



Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee  
Budget Estimates 2018-19  
Monday, 21 May 2018  
Daily summary

Here is the summary of today's proceedings in the Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee estimates hearing.

The committee met from 9.00am to 11.01pm.

The committee called:

- Department of the Senate;
- Parliamentary Budget Office;
- Department of Parliamentary Services;
- Australian Public Service Commission (APSC);
- Office for Women;
- Workplace Gender Equality Agency;
- Digital Transformation Agency (DTA);
- Independent National Security Legislation Monitor;
- Office of the Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security (IGIS);
- Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General (OOSGG);
- Australian National Audit Office;
- Office of National Assessments; and
- Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman.

Topics discussed by the committee included:

*Parliamentary Portfolio:*

- security arrangements during function in the President's courtyard;
- refurbishment and completion of building works to a Senator's suite;
- Parliamentary Budget Office Policy Costings in relation to *Dividend Imputation Credit Refunds*;
- medium term projections in relation to fiscal policy and income tax;
- Department of Parliamentary Services Cleaning contract arrangements for tenderer Limro Pty Ltd and the staffing arrangements for APH cleaners;
- progression on upgrades to mobile phone reception within APH;
- establishment of the Cyber Security Operations Centre and appropriations;
- security protocols in relation to 'out of place white powder' and engagement of the Australian Federal Police.

*Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio*

- role of Merit Protection Commissioner in the alleged investigation of the APSC;
- review of response to question on notice, Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio (No.2), from Additional Estimates 2017–18, in relation to the APS Commissioner's contact with the Institute of Public Affairs;

- review of response to question on notice, Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio (No.161), from Additional Estimates 2017–18, in relation to *Balancing the Future: Australian Public Service Gender Equality Strategy 2016–19* and flexible working arrangements;
- domestic violence leave arrangements within the public service;
- APSC involvement in the *Independent review of the Australian Public Service* and panel arrangements;
- Workplace Participation Strategy and Economic statement in relation to women’s economic security;
- personal income tax plan and gender equality;
- Women’s Safety Package initiatives;
- workplace participation rates within the public service;
- update on Women’s Leadership and Development Strategy Grants;
- change of Administrative Arrangements Orders and ministerial representation for the Workplace Gender Equality Agency;
- Digital Transformation Agency’s (DTA) involvement in the Department of Education and Training’s Australian Apprenticeship Management System (AAMS);
- Secure Cloud Strategy implementation across government;
- Digital and Hardware Marketplace planning projections for the 2018–19 period;
- DTA graduate program placement and staffing arrangements;
- funding and rollout of the GovPass Program;
- IGIS staff funding and security clearance processes;
- committee site visits to Admiralty House and Government House;
- correspondence by the Governor-General in relation to the 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II;
- OOSGG operational funding;
- OOSGG update in relation to the nominations process for women;
- Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) audit on naval construction programs and review process for confidentiality claims within contracts;
- ANAO audit in relation to the administration of the Regional Jobs and Investment Package Program;
- legislative framework in relation to the establishment of the ANAO;
- establishment of the Office of National Intelligence (to be formally transitioned from the Office of National Assessments); and
- Commonwealth Ombudsman Report into NDIA handling of reviews of decisions under the *National Disability Insurance Scheme Act 2013*.

The committee will next meet at 9.00am on Tuesday 22 May 2018, in Senate Committee room 2S1 calling the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.