

Treasury Questions on Notice Index Additional estimates 2020-21

Qn No.	Senator	Subject	Full question text	Department or Agency	Hearing date	Hansard p. no. / Written qn
AET001	Katy Gallagher	JobKeeper split by gender	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: The jobs you expect to be lost are those with zero or low hours or working less than one day a week but broadly spread across regions and across states. What about gender? Is there any information on that?</p> <p>Ms J Wilkinson: For January, my recollection of the JobKeeper split is that a bit over 40 per cent of recipients are women and about 60 per cent are men. I'll have to take on notice. I don't recall. I think we've looked at it, but I don't recall whether there's any difference in the distribution of vulnerable workers between men and women. But I'm very happy to take that on notice.</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	9
AET002	Matthew Canavan	NAIRU modelling	<p>Dr Kennedy: Yes. NAIRUs do have end-point problems. I think you know about this. NAIRUs do have end point problems so they are quite hard to estimate in a technical sense at the very end. That is my caveat around false accuracy here.</p> <p>Senator CANAVAN: It seems a little inconsistent with some of the increasing warnings around the world of higher inflation to come. Olivier Blanchard, Larry Summers and many other commentators are warning us about these things. What explains that inconsistency between your models and what respected financial commentators are saying around the world?</p> <p>Dr Kennedy: From my understanding-you will have to correct me here because I read those articles a while ago-most of that concern is about the size of the fiscal stimulus. It is the proportionality of the size of the US fiscal stimulus, which is one of the largest we'll have seen in the world. There has been quite a healthy debate between Janet Yellen, Treasury secretary, and Larry Summers and others about how well tapered that fiscal stimulus piece is. I'll go back and look at Blanchard and Summers. I don't think they would argue necessarily that they couldn't see an unemployment rate in the US in the threes and fours with stable low inflation. There are two things that you also look at when you look at these things. It is speed-how fast you're going-and then the level you can hold. I'll double-check for you, but I don't think they would structurally say that they are targeting an unemployment rate that is infeasible. It's possibly the speed and the size of that program. It's going to be a debate that we'll have throughout this period. We haven't seen significant wage pressures or inflation pressures, including in those countries, for some years now. On this debate about the Phillips curve and the trade-off that we would normally see, I expect that the trade-off is still there. I think the way Australia is approaching it is, as I said, pretty prudent. I'll check for you, Senator. It's a good question. I'll come back to you about whether it's a level effect we're talking about or a speed.</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	15
AET003	Matthew Canavan	Provision of paper: 'Estimating the Australian NAIRU'	<p>Senator CANAVAN: How do your models factor in expectations? There is no real ability to include rational expectations frameworks or-</p> <p>Dr Kennedy: No. There are inflation expectations in these models. We probably should give you a copy of the paper. I think it's going to be the best way to satisfy you.</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	15
AET004	Susan McDonald	JobSeeker data by region	<p>Senator McDONALD: If you look at the same data for regional versus urban for JobSeeker, are you seeing a higher proportion of JobSeeker payments than previously? I'm particularly looking at the regional horticultural industry. People walked out of their jobs at the introduction of JobSeeker, particularly in transport, trucking and warehousing. Those people are not answering advertisements to come back to work.</p> <p>Ms J Wilkinson: I don't have a breakdown of the JobSeeker data by region, but I'm very happy to take it on notice and see what we can get for you.</p> <p>Senator McDONALD: Thank you. I would appreciate that.</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	16-17
AET005	Nick McKim	Household disposable income	<p>Senator McKIM: Thanks. I'll come to those issues in a minute. Just on the number, 34 per cent is the Australian Financial Review figure. The Australian has the richest 250 people's wealth increasing by a mere 25 per cent last year. Bloomberg has Australian billionaires increasing their wealth by over 50 per cent. So I'm very confident to say that the most wealthy in Australia have done very nicely, thank you, during the pandemic. Would you accept a general proposition that there has been an increase in wealth inequality during the pandemic?</p> <p>Dr Kennedy: Look, to be honest, I don't know. I don't know how the proportions and wealth has changed through those periods. I presume some of this is related to what are very high iron ore prices and, as I said, some of the variation that we've observed across the course of the economy in the pandemic year. Look, I simply don't know. We can dig out for you-</p> <p>Mr Yeaman: I am just thinking, Senator. I don't have the figures in front of me. I think in an earlier committee-and I would want to confirm this-is that when we looked at issues such as household disposable income and the increase in the savings rate that we've seen across the household sector and in household balance sheets, my recollection is that actually it was the lower income cohorts that have seen relatively larger increases in household disposable income through that period and have benefited relatively more from the government's measures. Obviously, as Dr Kennedy said, there are a whole lot of things in an economy at any given time around share markets, commodity prices and a whole lot of areas that play through different parts of the economy. I will confirm that for you, but my understanding is that the measures had a relatively disproportionate effect on the lowest incomes.</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	17-18

AET006	Nick McKim	Impact of extreme and growing wealth inequality	<p>Senator McKIM: That's fine. I'm happy for the minister to, obviously. I would like to clarify my request, Minister, to Dr Kennedy around the concentration of wealth. I'm talking about purchasing power and how the purchasing power of wealthy people is so much greater than the purchasing power-</p> <p>Dr Kennedy: You're not talking about businesses? You're talking about individuals?</p> <p>Senator McKIM: Yes. I'm talking about individuals in this context.</p> <p>Dr Kennedy: Okay. I beg your pardon.</p> <p>Senator McKIM: And, of course, a subset of purchasing power is the marginal propensity to spend, which I think you and I have discussed previously at estimates.</p> <p>Dr Kennedy: Yes</p> <p>Senator McKIM: Thanks, Minister. Dr Kennedy, what I'm really driving at here is to try to allow the committee to come to an understanding of what the economic effect of an increasing and extreme concentration of wealth in this country is. I put to you that wealth inequality means that the purchasing power of those who rely on income from wages is being diminished and that that is affecting consumption. Returns on speculative investment are outstripping returns on productive investment. That creates a negative feedback loop that encourages further speculation and, therefore, less investment into the real economy. Could you respond to those two contentions</p> <p>Dr Kennedy: We'll try and get some data for you. We'll take that question on notice and get some data for you on the structural features. I will relate it to the COVID measures. I'm not sure if this is part of it. You mentioned the marginal propensity to consume. Our advice to government was very much about where their measures would have the largest impact. As I said, one thing I do feel more confident I can say to you is that I think they were well targeted and that they have had a very significant impact, frankly, because of those people that the measures predominantly flowed to through the doubling of JobSeeker and the manner in which JobKeeper worked. So I feel more confident about saying something to you about how the measures in response to the pandemic worked. I think you are asking me about broader structural changes, though. I think I would prefer that we on notice gave you our best assessment of the data that is in front of us and then allowed you to ask me more questions on the basis of that.</p> <p>Senator McKIM: Thank you. Chair, I realise that was my last question. Can I clarify my question on notice?</p> <p>CHAIR: Very quickly.</p> <p>Senator McKIM: I promise you, Chair. Dr Kennedy, what I'm actually asking is: what is the impact of extreme and growing wealth inequality on the economy with the subset of questions I just mentioned earlier?</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	19-20
