how to manage flexible work arrangements? (p. 13 of strategy) (2) Has the APSC developed and implemented a return to work framework for working parents that also encourages men to use parental leave provisions? How are you encouraging men to use parental leave provisions? (p. 13) (3) Has training for APS managers on mitigating unconscious bias been developed by the APSC? How is it being rolled out? (p.11)	Written	14/6/18	
218.	Australian Public Service Commission	Moore	Balancing the Future Strategy - Employer of Choice for Gender Equality	Australian Public Service Commission	How many agencies have met the criteria of the Workplace Gender Equality Agency 'Employer of Choice for Gender Equality' citation? (p. 11)	Written	14/6/18	
219.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Watt	Women's Safety Package	Education, Community Safety and Health	The Turnbull Government provided \$2.5 million to "upgrade... five airstrips in the Torres Strait" as part of the Women's Safety Package. How many times has the air strip been used to respond specifically to Domestic and Family Violence calls?	Written	14/6/18	
220.	Department of the Prime	Watt	Women's Safety	Education, Community	Turnbull stated that \$12.3 million in the Women's Safety Package was allocated over three years (2016-17	Written	14/6/18	

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	Minister and Cabinet		Package	Safety and Health	to 2018-19) to Prisoner Through Care services. (1) What evaluation has been done on the effectiveness of the Prisoner Through Care program? (2) Can a copy please be made available?			
221.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Watt	Women's Safety Package	Education, Community Safety and Health	Is the Cross Border Domestic Violence Intelligence Desk up and running?	Written	14/6/18	
222.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Watt	Women's Safety Package	Education, Community Safety and Health	As part of the Women's Safety Package, Turnbull stated previously that of the \$1.1 million to help remote indigenous communities prevent and better respond to the incidence of domestic violence through targeted support, \$800,000 had been made to Abt Associates. (1) To date, how much has been paid to Abt Associates? (2) Where has the training been implemented? (3) Was there a tender process to determine which organisation would carry out this measure?	Written	14/6/18	
223.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Watt	Third Action Plan of the National Plan to Reduce Violence against	Education, Community Safety and Health	Of the \$25 million for services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians experiencing family violence announced on 28 October 2016: (1) How much has been allocated, and to what; (2) How much has been spent, when, and on what?	Written	14/6/18	

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			Women and their Children					
224.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Giff	Ice addiction	Education, Community Safety and Health	Please advise why annual federal funding will cease for the Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council (ADAC)? a. What evaluation processes were used? b. Is this decision under reconsideration?	Written	14/6/18	
225.	Office for Women	Moore	Staffing	Office for Women	Could you please provide: a. The budgeted ASL, how many of these positions are currently filled and whether staff are permanent or on contract b. The rate of staff turnover in the Office for Women in the 2017-18 financial year. c. The rate of turnover for the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet in the 2017-18 financial year d. The current organisational chart of the Office for Women.	Written	14/6/18	
226.	Office for Women	Moore	Functions	Office for Women	In relation to any events or functions hosted by the Office in the 2017-18 financial year, could the following please be provided: list of functions; list of attendees; function venue; itemised costs (GST inclusive); details of any food serviced; details of any wine or champagnes served including brand and vintage; and details of any entertainment provided.	Written	14/6/18	

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227.	Office for Women	Moore	Women in STEM package	Office for Women	<p>(1) Could you please outline how the \$4.5 million allocated for the Women in STEM package will be split over the four initiatives listed and how funding for each of those items will be distributed across the forward estimates?</p> <p>(2) The package seems to include the production of two separate strategies to encourage women to participate in STEM fields. What is the purpose of producing two different strategies? How much overlap will there be between the strategies? How will the production of the strategies be coordinated to reduce overlap?</p> <p>(3) Will the Office for Women be producing the Women in Science Strategy? Which Department will produce the strategy? How many staff will be allocated to this task? Has work on the strategy commenced? When is the strategy expected to be released?</p> <p>(4) When will the Decadal Plan for Women in Science be released?</p> <p>(5) Is there any funding set aside to implement either of the strategies? Will there be?</p> <p>(6) How will the Girls in STEM Toolkit be produced? By the Department? Will the work be put to tender – if so, when? When will the STEM Toolkit be</p>	Written	14/6/18	

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					released? How will it be made available? Is there any funding allocated for the rollout or promotion of the toolkit?			
228.	Office for Women	Moore	eSafety	Office for Women	The Minister for Women has stated that she will meet regularly with companies including Facebook and Google about eSafety. a. How often is the Minister meeting with these companies? b. When did the first meeting occur? Have there been subsequent meetings? c. What is the intended purpose of these meetings? d. Have there been any outcomes thus far? e. Could you provide on notice, the dates of the meetings and attendees?	Written	14/6/18	
229.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Dodson	NPARIH - Housing	Housing, Land and Culture	(1) When the NPARIH was entered into, what were the rates of overcrowding in remote and very remote regions in a. Western Australia b. South Australia c. Northern Territory d. Queensland. (2) What are the current rates of overcrowding in each of those jurisdictions? a. Western Australia	Written	14/6/18	

