



Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee  
Budget Estimates 2017-18  
Thursday, 25 May 2017  
Daily summary

Here is a summary of today's proceedings for the Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee considering Budget Estimates 2017-18.

The committee met from 9.00am to 11.00pm.

The committee resumed examination of the **Department of Finance**. Some areas of interest by the committee are listed:

- Outcome 1 – Shared services program; the inclusion of the net operating balance figure in Budget Paper No. 1, Statement 1 table on budget aggregates; Finance monitoring of appropriations used in allocated programs across departments.
- Outcome 2 – Exposure of Finance Portfolio department and agencies payroll services to Plutus Payroll; Finance's role in establishing processes to mitigate against fraud of public sector agencies when contracting services and the application of the Commonwealth Contracting Suite; decentralisation program; whole of government air travel expenditure; Government campaign advertising expenditure; statement by the Special Minister of State on the current status of the matter of the debts owed to the Commonwealth by former senators Day and Culleton.
- Outcome 3 and **Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority** – level of the salary of the former Chief of Staff to Prime Minister Turnbull; payments for printing services to a company owned by Senator Hanson's Chief of Staff; details on IPEA, including staffing, budget, systems, number of inquiries and new processes; parliamentarians' printing and communications entitlement.
- **Australian Electoral Commission** (conduct of a regular compliance review of One Nation by the AEC; enrolment figures for the Northern Territory; budget and staff cuts to the Northern Territory Office of the AEC).

The committee completed examination of the Finance Portfolio.

The committee will examine Cross Portfolio Indigenous Matters on Friday, 26 May 2017.