AET007	Jenny McAllister	Women's economic security statement measures	<p>Senator McALLISTER: I'm going to ask most of these questions, which are about the superannuation policy, later in the program. I have a couple of questions for you, Dr Kennedy. On Tuesday last week, it was reported that the early access to super scheme would see action in a matter of weeks. Minister Hume was quoted as saying an exposure draft would be released soon. Dr Kennedy, had you been asked to prioritise delivering the outstanding measures from the 2018 women's economic security statement?</p> <p>Dr Kennedy: I don't know whether it was me personally. I don't think so. I would have to go and check my own records. Whether Ms Quinn has, I can't say.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Sure. But there were no conversations between you and Minister Hume or any other member of the government about those matters?</p> <p>Dr Kennedy: I leave the matters that Minister Hume deals with almost exclusively to Ms Quinn. That is the way I've organised it in the department.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: The day after this news article appeared on the Wednesday, the Prime Minister said in question time: there is some draft legislation which has been issued. We've been consulting with various groups around the country on their views about that, and they've raised strong concerns about the nature of that measure. We're listening to those concerns, and that measure is under review.</p> <p>Dr Kennedy, do you know what consultation the PM was talking about?</p> <p>Dr Kennedy: I don't have it in front of me. I would ask Ms Quinn if she were here.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: The Prime Minister announced that the measure was under review.</p> <p>Dr Kennedy: I would have to take it on notice. I'll leave it to her. Is that okay?</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Of course. The Prime Minister announced the measure was under review. When did you find out about that review?</p> <p>Dr Kennedy: To be honest, I would have to take it on notice. I can't answer that today, sorry.</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	21-22
AET008	Malcolm Roberts	Rejected foreign investment proposal	<p>Senator ROBERTS: I understand it's only investigated if the project is raised by someone-is that right?</p> <p>Mr Hamilton: No, that's not right. Every investment that comes through under the foreign investment framework is assessed carefully by Treasury and its consult partners on a case-by-case basis. You referred to the zero-dollar threshold, which was a temporary measure during the course of 2020. During that period, we looked at every proposal that came forward before the Treasury in accordance with the operation of that threshold.</p> <p>Senator ROBERTS: Can you get me the numbers, please?</p> <p>Mr Hamilton: Yes, I can give you the numbers-</p> <p>Senator ROBERTS: On notice?</p> <p>Mr Hamilton: I can get you the numbers that were considered. In total in 2020 there were 2,943 proposals. Of those, 1,732 were not zero-dollar threshold. So the balance were the cases that came forward as a result of the operation of that new threshold.</p> <p>Senator ROBERTS: And none were rejected?</p> <p>Mr Hamilton: I don't have that number.</p> <p>Senator ROBERTS: Could you get me that number, please?</p> <p>Mr Hamilton: We'll take that on notice.</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	32-33
AET009	Malcolm Roberts	Foreign investment proposals withdrawn	<p>Senator ROBERTS: That's a fair comment. I'm also interested in the number that have withdrawn their applications.</p> <p>Mr Hamilton: I'll take that on notice. One thing that we bear in mind is being very careful not to release information that might relate to the business dealings of the applicants, but we'll take that question on notice.</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	33
AET010	Katy Gallagher	Foreign purchase of land around Western Sydney airport	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: Thank you. I want to ask a question about the purchase of some land at Western Sydney airport. Is the Foreign Investment Review Board familiar with the 344-hectare, \$20 billion northern gateway site adjacent to the new Western Sydney airport?</p> <p>Mr Hamilton: We are aware of some acquisitions of land, but the particular one you're referring to we'd need to check.</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	35
AET011	Andrew Bragg	Reliance on foreign investment	<p>Senator BRAGG: I was just wondering if you could tell us whether or not we have a higher reliance on foreign investment today compared to 30 years ago. Maybe on notice?</p> <p>Mr Hamilton: We'll take that on notice, Senator.</p> <p>Ms Kelley: I think we'd have to take that one on notice.</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	35

AET012	Bridget McKenzie	Public consultation on discount rates and cost-benefit analysis	<p>Senator McKENZIE: Thank you very much, Chair. It's great to be here. I am here having been sent here by Infrastructure Australia. We were talking about regionalisation, regional infrastructure and the fact that none of their high-priority projects are regional projects. It's something the National Farmers Federation have taken a good hard look at, and one of the recommendations they make in their regionalisation agenda proposal is to lower the discount rate. There are quite a large number of organisations and economists questioning the need for the high discount rates, if you compare them internationally, that Australia uses. When was the last time that Treasury publicly consulted and systematically reviewed, with cost-benefit analysis, the discount rates used in Australia?</p> <p>Ms J Wilkinson: I might hand over to Mr Brine.</p> <p>Mr Brine: I'm not aware of the last time we conducted a public consultation on discount rates and cost-benefit analysis. It's something we certainly discuss with our colleagues in the infrastructure department and IA from time to time, but I will have to take on notice the exact date of the last time we did a public consultation.'</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	43
AET013	Katy Gallagher	Monthly profile of JobMaker	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: So \$800,000 Did you have an estimate of what you expected? There was \$850 million put into the 20-21 financial year, so I presume that would be to run from 1 February to the end of June. Did you have a monthly profile of what you expected?</p> <p>Mr Hirschhorn: I might ask my Treasury colleagues if we pay what we need to pay?</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Sorry-that's for Treasury?</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: That's the approach most Australians take with the ATO as well!</p> <p>Ms Brown: I'm sorry, I don't have that profile. I'll see what we can get for you on notice.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: But you would have a profile, wouldn't you?</p> <p>Ms Brown: We would have some element of a profile; I'm not sure if it goes down to a monthly level.</p> <p>Ms J Wilkinson: In the budget process it wouldn't normally go down to a monthly-</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: How do you get to the 850 then? How would you cost to that point-would that be based on how many you expected to be in the program?</p> <p>Ms J Wilkinson: In this first six months of the program, with the payment being made in arrears--yes.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Okay-can you give me that then? How many did you expect to be in the first fiscal year of the program?</p> <p>Ms Brown: I'm sorry, I don't have that figure with me but we can get that for you on notice.</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	43