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					b. South Australia c. Northern Territory d. Queensland. (3) The review into this program found that an additional 5,500 homes are required by 2028 to reduce levels of overcrowding in remote area to acceptable levels. a. What is considered an 'acceptable level' of overcrowding? (4) Of these 5,500 homes required by 2028, the review claims that 1,100 are needed in QLD, 1,300 are needed in WA and 300 in South Australia – are those figures now increased?															
230.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Dodson	NPARIH - New houses and Refurbishments	Housing, Land and Culture	(1) Can you please provide a breakdown of the number of new houses built and the number of refurbished houses in each jurisdiction over the life of this program? <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;"># of houses</th> <th style="text-align: center;">New Houses</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Refurbishments</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Western Australia</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">South Australia</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Queensland</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	# of houses	New Houses	Refurbishments	Western Australia			South Australia			Queensland			Written	14/6/18	
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					<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Northern Territory</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>(2) Does the department have figures on the average cost of a new house or refurbishment in each jurisdiction?</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Avge Cost of Refurbishments</th> <th>New Houses</th> <th>Refurbishments</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Western Australia</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>South Australia</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Queensland</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Northern Territory</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Northern Territory			Avge Cost of Refurbishments	New Houses	Refurbishments	Western Australia			South Australia			Queensland			Northern Territory					
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231.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Dodson	NPARIH – Employment Opportunities	Housing, Land and Culture	<p>Has the department any data on the number of jobs that have been created as a consequence of this ten year program.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Jobs Created</th> <th>New Houses</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Western Australia</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>South Australia</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Queensland</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Northern Territory</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Jobs Created	New Houses	Western Australia		South Australia		Queensland		Northern Territory		Written	14/6/18									
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232.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Dodson	NPARIH – State Contributions	Housing, Land and Culture	<p>Can you please provide figures on state and territory contributions, both the actual construction and refurbishment as well as to infrastructure?</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Stat Contributions</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Building and Construction</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Infrastructure</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Western Australia</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">South Australia</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Queensland</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Northern Territory</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Stat Contributions	Building and Construction	Infrastructure	Western Australia			South Australia			Queensland			Northern Territory			Written	14/6/18	
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233.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Dodson	National Agreements - Remote Housing	Housing, Land and Culture	<p>(1) The budget papers make clear that there is no further funding for the National Partnership on remote housing from July 2018. Instead, the government will provide \$550 m over five years for remote housing in the Northern Territory. Can the Department confirm that (beyond transitional payments for works to be completed) there is no funding allocated in the budget for remote housing in Western Australia, South Australia or Queensland?</p> <p>(2) Can you confirm whether any transitional funding</p>	Written	14/6/18																

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					has been allocated for those jurisdictions after 1 July?			
234.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Dodson	National Agreements - Remote Housing	Housing, Land and Culture	(1) In your press release on budget night, you claim that “Negotiations remain ongoing with Western Australia, South Australia and Queensland however the Commonwealth remains hopeful of reaching an agreement with these jurisdictions soon.” (2) What stage are those negotiations up to? (3) Will agreement be reached before 1 July?	Written	14/6/18	
235.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Dodson	National Agreements - Remote Housing - Funding	Housing, Land and Culture	(1) The Minister has indicated in the past that you would match state commitments, is the Government still committed to matching any state contribution put forward? (2) Have any financial contributions been put forward by those states?	Written	14/6/18	
236.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Dodson	National Agreements - Remote Housing - Funding	Housing, Land and Culture	(1) In April this year, the QLD Government wrote to you indicating that it would be willing to put \$1.08 billion into remote housing. (2) Has there been a reply from the PM or the Treasurer to the Qld Premier and Treasurer on this issue? (3) Given the Minister has indicated that the Government would match funding, has the Government agreed to match the QLD	Written	14/6/18	

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					contribution?			
237.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Dodson	Indigenous Advancement Strategy – Funding for Marninwarnti kura Fitzroy Women's Resources Centre	Education, Community Safety and Health	<p>Is it correct that Marninwarntikura Fitzroy Women's Resources Centre has lost 60 per cent of their funding through the IAS?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What was the reason for this major cut in funding? • Did Department officials consult with the Resource Centre before the funding cuts were imposed. • Please detail the consultation processes involved. 	Written	14/6/18	
238.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Dodson	Indigenous Advancement Strategy – Funding for Presbyterian Ladies College Perth	Education, Community Safety and Health	<p>(1) Is it correct that the Presbyterian Ladies College Perth, has received more than \$4 million in direct funding from the IAS plus an additional undisclosed sum through another organisation that receives IAS money, the Australian Indigenous Education Foundation, for scholarship placements?</p> <p>(2) Please indicate how many students the school hosted last year and the allocation per student of IAS funding?</p>	Written	14/6/18	
239.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Dodson	IAS Funding	Programme Office	<p>In answer to my QoN PM 195, from Additional Budget Estimates, relating to IAS funding over four years from 2014 it was identified that :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3,186 non-indigenous organisations received funding under IAS, or some 59 per cent. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ By contrast, only 20.7% of the funded 	Written	14/6/18	