AET014	Bridget McKenzie	Discount rates	<p>Mr Brine: That would be it. It would take into account society's preference to reduce inequality over time, society's impatience for consumption now. It would look at society's desire for future generations to be as wealthy as current generations. That analysis produces discount rates that are lower. The UK uses that approach and they have a discount rate of 3½ per cent. France uses that approach and they have a discount rate of four per cent-this is for the first 30 years. It's a little bit difficult to unpack what the US does, so I might leave the US out of it. They have slightly higher discount rates using that methodology.</p> <p>Senator McKENZIE: What is the US's discount rate?</p> <p>Mr Brine: They use seven per cent for projects that displace private capital and three per cent for projects that displace private consumption.</p> <p>Senator McKENZIE: Give me an example.</p> <p>Mr Brine: I'm not familiar enough. I might have to take that on notice to give you some examples of how that plays out.</p> <p>Senator McKENZIE: Yes, thank you, that'd be cool.</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	44-45
AET015	Bridget McKenzie	Actions taken by Government on the discount rate	<p>Senator McKENZIE: So you'll be reviewing the discount rate?</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: Work is there in terms of looking at how it applies and where it's applied and making sure that, if changes are necessary, they will be brought forward.</p> <p>Senator McKENZIE: That sounds like a review. If I was going to do a review, that's actually how I would do it.</p> <p>CHAIR: We shouldn't try to put the words in the minister's mouth, but I am happy for the minister to respond.</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: I can take it on notice if you want specific actions in that regard, Senator McKenzie. I'm happy to take it on notice in terms of specific actions that could be taken and are being taken by government.</p> <p>Senator McKENZIE: Thank you.</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	46
AET016	Nick McKim	Wage growth	<p>Senator McKIM: Thank you, Chair. I want to ask you about something that Michael Keating said. He was the head of various government departments; you probably know him well, Ms Wilkinson, or at least know of him-</p> <p>Ms J Wilkinson: Yes.</p> <p>Senator McKIM: He recently said that, over time, the trend I mentioned in my previous question will further create weakness in demand, lower investments, slow the uptake of new technology and slow growth in productivity, and said that weak wage growth condemns us to weak economic growth. Would you agree with those propositions?</p> <p>Ms J Wilkinson: Again, Senator, this is really a macroeconomic question, which is most appropriately-</p> <p>Senator McKIM: Thank you.</p> <p>Ms J Wilkinson: We can take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator McKIM: I will put it on notice</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	48
AET017	Nick McKim	Long term implications of increase in profits and decrease in wages	<p>Senator McKIM: I appreciate that, Ms Wilkinson. I'm sorry if I'm asking these questions in the wrong section. Given you so kindly accepted that on notice, could I also ask you to take on notice a response to the proposition about the long-term implications of the trend that I mentioned earlier-that is, more money going to profits and less money going to wages. Perhaps I could ask: how is that trend impacting on our economy and, in particular, on consumption?</p> <p>Ms J Wilkinson: Let me take that on notice.</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	48
AET018	Larissa Waters	Gender data reporting	<p>Senator WATERS: I don't accept some of that, and there are other reasons for it. WGEA encourages voluntary reporting by the public sector on gender pay gap analyses. Does the department voluntarily do that gender data reporting?</p> <p>Ms J Wilkinson: That's a question for corporate group, who came earlier today.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: I see.</p> <p>Ms J Wilkinson: I recall a discussion around this. If we don't, I think we are planning to.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: That's great news.</p> <p>Ms J Wilkinson: But can I take that on notice. I wouldn't want to mislead you.</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	55

AETO19	Katy Gallagher	Costings for Respect@Work report	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: Have you been asked to participate in any costings for the Respect@Work report? Is Fiscal Group involved? Is there an IDC or some sort of process for that?</p> <p>Ms V Wilkinson: I would have to take that on notice, specifically. There are IDC's that relate to women's economic security, there are standing IDCs, and, obviously, we are leading up to budget. But I'd just have to take that specifically on notice</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	55
AETO20	Katy Gallagher	Size and breakdown of JobKeeper by Industry	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: In relation to JobKeeper, we went through the size of the breakdown of JobKeeper. Could I also ask-in the interests of time, probably on notice-relating to that time period, for gender, industry, and also-sorry, that's probably you, Ms Brown, but I'm happy if you take it on notice-the part-time and full-time rate, and whether you've seen any big difference in that since you brought in the tiered rates? My understanding, I think, was that most people remained on the higher rate.</p> <p>Ms J Wilkinson: Yes, about 87 per cent are on the higher rate, which is roughly what we had expected when we were costing the program. I think that's right, isn't it, Ms Brown?</p> <p>Ms Brown: That's right. And I'm sorry, Senator, what were the other ones that you were after?</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: It was on gender and industry, which, if it is going to take up too much time, I am happy-</p> <p>Ms J Wilkinson: The industry table's a long table, so perhaps we should table that-we'll take it on notice , sorry.</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	56-57
AETO21	Jess Walsh	Homebuilder: construction commencement time	<p>Senator WALSH: There are issues around the demand for timber currently exceeding supply and calls for an extension to the construction commencement time frame from six months to 12 months for all HomeBuilder applications. Is that under consideration? Is there work being done around that?</p> <p>Ms J Wilkinson: I'm aware of that feedback, and when we receive that sort of feedback we certainly provide that feedback through to the relevant ministers-yes.</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: I'm more than happy for us to take on notice what is being done in relation to that feedback, and I am sure the Mr Sukkar will have heard that too .</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	61
AETO22	Jess Walsh	Homebuilder: States and territories data	<p>Ms J Wilkinson: That's right. We've had to work closely with the states and territories in the administration of this program. We've encouraged the states and territories to publish bushfires-specific information on their website, so that people who're in those areas will know how the criteria may be different in the way they apply to them. As I understand it, Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia have all published that information. I'm happy to take it on notice. We meet with this group quite regularly and we can find out whether there's any information they can share with us on the number of applications they've got from bushfire affected areas. I'm not sure how straightforward that would be, but we can certainly open that in our discussion with the state revenue offices and see what they can give us.</p> <p>Senator WALSH: I'm happy to leave it there with you taking on notice whether you can compile for us that information from the states and consolidate it for us.</p> <p>Ms J Wilkinson: Yes. Different states collect information in different ways, but leave that with us and we'll see what we can find .</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	62
AETO23	Katy Gallagher	Jobkeeper/apprentice trainees data	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: Can you tell me whether you collect data on the number of apprentices and trainees that are getting JobKeeper, because they might be receiving other payments.</p> <p>Mr Hirschhorn: My understanding of that scheme is that, yes, if you are in receipt of JobKeeper in relation to an employee, you cannot also claim the apprentice subsidy.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: That's right.</p> <p>Mr Hirschhorn: The way that is managed is that we provide data to DESE and DESE data-match that information. I do not have those numbers, but I can advise that we do share data, and I think we gave our first data share to DESE in December last year.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: So you do have the data on trainees and apprentices who are getting JobKeeper, you just don't have it with you?</p> <p>Mr Hirschhorn: As I understand it-and, if I get any of this wrong, obviously I'll clarify the testimony-DESE give us a list of people they are interested in and we give them the data on those who have received JobKeeper.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: They give you a list of people they are interested in-from the-</p> <p>Mr Hirschhorn: I might take this on notice.</p>	Australian Taxation Office	24/03/2021	66
AETO24	Katy Gallagher	ATO/DESE MoU regarding apprentice subsidy data	<p>Senator GALLAGHER: So you were able to fulfil that request from DESE?</p> <p>Mr O'Halloran: For the apprenticeship scheme, yes; and it's covered in relation to our data disclosure and is permitted by the law.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: And you were able to give them all the data they were after?</p> <p>Mr O'Halloran: I might have to check. But often it was a yes/no in terms of whether the employer was in receipt of JobKeeper. DESE is not interested in the noes; they're interested in whether the employer was on it. As you've said, the check was either at that stage or subsequently if there was an application by the entity for a particular apprentice-because that's when they did the match, if you like, to see if there was a breach of what you've described as double dipping.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Do you know whether there was?</p> <p>Mr O'Halloran: No, I don't know the result; and I'm not sure we are aware of it.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Do they have to come back to it through the MOU? Or are you just a provider of information?</p> <p>Mr O'Halloran: Correct. It's not that we're not interested; the MOU and the law allows for us to support their program in line with their policy objectives and the eligibility.</p> <p>Senator GALLAGHER: Are you having to do that every month or every few months?</p> <p>Mr O'Halloran: To my knowledge, it was the first and only request we've received. That was towards the end of JobKeeper phase 1 and the introduction of JobKeeper phase 2. I might have to check whether we have had a subsequent request but, to my knowledge, sitting here today, I'm not aware that we have. Bear in mind that the numbers of JK 1 are obviously significant. But I will take it on notice . I am not aware that we have received a subsequent request.</p>	Australian Taxation Office	24/03/2021	67
AETO25	Nick McKim	Oil and gas companies	<p>Senator McKIM: I do apologise for that. Are you able to tell us how many of the 80 companies that you had said paid zero tax for the six years of that dataset are oil or gas companies?</p> <p>Mr Hirschhorn: I cannot tell you right now. I can take that question on notice.</p> <p>Senator McKIM: You may not have this, so feel free to take it on notice if you wish. I would like to know, across the entire oil and gas sector, whether you have a figure on the average tax paid for the 2018-19 financial year.</p> <p>Mr Hirschhorn: Again, I'll take that on notice.</p>	Australian Taxation Office	24/03/2021	73

AET026	Nick McKim	Petroleum resource rent tax (PRRT)	<p>Senator McKIM: Thank you. Back to the ATO, or this may actually be a question for Treasury. I'm interested in whether there's been an adjustment in the expectations of when the PRRT will, if ever, start to return some serious money for the Australian public, given that it currently returns around \$1 billion per annum against carried forward tax credits of around \$200 billion.</p> <p>Mr Hirschhorn: I'll talk briefly about the current tax take, which is primarily from existing petroleum investments. This is a matter of public record because we publish each year for each company how much PRRT they pay, primarily relating to the Bass Strait investments. Before I pass over to my colleague from Treasury, the Callaghan review did some detailed modelling of potential PRRT collections from the gas industry. My understanding was that that was modelling, under different scenarios, potential collection of PRRT in the 2030s. With that, I might pass over.</p> <p>Ms Mrakovcic: Just to echo, I was actually going to refer you also to the Callaghan report which basically did provide some longer-term projections of PRRT. That's probably the best source at this point.</p> <p>Senator McKIM: Thank you.</p> <p>CHAIR: Senator McKim, this is the last question on this.</p> <p>Senator McKIM: I thank you for your indulgence. Could you take that previous question on notice as well, please?</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	73
AET027	Nick McKim	Forecasting of future Tax take of oil and Gas	<p>Ms Mrakovcic: I have nothing really to add except to note that the next time that we'll be doing forecasting will be in the context of the forthcoming budget.</p> <p>Senator McKIM: I wonder if you could take on notice whether you are able to provide any information.</p> <p>Ms Mrakovcic: I'm happy to take that on notice .</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	73
AET028	Jenny McAllister	Acknowledgement of Country	<p>Senator McALLISTER: I see. Was it before or after the training that you tried to modify the acknowledgement of country that ACNC staff could use on their signature blocks?</p> <p>Dr Johns: I would have to check. I think it would be after the training but not following the training. The point is it had no impact on me. You will recall our discussion of a year or so ago.</p>	Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission	24/03/2021	77
AET029	Stirling Griff	ANAO report progress update	<p>Dr Johns: Good progress. We are writing back to the ANAO to keep them up to date. For instance-</p> <p>Senator GRIFF: Would you table for us the progress that you've made?</p> <p>Dr Johns: Yes, we will. We're only a week or two away, so we're more than happy to furnish that .</p>	Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission	24/03/2021	80
AET030	Eric Abetz	Australia's tax treaty network	<p>Senator ABETZ: Can I turn to a question on notice BET070 on Australia's tax treaty network, which was answered on notice. In the answer I was told this is about tax treaties-'as they may have provided this request on a confidential basis our practice is not to publicly disclose.' How do we know that it may have been provided on a confidential basis? With respect, I would have thought you might have asked whether or not and actually done the homework. Can somebody tell me? Everything may have been provided on a confidential basis so you don't have to answer any questions. I don't want to take it that far, but could you please take this matter on notice again, and tell us which ones were actually confidential and which ones weren't? That's BET070.</p> <p>Mr Jordan: Was the answer provided by Treasury?</p> <p>Senator ABETZ: Yes. If you can do that. Then the small business ombudsman has called for major changes to the way the Australian Taxation Office operates and has made certain recommendations. You're aware of those?</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	80-81