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					<p style="text-align: center;">organisations were identified as Indigenous.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is that funding distribution still the case in current expenditure to 2018? 			
240.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Dodson	Closing the Gap – 2018 Budget	Policy, Analysis and Evaluation Division	Please highlight and elaborate any new funding commitments announced in the 2018 budget papers addressing the Closing the Gap strategy?	Written	14/6/18	
241.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Dodson	Closing the Gap – 2018 Budget – National Agreements	Policy, Analysis and Evaluation Division	<p>(1) In Budget paper No 3, on Federal Financial Relations, can the Department confirm the national partnership agreements that relate explicitly to the Closing the Gap?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. P 15 (Table2.4) Indigenous health: \$15.9 m for the States b. P 19 funding for cross-border (TSI) health: \$4.8m for Qld c. P25 National partnership on NT remote Aboriginal investment: \$6.4m for NT d. P29 NT remote Aboriginal investment children and schooling \$37.5m for NT e. P 38 NT remote Aboriginal investment community safety \$53.7 m for the NT f. P 43 NT remote Aboriginal investment remote Australian strategies \$3.5m for the NT 	Written	14/6/18	

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					g. P 44 National Partnership on remote housing \$110m for the NT (2) Are there any other national funding partnerships directly contributing to Closing the Gap beyond these seven agreements?			
242.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Dodson	Closing the Gap – National Partnership Funding	Policy, Analysis and Evaluation Division	Is it correct that, (outside Minister Wyatt's health portfolio), the only national partnerships relevant to Closing the Gap involve expenditure solely directed to the Northern Territory, for a total of \$211m?	Written	14/6/18	
243.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Dodson	Closing the Gap Framework – Independent Review	Closing the Gap Taskforce	Was there any independent review of the Closing the Gap framework prior to commencing the Refresh process?	Written	14/6/18	
244.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Dodson	Closing the Gap Refresh - NIRA	Closing the Gap Taskforce	The discussion paper published online does not include any reference to the National Indigenous Reform Agenda (NIRA), which is the framework within which the Close the Gap targets were embedded. Does the Refresh process include an analysis of NIRA? a. If not, Why not? What will replace the NIRA and how will state and territory governments be involved?	Written	14/6/18	
245.	Department of the Prime	Dodson	Closing the Gap Refresh –	Closing the Gap Taskforce	(1) Was there any prior agreement between PMC and peak Indigenous organisations regarding the	Written	14/6/18	

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	Minister and Cabinet		Consultation process		<p>consultation process and what it is meant to achieve? Who decided how the consultation process would proceed and its design?</p> <p>(2) Has a timeline been publicly disseminated for the consultation process? If so, when?</p> <p>(3) Will submissions to the Refresh process be published publicly? If not, why not?</p> <p>(4) Will a report be published summarising the consultations as a whole? If not, why not?</p> <p>(5) Will there be independent assessment of the quality of the consultation process? If not, why not?</p>			
246.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Dodson	Closing the Gap - future changes and negotiations	Closing the Gap Taskforce	<p>(1) How will the decision-making process about possible changes to Closing the Gap involve peak Aboriginal organisations?</p> <p>(2) Will future changes to Closing the Gap be negotiated with peak Aboriginal organisations (and if so, who)?</p>	Written	14/6/18	
247.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Dodson	Closing the Gap Refresh – State and Territory engagement	Closing the Gap Taskforce	<p>The COAG discussions indicated that State and Territory Ministers would be engaged on an ongoing basis:</p> <p>a. How have with State and Territory Ministers been engaged on the proposed new targets?</p> <p>b. Is there correspondence with Ministers that could be provided?</p>	Written	14/6/18	
248.	Department of	Dodson	Closing the	Closing the Gap	Could you please explain how any new targets, when	Written	14/6/18	