AET031	Eric Abetz	Small Business Tax Debt	<p>Senator ABETZ: Time doesn't allow me to pursue that. Suffice it to say that I think a number of people may have a different view on that. In relation to the total tax debt that is owed by small business, is there a figure you can put on that?</p> <p>Ms Smith: The total collectible debt is \$1.9 billion; I'll just have a look through my notes and give you the split. Approximately two-thirds of that is small business debt-I'll get you that number specifically.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ: Can you provide that on notice, and in particular, how much is basic debt? Then how much of that is alleged or accrued interest and how much is that penalty determined by the tax office? Can we have those splits as well, please?</p> <p>Ms Smith: Yes, I'll get you the actual splits. I can tell you that, of that collectible debt, 80 per cent is primary debt. It's not actually interest or charges; 80 per cent of that value is actually the primary debt. The other thing to add is that I think there's a misunderstanding that we measure the collectible debt we have within the debt book separately to disputed debt. The collectible debt is largely self-assessed debt, where a business has acknowledged there is money due. We often work with that business, potentially on a payment plan, to help them to manage their cash flows to pay that money.</p> <p>Mr Jordan: To context that: they might have put a BAS statement and said what their GST debt is and what their pay-as-you-go debt might be, and they haven't paid-they just owe the funds. But they acknowledge they have that debt.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ: In providing the answer to me on notice, can you refer to question 85 of the inquiry into the Commissioner of Taxation annual report 2018-19, where my colleague Jason Falinski asked whether the ATO could provide the committee with the total tax debt the ATO says small business owed for the last five years, and provide the split of that debt in each year into primary debt and interest penalties; how much of the debt relates to the taxpayer's self-assessment; and how much of the debt relates to debt created throughout ATO audits. The answer was that the ATO was unable to provide the split of the tax debt into interest and penalties. That was in June 2020, but can you provide that now? If you could provide it now, in March 2021, we would all be delighted.</p> <p>Ms Smith: It's true that it's difficult for us to split it; our systems don't differentiate between that or actually allow us to report on that information easily.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ: Quite frankly, I find that hard to understand. I accept at face value what you're telling me, but I would have thought with the sophistication of-</p> <p>CHAIR: We do need to move on.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ: Yes, thank you. Take all that on notice, and again thanks, Chair, and the committee .</p>	Australian Taxation Office	24/03/2021	82
AET032	Malcolm Roberts	Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA)	<p>Senator ROBERTS: I want to ask questions about FATCA, which, for people on the committee who don't understand, is the US legislation Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act. In implementing the US FATCA legislation, one major group of stakeholders has been ignored from the very beginning. They're the individuals, typically dual Australian and US citizens, whose financial data is being reported to a foreign government. This goes beyond the question of why are we reporting data about Australian citizens to a foreign government, but it goes into the specifics of FATCA. In drafting the post implementation review of FATCA, did Treasury consider the impact on those Australians whose accounts were being reported to the Internal Revenue Service in America?</p> <p>Ms Mrakovcic: I would have to take that on notice .</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	84

AET033	Malcolm Roberts	Data sharing under FATCA	<p>Senator ROBERTS: I'm aware of that; its blackmail. Let's continue asking questions, which may have to be on notice, but I thank you for that clarification. What were the number of accounts and aggregate values reported to the American Internal Revenue Service in the FATCA data sent by the ATO in September 2018, September 2019 September 2020? You can take that on notice.</p> <p>Mr Hirschhorn: Senator, I am going to have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator ROBERTS: Thank you. Of these accounts, how many were held by Australian residents? I imagine you'll have to take that on notice too. How many were under the US\$50,000 minimum reporting threshold?</p> <p>Mr Hirschhorn: Again-on notice.</p> <p>Senator ROBERTS: Were there any accounts reported by institutions that qualify as local-client-base banks, under the FATCA agreement? How are account holders firstly informed that their data is being sent to the Internal Revenue Service, and secondly the amounts being reported under FATCA? What opportunity do account holders have to correct the information reported about them to a foreign government?</p> <p>Mr Hirschhorn: Senator, I'll take those on notice. Primarily the relationship of the account holder is with their bank, who first provides the information to us which we then provide on. Many of those notification points will be matters between a bank and its clients. I would say that I expect the clients would almost universally, if not universally, be advised that they are a person with US indicia and be asked for more information to clarify their US potential status.</p> <p>Senator ROBERTS: Which raises more questions, but that's not for now. Thank you for that. Why wasn't a privacy impact statement, a PIA, conducted with regard to FATCA reporting? Given the quantity of data being sent to foreign governments under both FATCA and the CRS-the Common Reporting Standard-shouldn't a privacy impact statement be conducted as soon as possible?</p> <p>Mr Hirschhorn: Senator, I'll have to take that on notice, but I don't think that's-</p> <p>Ms Mrakovcic: We'll take that on notice between the two of us .</p>	Australian Taxation Office	24/03/2021	85
AET034	Malcolm Roberts	Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) reporting	<p>Senator ROBERTS: FATCA reporting includes reporting on the Australian income of Australian residents. Has Treasury expressed their support of a Same Country Exemption to FATCA, as recommended by the US Taxpayer Advocate?</p> <p>Mr Hirschhorn: Is that a question for Treasury?</p> <p>Ms Mrakovcic: Senator, I'll take that on notice .</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	85
AET035	Jenny McAllister	Early release of super	<p>Senator McALLISTER: It actually is. I'm interested in understanding how many women Treasury expected would use the scheme each year.</p> <p>Ms Quinn: It would have depended on the final policy parameters and the final implementation design. It would have depended on the final decisions. But, as the government is not proceeding with it, that work wouldn't have been completed.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: But had you looked at different scenarios? I am genuinely interested in trying to understand what the government's understanding of demand is. Was there a set of assumptions developed about the number of women that might seek to access the scheme? What was the basis of the work that you were undertaking?</p> <p>Ms Quinn: There would have been assumptions. I'll just pass to-</p> <p>Mr Preston: There were assumptions, but I'll have to take on notice the precise take-up estimates at the time.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Am I correct in understanding that this would have been a net cost to the budget had it proceeded?</p> <p>Mr Preston: Had the measure proceeded? No. The release of super through early release is taxed at marginal rates up to 22 per cent, and release of super under this round would have been taxed commensurately with that existing treatment.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: So it would have been a budget saving to implement it?</p> <p>Mr Preston: Correct.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Can you provide on notice what the projected budgetary impact of the measure was?</p> <p>Mr Preston: I'm happy to take it on notice .</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	88
AET036	Jenny McAllister	Early Release Super (ERS) - submissions and consultations	<p>Senator McALLISTER: I understand. I understand that there were different designs under consideration. Ms Quinn, you made reference earlier to the consultation processes that were underway around this and that there were two rounds of consultation. I'm interested in the second round, where submissions closed in February 2019. Did you receive any submissions?</p> <p>Mr Preston: Yes, we received submissions.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: How many submissions did you receive?</p> <p>Ms Quinn: I'm happy to take that on notice. I don't have the exact number. There have been a whole series of different discussions and submissions et cetera. I'm happy to take on notice how many submissions were actually put in-</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: I'm aware of the first round, which was broader, and then a second round consultation on a narrower set of propositions. I'm interested in the number of submissions received.</p> <p>Ms Quinn: And then there were roundtables as well with particular parties. So not all the consultation was in the form of written submissions; some of it was in the form of roundtables and discussions and follow-up discussions.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: The website currently says that there are no submissions available. The submission process closed in February 2019. Why is that?</p> <p>Ms Quinn: Submissions can be released at different stages in a policy development cycle. It's usual practice that submissions are released when something is consulted on in terms of draft regulations or legislation, and, as the government hadn't got to that point, the submissions hadn't been released.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: So, despite the fact that, when people made their submissions, they were told explicitly in the consultation paper that their submissions would be published, you've chosen not to publish them?</p> <p>Ms Quinn: The usual course of events is that they're published at the time that-the next step is draft regulations, for example, being released and that's often when submissions are released. It is a matter for government when the submissions are released as part of the policymaking process because they are submissions to the government.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Yes, they are. I'm interested in understanding whether you intend to ever publish them.</p> <p>Ms Quinn: I'm happy to take that on notice or ask the minister. Usually they're released once, as I've mentioned before-as the government is not proceeding with this, it wouldn't be usually the case that you release submissions for something that has been paused or stopped .</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	88-89

AET037	Nick McKim	Stakeholders who requested an extension or delay around the legislation implementing the recommendations of the royal commission	<p>Mr Kelly: I can actually identify some of the principal ones now, if that would help.</p> <p>Senator McKIM: Sure, that would be helpful. Thank you.</p> <p>Mr Kelly: And I don't think they'll be surprising. They are the Australian Banking Association, the Insurance Council Australia, the Financial Services Council, the Customer Owned Banking Association, the Association of Superannuation Funds of Australia, the Financial Planning Association of Australia, the Combined Industry Forum, the Australian Finance Industry Association and the Law Society of New South Wales. Also the members of those bodies made individual representations, and it would be more challenging to give a full list of those, because some of those representations would have been orally, over the phone.</p> <p>Senator McKIM: Sure. I understand that it would be challenging to provide a list of people who had made oral requests. So, perhaps as you've kindly offered to take it on notice, I'll clarify that I'm after the organisations that made written requests, either electronically-by email-or-</p> <p>Mr Kelly: I'll take it on notice, whether there are any further ones to add to the list I just gave you .</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	96-97
AET038	Jenny McAllister	Consultation and feedback regarding single touch payroll	<p>Senator McALLISTER: What has been the consultation with employers in terms of that, which is a reasonably significant change to payroll?</p> <p>Ms Quinn: I will pass to my colleague Ms Kelly.</p> <p>Ms Kelly: I apologise: I have only just started in this role, so I may need to take a few questions on notice. There have been consultations in relation to the bill and we received 61 submissions in relation to the bill, and that includes in relation to stapling. There will be further consultations with employers and employer groups as the regulations are exposed.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Have they given you any feedback about the cost associated with changing their payroll processes?</p> <p>Ms Kelly: I will have to take that question on notice. I will mention, though, that in the second stage we will be able to access existing systems-the Single Touch Payroll is an example which, for all employers, from 30 June this year, will be in play.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Yes, but in the first stage they will have to change their payroll processes to accommodate what is proposed. Have they provided you feedback about cost impacts associated with that? I think you took that question on notice. A different question, running in the other direction: has Treasury sought to do any analysis about the likely cost impact on business of changing their payroll processes in this way?</p> <p>Ms Kelly: We will have to take that question on notice.</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	100
AET039	Jenny McAllister	Modelling of releasing super for the purposes of purchasing housing	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Have you conducted any modelling since the 2019 election on the impacts of releasing superannuation for housing?</p> <p>Ms Quinn: We would have provided advice on some of the options that government took up in relation to housing and super. We would have done analysis as part of those policies, in the sense of costing, which we talked about. In terms of other policies, I would have to take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: I am asking very specifically about whether Treasury has modelled or analysed the impacts of releasing superannuation for the purposes of purchasing housing.</p> <p>Ms Quinn: We have certainly done costings on government policy that relates to ding being able to put money aside for super through the scheme. I can take on notice your other question in terms of other policies. We provide advice and analysis sometimes in response to things in the public domain, as part of question time briefs, as part of media briefing and all the rest of it. So I am happy to clarify the question and take it on notice. Is your question particularly about member Wilson's policy advice or more general, if you access-</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: I asked you, first, whether or not you'd been asked to provide advice on the proposal that is advocated for by Mr Wilson. I am now asking a more general question, which is whether Treasury has been conducting modelling about the impacts of releasing super for the purposes of purchasing housing, and the impact that would have on the property market. I understand Senator Hume's separate point, which is that there is a scheme that sits alongside. But the point I'm looking for is whether or not you have analysed the impact of taking retirement savings, essentially, and releasing them for home purchase.</p> <p>Ms Quinn: I'm happy to take that on notice.</p> <p>Mr Preston: We can take it on notice. I'm not aware of any modelling on house prices. But we can take it on notice to confirm .</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	101
AET040	Jenny McAllister	Continuous Disclosure Charges; consultation	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Alright. We'll wait and see if you've done any modelling on that. Turning to a different issue-and, Chair, this is my last set of questions for Markets Group-I wanted to ask you about the continuous disclosure changes. What consultation occurred prior to the implementation of the temporary measure that weakens continuous disclosure rules in May 2020?</p> <p>Ms Quinn: As you know, the initial temporary measure was put in place as part of the COVID response from the government. There was consultation, certainly, with the regulator, on which there's been correspondence back and forward between this and other committees. In terms of additional correspondence and consultation, I'll just pass to my colleague.</p> <p>Mr Dickson: Similarly, I'm new to the position and I'd be happy to take that question on notice to be able to give you the detail on tha t.</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	102