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	the Prime Minister and Cabinet		Gap Refresh – funding for new targets	Taskforce	they are agreed and finalised, will be funded, given there is no forward funding identified in the budget papers? a. Will there need to be a new budgetary process for the purpose, or will new funding have to wait for the May 2019 Budget?			
249.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Dodson	Closing the Gap Refresh	Closing the Gap Taskforce	In answer to QoN: 216 in October 2017, the Department advised: a. “The targets that are not expiring in 2018 will continue in the Closing the Gap refresh.” • Can you please identify which of the targets are not expiring, and how they are being funded?	Written	14/6/18	
250.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Dodson	Indigenous Procurement	Community and Economic Development	In previous answer to Question on notice no. 210 (Portfolio question number: 192) in relation to Yuras Business Gateway It was stated that: Any feedback that indicates suspicion of the Indigenous status of a company registered on Indigenous Business Direct will be thoroughly investigated by Supply Nation. Where it is concluded that false information has been provided, the business will be removed from the site. 3) The matter was referred to Supply Nation for	Written	14/6/18	

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					<p>further action, as it was determined that PM&C did not have jurisdiction to investigate. The complainant in this matter was notified via email on 5 March 2018.</p> <p>(1) Could the Department please provide information on the process carried out for the thorough investigation carried out by Supply nation in relation to the indigeneity of Yuras Business Gateway ownership?</p> <p>(2) What was the result of that investigation?</p> <p>(3) Have those results been conveyed to the complainant?</p> <p>(4) What further action will be undertaken in this matter?</p> <p>In the same answer it was stated:</p> <p>Supply Nation to strengthen registration and monitoring arrangements for Indigenous joint ventures on the Indigenous Business Direct register. This will include Indigenous joint ventures having in place a strategy that builds the capability of the Indigenous business partner and supports Indigenous employment.</p>			

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					(5) Please provide details by State/ Territory of the number, name and location of indigenous joint ventures and the number of Indigenous people employed in each joint venture.			
251.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Brown	New plan for Indigenous People with Disability	Education, Community Safety and Health	Could you please provide a status update on the Allied Health in Remote Schools Trial? Have the trial sites been identified and if so what are they?	Written	14/6/18	
252.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Watt	Women's Safety Package	Education, Community Safety and Health	As part of the Women's Safety Package the Turnbull Government allocated \$555,000 to the Queensland Government to enable police in QLD to respond to violence in remote communities. Has this money been expended?	Written	19/6/18	
253.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Dodson	Lowitja Institute – Budget	Policy, Analysis and Evaluation	Of the \$50 million allocated in 2017/18 Budget for research and evaluation how much has been spent in the last financial year? Who has been the recipient of that funding?	Written	20/6/18	
254.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Dodson	Lowitja Institute - Evaluations	Policy, Analysis and Evaluation	How many of the evaluations performed since those announcements have been consequently completed? How many of those completed evaluations are publicly available?	Written	20/6/18	
255.	Australian Public Service Commission	McAllister	Alleged breach of APSC Code	Australian Public Service Commission	Senator McALLISTER: Mr Lloyd, are you now prepared to disclose why it is that you are being investigated?	FPA Thursday 21 June		

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			of Conduct		<p>Mr Lloyd: I'll take that on notice. I think I now have to be very careful. There's an inquiry underway, and I don't want to give information which might in any way affect or prejudice that inquiry. There has been an inquiry commenced, so I'd be careful about providing information like that.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Are you claiming public interest immunity, Mr Lloyd?</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: No, I'm not. I just think there's a need for caution about me providing any information. I'm prepared to take on notice questions like that. I recall, from the last estimates proceeding, Senator Wong might have said how, with other cases, they're very cautious not to probe into the content of an inquiry. That's why I'm very careful on this occasion. I'm prepared to take on notice that type of question, about the nature of the allegations. I think that was your question.</p>	2018, pages 4,5		

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256.	Australian Public Service Commission	McAllister	Alleged breach of APSC Code of Conduct	Australian Public Service Commission	Senator McALLISTER: What parts of the APS Code of Conduct are you accused of breaching? Mr Lloyd: I'll take that on notice. Again, I'm very mindful that I have to be careful. I'm unsure of the extent to which I can provide you any information. I want to make sure I can provide that without compromising the integrity of the investigation.	FPA Thursday 21 June 2018, page 5		
257.	Australian Public Service Commission	McAllister	Alleged breach of APSC Code of Conduct	Australian Public Service Commission	Senator McALLISTER: What time period do the allegations refer to? Mr Lloyd: Again, I'll take that on notice, for the same reasons. Senator McALLISTER: Do the allegations refer to last year or earlier than that? Mr Lloyd: I will again come back to the answer I've just given. I'll take that on notice, to get my advice about whether the answers I provide would ensure that they do not compromise the integrity of the investigation.	FPA Thursday 21 June 2018, page 5		
258.	Australian Public Service Commission	McAllister	Alleged breach of APSC Code of Conduct	Australian Public Service Commission	Senator McALLISTER: When did you first find out about the allegations? Mr Lloyd: I was advised about the allegation by the Merit Protection Commissioner on 5 April. Senator McALLISTER: So you had no knowledge of them at all until 5 April? Mr Lloyd: No. That was the first time I received	FPA Thursday 21 June 2018, pages 5, 6		

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					<p>advice about them, yes.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: What was the format of that advice?</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: He wrote a letter to me and attached the allegation.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Are you able to table that correspondence?</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: That might be a matter for the Merit Protection Commissioner. He sourced the letter.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: It's correspondence to you, Mr Lloyd. I'm asking you if you are able to table that correspondence.</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: I'll take that on notice, again, for the same reason as with the other answers I've given.</p>			
259.	Australian Public Service Commission	McAllister	FOI request	Australian Public Service Commission	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Can I talk to you about something separate. I put in an FOI separately and I received a number of documents in response, some of which are heavily redacted. I have copies of these that I can table, although they're in the public domain already. It's only—</p> <p>CHAIR: At least make them available to the witnesses so that they can assist.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Yes, I will. Can I take you to page 2 of those documents. Can we have a full copy of this document?</p>	FPA Thursday 21 June 2018, page 10		

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					<p>Mr Lloyd: I'm not sure what document it is. Senator McALLISTER: You produced it. It's your signature at the bottom of it. Mr Lloyd: I'm just reading it now. Can I take that on notice? I wasn't the decision-maker, so I'm just trying to familiarise myself with that. I'll take it on notice</p>			
260.	Australian Public Service Commission	McAllister	FOI request	Australian Public Service Commission	<p>Senator McALLISTER: On page 1, there is a copy of an email. It's fairly straightforward. It doesn't say who it's been sent to, but the subject is: 'brief given to minister's office'. Mr Lloyd: Yes, that's right. Senator McALLISTER: The attachment is 'Wong F18'. Mr Lloyd: Yes. Senator McALLISTER: Can I conclude that the heavily redacted document on page 2 is the attachment referred to on page 1 in that email? Mr Lloyd: I think that would be a logical assumption. While I'll take it on notice, it is, potentially, brief advice given to the minister.</p>	FPA Thursday 21 June 2018, page 10		
261.	Australian Public Service Commission	McAllister	FOI request	Australian Public Service Commission	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Item 3, the third dot point on that page, says: 'On this occasion the matter in contention is my response to a doorstep interview Senator Wong gave in February 2015.' Mr Lloyd: Yes.</p>	FPA Thursday 21 June 2018, page 10		

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					<p>Senator McALLISTER: And then the balance of that paragraph is redacted.</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: Yes.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: What was it you wanted to say about your response to the doorstep interview Senator Wong gave in February 2015 that was unable to be released to me?</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: I don't recall what I put in that paragraph, so I'll take that on notice. We've covered this before in previous estimates hearings.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: We have, and that is precisely why I submitted an FOI seeking information that you'd produced in relation to Senator Wong, because she seems to be a person of great interest to you. But here is a document that you produced and gave to a minister about Senator Wong presumably.</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: I beg your pardon?</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: This is a document produced by you about Senator Wong that you gave to a minister's office.</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: Yes. As I said, I'll take it on notice and come back to you.</p>			
262.	Australian Public Service Commission	McAllister	FOI request	Australian Public Service Commission	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Is the decision-maker from the APSC in the room, Ms Connell?</p> <p>Ms Connell: I'm not sure what question the</p>	FPA Thursday 21 June		

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					<p>attachments refer to. You've provided the attachments but not the actual request. We've had a number of FOI requests, so, if you're clear on what the request was, I can confirm whether or not the decision-maker is in the room.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Okay. I actually don't think I have the number with me. I can make inquiries and we can see if we can track that down, because I think it would be helpful if the decision-maker was here.</p> <p>Ms Connell: Certainly, the decision-maker isn't at the table at the moment. It depends which FOI it was as to who was the relevant decision-maker.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: I'm advised that it is C18/600.</p> <p>Ms Connell: Ms Page may be able to assist.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Ms Page, do you recall being the decision-maker in relation to the FOI request submitted by me?</p> <p>Ms Page: Yes, I do.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Is there a reason that you didn't volunteer your presence in the room when I asked, 'Is the decision-maker in the room'?</p> <p>Ms Page: There have been several FOI matters involving very similar things that—</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Any from me?</p>	2018, page 10, 11		

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					<p>Ms Page: many of us—</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Not from me, though—only one from Senator McAllister, presumably.</p> <p>Ms Page: I didn't immediately recognise this as one from you. As I said, there have been several coming in.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Right. In response to that FOI, you can see that you've indicated section 47F is the reason for the excision of all of that information on page 2. Can you explain to me what section 47F does?</p> <p>Ms Page: I will take that one on notice, please. I can't, off the top of my head.</p>			
263.	Australian Public Service Commission	McAllister	FOI request	Australian Public Service Commission	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Mr Lloyd, can I take you to page 11. That is an e-mail from you to Ms Page. You indicate that you 'received a curious quest from the DLO yesterday for advice about a Canberra Times article on our estimates appearance. I attach the response I intend to submit to the minister's office, but I would like to discuss the matter with you before it goes over.' Is the document on page 2 the same document that you refer to in this e-mail on 1 March to Ms Page? They both have the same title: 'Wong F-18'.</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: It would seem that could be the case. It has the same attachment. The day is the same day, so I presume it is.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: And what was the request—</p>	FPA Thursday 21 June 2018, page 12		