AET041	Jenny McAllister	ASIC resourcing	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Last Friday, at the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services, ASIC Commissioner Cathy Armour said that 'the changes will mean that ASIC will have to spend more time on each incidence and would potentially not be able to pursue as many cases as we can now'. Will ASIC be receiving additional resources to deal with the implications of these changes?</p> <p>Ms Quinn: That is a matter for government in considering ASIC's budget.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Minister?</p> <p>Senator Hume: I'll take that on notice.</p>	Department of the Treasury	24/03/2021	103
AET042	Susan McDonald	Northern Australia Insurance funding options	<p>Senator McDONALD: Oh dear! I was going to ask questions on something else, but now I'm going to have to do northern Australia insurance. I am a resident of northern Australia. I've just done an inquiry with Senator Watt into northern Australia issues, and this is a big one. One of the things we came up on in the last lot of hearings, when we had the Insurance Council and others in, was the concept of using a levy like the terrorism levy. It's some time since I read the report, and I can't recall: is that something you looked at as an option for government?</p> <p>Ms Proudfoot: I'll need to take that on notice. I came into the process a bit later, and it wasn't something we looked at while I was involved.</p> <p>Mr Sims: I don't think we went to the funding mechanism at all, whether it was a levy or-I don't think we considered how the government might fund the subsidy if they were to go down that road.</p>	Australian Competition and Consumer Commission	24/03/2021	116

AET043	Susan McDonald	Dairy Code	<p>Senator McDONALD: Terrific! I will quickly ask a couple of questions about the dairy code. This is on behalf of Senator McKenzie, who had a question on notice-No. 115. It's with regard to the dairy code initial observations on compliance update on 15 December 2020. As part of the ACCC's engagement and education on the code, the update outlines how the commission raised awareness of the code and educated about its requirements. Can you provide data on how many dairy farmers and processors these activities reached, and their efficacy?</p> <p>Mr Bezzi: I think we might have to take on notice the number of farmers that were reached.</p> <p>Senator McDONALD: Did the ACCC monitor and evaluate the distribution of information from the Dairy Consultative Committee to farmers and processors?</p> <p>Mr Bezzi: If I understand your question correctly-did we inquire of the members of the committee as to whether they were actually providing information to farmers and processors?-I'd have to take that on notice as well. We assume that members of the committee are well engaged, as representatives of the industry, with the industry. I'm very happy to take that on notice as well.</p> <p>Senator McDONALD: Regarding the requirement to publish non-exclusive milk supply agreements, can you provide data on the number of exclusive milk supply agreements and non-exclusive milk supply agreements?</p> <p>Mr Bezzi: We can provide that data.</p> <p>Senator McDONALD: There are a lot of detail questions here. I'm going to provide these on notice and allow you some time to answer them fully.</p>	Australian Competition and Consumer Commission	24/03/2021	117
AET044	Jenny McAllister	National Housing Infrastructure Funds dispersed	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Okay; that makes sense. The original structure was \$600 million in concessional loans, \$225 million in equity and \$175 million in grants. Does that remain the internal allocation of the fund?</p> <p>Mr Dal Bon: That's right.</p> <p>Can I just run through each of those categories, then, in terms of approved, committed and dispersed?</p> <p>Mr Dal Bon: There's been no equity as part of those numbers.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: No equity.</p> <p>Mr Dal Bon: In terms of the precise breakdown for the \$227 and \$157, I will need to take that on notice and comeback to you with the exact figures in terms of the split between loans and grants.</p>	National Housing Finance and Investment Corporation	24/03/2021	118
AET045	Jenny McAllister	Notification to NHFIC of observer board member appointment	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Yes, from your perspective. I understand the limitations of your advice. Separately, I understand that Mr Jeremenko has been appointed as an observer on the NHFIC board. What date was NHFIC notified that an observer board member would be appointed?</p> <p>Mr Dal Bon: I'll check the exact date, but I think from memory that that was 1 October 2020.</p>	National Housing Finance and Investment Corporation	24/03/2021	119
AET046	Anthony Chisholm	2021 Census activities outsourced to contractors	<p>Senator CHISHOLM: What census activities are being outsourced to contractors? How much of the ABS's expenditure on the census is being spent on labour hire firms or outsourced contractors? We have over 50 suppliers and partners working on the census with us, so quite large swathes of it have been outsourced-for example, the build of our digital census, the hiring of most of our field staff and so on. We can provide on notice the list of those contracts and contractors. I'll refer also to the general manager of the census, Mr Libreri, who might be able to give more detail. But the question is a big one, and we can certainly provide that detail to you.</p>	Australian Bureau of Statistics	24/03/2021	120
AET047	Anthony Chisholm	2021 Census Adecco contract value	<p>Senator CHISHOLM: I was actually going to ask about Adecco next. So they just recruit people for the ABS to employ directly?</p> <p>Ms Dickinson: That is correct. They recruit and they manage the screening processes and so on.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: What would be the value of their contract with the ABS?</p> <p>Unless Mr Libreri knows off hand, we'll take that as a question on notice.</p> <p>Mr Libreri: Yes, we'll give you a precise number on notice.</p>	Australian Bureau of Statistics	24/03/2021	121
AET048	Anthony Chisholm	2021 Census Recruitment - Adecco contact with MPs	<p>Senator CHISHOLM: Are you aware Adecco has been calling Labor MPs and asking for their free assistance in recruiting census workers in their electorate?</p> <p>Ms Dickinson: No, I was not aware of that.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: Does it concern you that they're relying on Labor MPs to help staff the census?</p> <p>Ms Dickinson: I would need to know more about what's being asked and the context for that.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: Are there any conditions around how Adecco are supposed to operate to recruit staff?</p> <p>Ms Dickinson: Yes. We have quite a detailed contract with them as to how they're expected to operate.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: And I presume relying on members of parliament is not one of them?</p> <p>Ms Dickinson: I don't know that, but it would be hard to imagine that it was, wouldn't it.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: Is it appropriate for a contractor to be calling MPs and asking for their free assistance in performing a task they're being paid to complete?</p> <p>Ms Dickinson: As I said, I'm not aware of the context of this and what's been happening. I would need to find out more before I could make comment on it.</p>	Australian Bureau of Statistics	24/03/2021	121
AET049	Andrew Bragg	Remediation of REST	<p>Senator BRAGG: Thank you for clearing that up. I think people would be pleased to see ASIC leading prosecutions in this area. One of the issues that I wanted to ask you about today is what happens in relation to remediation. In the case of these organisations, where they're owned by unions and employer groups and they haven't got any capital requirements really, what is the plan for remediation? Who pays when the trustee does something in the interests of the union or the bank or whatever and all there is is the members' money?</p> <p>Ms Press: The remediation that REST has undertaken has been, I believe, undertaken from the operational risk reserve of the fund. That is what the operational risk reserve was established for, but I would need to take on notice exactly which reserve they are taking it from. If you're talking about civil penalties, that's a different matter. Any civil penalties charged will be a matter for the court, and it will be a different question as to where that can be paid from.</p>	Australian Securities and Investments Commission	25/03/2021	4