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					<p>the 'curious' request? Mr Lloyd: I don't know, I— Senator McALLISTER: You obviously thought it was curious. Mr Lloyd: I said it was curious—I just can't recall, from 1 March. Senator McALLISTER: It's not that long ago, and it is a request from the minister's office that you saw fit to remark upon as being curious. Mr Lloyd: I get numerous requests—there are numerous articles in the paper. I frankly can't recall what the request was. Senator McALLISTER: You can't recall. Ms Page, do you recall what the request was? Ms Page: I don't. I am not try to be unhelpful, but I engage with the commissioner several times most days. I have no recollection of that one. Senator McALLISTER: Mr Lloyd sought advice from you about this curious request made by the minister's office. Did you provide advice to him? Ms Page: I hope I did. I assume I would have. Again, the minister's office is held within my group. I look after the parliamentary function. It would not be an unusual thing for us to be discussing matters around material that's going to the minister's office. I can't</p>			

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					<p>remember the details of this.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Did you review the attachment labelled 'Wong F-18'?</p> <p>Ms Page: I can't recall.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: You can't recall. Are you able to check your records and tell me on notice whether or not you reviewed the document labelled 'Wong F-18'?</p> <p>Ms Page: I will look at the document. I wouldn't necessarily have a record of whether or not I had reviewed it, but I'll have a look at the document and provide that advice on notice.</p>			
264.	Australian Public Service Commission	McAllister	FOI request	Australian Public Service Commission	<p>Senator McALLISTER: This is a perfectly legitimate avenue for me to pursue this issue.</p> <p>CHAIR: I don't think Ms Connell was suggesting that it was not legitimate. She was just noting that there is a formal appeal process for FOI. Ms Page, you are, as you know, entitled to take questions on notice if you don't have the information on hand.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: I'm just asking a logical question: how can a section which relates to personal privacy possibly be relevant to Mr Lloyd, acting in his official capacity, providing advice to a minister? How can that possibly be the case?</p> <p>Ms Page: As I said, I will take it on notice. I would</p>	FPA Thursday 21 June 2018, pages 12, 13		

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					<p>have been provided with briefing around this particular matter. It's not my area of expertise. I would have taken the briefing and the advice that I received into account in making the decision. I can review those matters and provide a response to the question. I'm unable to answer that for you now.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Frankly, my response is this: if Mr Lloyd is providing further personal, nonprofessional material in the context of his role in this office, it is absolutely extraordinary. Mr Lloyd, can you defend this? Can you defend the redaction of almost an entire page of material that you provided to a minister's office on the grounds that it would infringe your personal privacy? Does that seem rational to you?</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: I've taken that on notice. As I said, I can't recall the detail in the document or the curious purpose of why it was requested. I have taken it on notice. It is advice to the minister, so there is that issue as well. So we'll take it on notice and come back to you.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Did you have any subsequent discussion with the minister about the response that you sent to her titled 'Wong F18'?</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: I'll take that on notice too.</p>			
265.	Australian Public Service	McAllister	FOI request	Australian Public Service	Senator McALLISTER: How much personal privacy do you require in performing your formal duties using	FPA Thursday		

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	Commission			Commission	<p>your formal email? How much personal privacy, really, is there in providing advice?</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: I'm not providing advice.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: You're a very, very senior public servant.</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: A former colleague, who I think is the redacted person in this, asked for a catch-up or a meeting, I think; that's what happened. It was, I think, at about the time of an estimates hearing; I'm not sure. Well, yes, it was coming up or something. But regarding 'checking in' as a subject matter, I think it was just someone wanting to catch up who had worked with me.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Right; that's a former colleague. You say to this former colleague: 'My final exchange last estimates with Penny Wong was: Mr Lloyd, if I said something was black, you would say it was white.' There's a final sentence there that has been redacted.</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: Yes.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: What was it you said about Senator Wong?</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: I don't know; I can't remember. It was back in October. The exchange was there; it was on the record at an estimates. That's what Senator Wong said</p>	21 June 2018, page 13		

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					at an estimates previously. Senator McALLISTER: Can I have a full copy of that document, please, Mr Lloyd? Mr Lloyd: Again, Senator, I would have to take that on notice.			
266.	Australian Public Service Commission	McAllister	FOI request	Australian Public Service Commission	Senator McALLISTER: Ms Page, you said you can't recall, and then you asserted that you would have done what was necessary. What steps did you take to ensure that there was no perception of bias in relation to your exercise of this decision-making function? Ms Page: Senator, I'm an experienced public servant— Senator McALLISTER: You either took steps or you didn't; you may have taken no steps. Ms Page: If you'd let me finish, what I was going to say is I can't recall the steps I took, but obviously I was presented with some material, I discussed it with the relevant expert and I was comfortable that I was an appropriate person to make the decision. I haven't filled in a risk assessment or done period of self-reflection, but, after discussing the matter with the person who was providing me with advice, the people who selected me to do it obviously felt comfortable that there wasn't a conflict of interest, and at the time I obviously agreed with them. I'd stand by that. Senator McALLISTER: Mr Lloyd, are you	FPA Thursday 21 June 2018, pages 14, 15		

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					<p>comfortable with this process?</p> <p>Mr Lloyd: Yes. I think Ms Page answered that question quite well. She's an experienced person with good judgement.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: With respect, she's said she can't recall and sought to assure me that she did all of the right things. Both of those things cannot be simultaneously true. Either there is a recollection of what took place and a setting out of the facts or there is an assertion that you can't recall. There is a third option for you, Ms Page, which is that you could take it on notice. In fact, Ms Connell, you could take it on notice and provide some indication of the steps that were taken within the APSC to ensure that the determination on this question was free from bias. Doubtlessly, that will require Ms Page examining her records and the legal team who supported her examining their records. But 'I can't recall' and 'But I would have done the right thing, I'm fairly certain of it,' is not an acceptable answer.</p> <p>Ms Connell: We can run you through the process that was taken. The question you're asking would merely be an attestation by those involved that they acted in an unbiased way. We're prepared to make that comment or that statement, but, if you want further detail on exactly</p>			

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					the process that was applied in addition to the evidence we've provided, I'm happy to take that on notice.			
267.	Australian Public Service Commission	McAllister	FOI request	Australian Public Service Commission	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Is it common for people to make determinations about material that makes direct reference to them in your organisation?</p> <p>Ms Connell: As I said earlier, it's not a matter of the subject of the material; it's a matter of who understands the material most. We get 20, 30 or 50 FOIs and we usually choose the decision-maker who is most familiar with the material so that the search, the discovery process, is as thorough as possible—</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Do you have any regard for whether a conflict of interest is present?</p> <p>Ms Connell: I have no doubt that Ms Page performed that process—</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: I'm not asking that question. I'm asking whether, in your process, there is any point in time when a conflict of interest is considered?</p> <p>Ms Connell: in a completely unbiased way. I have no doubt whatsoever. I see no potential for conflict of interest in that process, and it was applied as it's applied in every organisation—</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Who is responsible for determining whether a conflict of interest exists?</p> <p>Ms Connell: First of all, there'd have to be an</p>	FPA Thursday 21 June 2018, page 15		

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					<p>allegation of that occurring.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: No, there would not, Ms Connell. It's actually your obligation as a decision-maker to ensure that a conflict of interest does not exist when you undertake activities as a public servant. It doesn't require an allegation. It's normally built into the ordinary operating procedures of departments. So my question is: at what point in the process would the question of conflict of interest be considered, ordinarily—not in relation to Ms Page but in general?</p> <p>Ms Connell: In general, that point would be when the legal team looks at the FOI request and appoints the appropriate decision-maker. It would at that point that it would be determined, when appointing the decision-maker, whether the person was appropriate. Usually, it is the person who is most familiar with the material.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Is the question of conflict of interest considered at that point in time?</p> <p>Ms Connell: I'll take on notice whether that particular lens is applied to the decision. But I restate that, in the example that we're talking about, I have no doubt that there was no conflict of interest.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Can you also take on notice whether, in this particular example, the question of conflict of interest was examined by the legal team who</p>			

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					decided that Ms Page ought to be the decision-maker? Ms Connell: I'll take that on notice, Senator?			
268.	Australian Public Service Commission	McAllister	Alleged breach of APSC Code of Conduct	Merit Protection Commission	Senator McALLISTER: When did you do that? Mr Davidson: The 12th of January. Senator McALLISTER: So, essentially, immediately. Mr Davidson: The next day. I informed the person that, although I was acting as the Merit Protection Commissioner, substantively I was an employee of the Public Service Commissioner. I informed that person that I felt that it was not preferable for me to deal with the complaint at that stage, and I did so on the understanding that the appointment of the substantive Merit Protection Commissioner would take place in coming weeks. I informed the person that my intention was to refer the matter to the Merit Protection Commissioner when they commenced. Senator McALLISTER: And you did so in writing? Mr Davidson: Yes, I did. Senator McALLISTER: Are you able to provide a copy of that letter possibly with critical details redacted? Are you able to provide a copy of the advice that you provided to the complainant to the committee? Mr Davidson: Senator, I do want to be helpful; I don't want to be unhelpful. I would have to— Senator McALLISTER: I appreciate the challenges in	FPA Thursday 21 June 2018, page 17		

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					making the request, so I'm looking for solutions that would work and wouldn't breach your other obligations. Mr Davidson: If I could take it on notice so that I can consider those obligations in terms of the content of the letter.			
269.	Australian Public Service Commission	McAllister	Alleged breach of APSC Code of Conduct	Merit Protection Commission	Senator McALLISTER: I understand. Who did you seek assistance from? In seeking assistance, who did you approach? Mr Davidson: Senator, I approached a number of people, but the person who I ultimately ended up engaging was Mr Robert Cornall. Senator McALLISTER: Who else did you approach? Mr Davidson: Senator, there's a long list of people who were not available. I approached eight people. Senator McALLISTER: So you approached eight people. Are you able to tell us who those people were? Mr Davidson: Without taking the question on notice, and trying to be helpful, from the list of people that I approached, there was, for example, Mr Phillip Moss. I approached, at the time, Professor McMillan—John McMillan; Mr James Popple; Mr Ian Govey; Mr Chris Dougan. I'm sorry, Senator, but I think my memory is exhausted on the people I approached, but it may give you the general idea of the people I was looking to	FPA Thursday 21 June 2018, page 19		

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					engage. Senator McALLISTER: Perhaps you might take that on notice, check your records and provide a complete list to the committee. Mr Davidson: I'll take it on notice.			
270.	Australian Public Service Commission	McAllister	Alleged breach of APSC Code of Conduct	Merit Protection Commission	Senator McALLISTER: May I ask you to take on notice this request: that you table the correspondence between you and Mr Lloyd between 18 May and 14 June. Mr Davidson: Senator, if I can place a comment on that in taking that on notice: I would have to consider and perhaps take advice about whether that would jeopardise the conduct of the inquiry or the impartial adjudication of the actual matter itself, and it may be that I may have to make a public interest immunity claim in that respect. I'm just forecasting that, Senator; I'm not trying to be difficult.	FPA Thursday 21 June 2018, page 22		
271.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McAllister	APSC Commissioner Investigation	Executive	Senator McALLISTER: Minister, are you aware of the investigation being undertaken into the APSC commissioner? Senator McGrath: Only what I've heard of in terms of watching the proceedings today. So in terms of—no. Senator McALLISTER: All right. You are here representing the Prime Minister. You're sitting next to Ms Foster. Can I just ask you: in terms of your	FPA Thursday 21 June 2018, page 23		

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					<p>understanding of the legislation and the expectations of the government, if the Merit Protection Commissioner finds clear evidence of wrongdoing by Mr Lloyd, is it the view of the government that those findings should be acted upon by the government, or by the parliament, because this has been a matter of some difficulty in discussing this matter over the last months?</p> <p>Senator McGrath: I think you will understand that I'm not au fait with the necessary legislation, so I think the best thing to do would be to take that on notice.</p>			
272.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	McAllister	Appointment of the Merit Protection Commissioner	Executive	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Can you talk us through the time line for the appointment of the Merit Protection Commissioner?</p> <p>Ms Foster: I can. It was advertised on 1 and 2 December 2017. The closing date for applications was 17 December 2017.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: The same date the complaint came in?</p> <p>Ms Foster: I think that was the 13th.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Oh, the 13th. Right.</p> <p>Ms Foster: The short-listing of applications was done on 15 January 2018. We conducted interviews on 23 January 2018. We finalised the selection report on 7 February.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Why, then, has there been</p>	FPA Thursday 21 June 2018, pages 24, 25		

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					<p>such a delay in making the appointment? Ms Foster: Senator, I don't know. I was a member of the panel rather than part of the organisation that was responsible for progressing the paperwork, so my role finished when I signed the selection report recommending— Senator McALLISTER: In February? Ms Foster: in February. Senator McALLISTER: It's significant because there has been a very long delay between first receipt of the complaint and this decision to initiate an inquiry, and that's actually not fair on any of the people involved. The evidence of Mr Davidson suggests that the reason for that was the very substantial difficulty in designing a process in the absence of a permanent appointment to that role. Senator McGrath, do you know why there has been such a delay between the recommendation on 7 February and the appointment, which I think happened yesterday? Senator McGrath: No, I don't. Senator McALLISTER: Can you find that out for me? Senator McGrath: I can take it on notice.</p>			
273.	Department of the Prime Minister and	Dodson	Lowitja Institute - National	Education, Community Safety and	(1) The Prime Minister should have received a letter from the National Health Leadership Forum [NHLF] on the 6 th April on the future funding	Written	20/6/18	

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	Cabinet		Health Leadership Forum correspon- den- ce	Health	arrangements of the Lowitja Institute. Can the Department confirm this letter was received? (2) Can the Department confirm that neither the Prime Minister nor the department responsible responded to the NHLF?			