AET050	Andrew Bragg	REST proceedings media release	<p>Senator BRAGG: I want to ask about your media briefing policy. These might be questions for you, Chair. Has ASIC ever sent embargoed media releases to external sources, such as journalists?</p> <p>Mr Shipton: I believe that we have from time to time. I'd prefer to take the detail on notice because I don't want to give an inaccurate response; but I believe, from time to time, that does occur.</p> <p>Senator BRAGG: So you do, from time to time, send embargoed releases to journalists?</p> <p>Mr Shipton: I believe so, but, as I've said, I'd like to take that on broader notice.</p> <p>Senator BRAGG: What sorts of briefings are conducted by your commissioners or your media staff in relation to ASIC's actions? Are their briefings that are provided to journalists approved by you or by the commission?</p> <p>Mr Shipton: We have a communication plan for most, if not everything, that has a public element to it, which is a tremendous amount of our work-in fact, probably the bulk of our work-and it's difficult to generalise about the communications plans, because that's why we develop them; and specific matters will have a specific, targeted and, I'd probably venture to say, unique communications plan which is tailored to that particular situation and that particular announcement and/or event.</p> <p>Senator BRAGG: I just want to ask you about this case, the REST issue, that we discussed this morning. There was a release issued on 2 March about REST proceedings for misleading and deceptive representations to members. Was this particular release provided to journalists under embargo?</p> <p>Mr Shipton: I will have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator BRAGG: Were any commissioners involved with that particular engagement?</p> <p>Mr Shipton: I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator BRAGG: Can you?</p> <p>Mr Shipton: I personally wasn't, so I can't speak for others; but I'd like to take that on notice.</p>	Australian Securities and Investments Commission	25/03/2021	5-Jun
AET051	Larissa Waters	ALS Investigation	<p>Senator WATERS: I have some questions on one matter. The Financial Review reported on 24 February last year on allegations that coal testing laboratories were frequently inflating the calorific quality of Australian coal. Lab giant ALS disclosed to the ASX that an internal probe had found that almost half its export certificates since 2007 had been manually inflated without justification. In June it was reported that the lab ALS had been subject to a fraud squad police raid and a spokesperson for the State Crime Command said that the investigation was being led by ASIC. Can you confirm that ASIC is investigating this matter and whom you are investigating?</p> <p>Ms Armour: We are very much aware of that matter. I would prefer at this stage not to make any further comment. It is not our practice to comment on matters where we have inquiries underway.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: I certainly do not wish to prejudice the outcome of the inquiry. I will persist, because there are a few questions that I think you might be able to answer without jeopardising it, but I'll leave that to your judgement. Can I just get clarity on whether ASIC is investigating?</p> <p>Ms Armour: We are making inquiries on that matter.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Thank you. Are you investigating just ALS or do your inquiries also extend to TerraCom?</p> <p>Ms Armour: I would prefer not to go further.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Okay. Do your inquiries extend to whether there has been misleading of the market?</p> <p>Ms Armour: Again, I would prefer to leave that for the time being.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Do you have a time frame for your inquiries?</p> <p>Ms Armour: Unfortunately, not at this stage.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Okay. It is a bit hard-</p> <p>Ms Armour: Yes, I am sorry.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: If you can share anything further on notice, that would be good.</p> <p>Ms Armour: Thank you.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Have you had contact with other departments, in particular Foreign Affairs and Trade or DSEA, about this matter?</p> <p>Ms Armour: I would have to take that on notice; I don't know the answer to that.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Are you able to tell me when the inquiries began?</p> <p>Ms Armour: I don't have that information so again, I would have to take that on notice.</p>	Australian Securities and Investments Commission	25/03/2021	12
AET052	Jenny McAllister	Non ADI lending reforms	<p>Senator McALLISTER: But that is contingent on the nature of the regulatory arrangements established by APRA.</p> <p>Mr Hughes: In relation to non-ADI lending, I would agree with you. Another area of focus for us in relation to consumer credit is referrals we may receive from AFCA, particularly in relation to systemic matters.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: How will it interact with the reforms that were passed by then Treasurer Morrison to strengthen consumer protections associated with credit cards? I will observe for the benefit of committee members that I think in large part that responded to work that was done before this committee to expose some of the problems in credit card regulation. Will the legislation presently before the parliament affect the reforms that were put in place through the bill in 2018?</p> <p>Mr Hughes: I would prefer to take that question on notice because I don't want to mislead you as to the extent to which there is an impact on those reforms. I will take that on notice, if I may.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Those reforms require the lender to assess the ability of a consumer to repay a credit card within a period of three years.</p> <p>Mr Hughes: Yes.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Will that requirement be scrapped under the government's proposed legislative-</p> <p>Mr Hughes: My understanding is that it will not change, but I will confirm that in writing on notice.</p>	Australian Securities and Investments Commission	25/03/2021	13-14

AET053	Jenny McAllister	Cost impact of additional roles	<p>Senator McALLISTER: Mr Shipton, has ASIC been provided with additional resources to fund this new role?</p> <p>Mr Shipton: I'll have to take that on notice or defer to others.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Is there any contemplation of ASIC increasing its industry fund levies to meet the resource requirements of the new role?</p> <p>Mr Shipton: The way industry funding works is that it's very mechanical. If our costs increase then it has to be allocated across the various different subsectors and populations. It is just a mechanical and general response. If our costs increase and that's approved by budget-and, of course, our budget is approved annually by the government-then there will be a cost increase. I can't speculate whether or not a specific item which is to be determined will or will not increase fees at this stage, except to give you that sort of general mechanical response.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Has any attempt been made to understand the cost impact on ASIC of taking on this role?</p> <p>Mr Shipton: I'll take that on notice. I know that we are thinking it through, as the minister has said, and this is work in progress, but I'll defer to Commissioner Press as well.</p>	Australian Securities and Investments Commission	25/03/2021	14
AET054	Jenny McAllister	Industry levy to financial advice licensees	<p>Senator McALLISTER: How much has ASIC increased the industry levy to financial advice licensees over the past two years?</p> <p>Mr Shipton: I'm going to defer to colleagues in Melbourne who have detailed knowledge of this.</p> <p>Ms Press: The increase in cost per adviser has been about 29 per cent over the last 12 months. I would have to take on notice what it was from 2018-19.</p>	Australian Securities and Investments Commission	25/03/2021	15
AET055	Susan McDonald	Cash settlement fact sheets	<p>Senator McDONALD: I'm specifically interested in the cash settlement fact sheets. I want to know what steps you're taking to ensure that it is not going to slow down claims, particularly for policy holders who are experiencing financial hardship. While we're on that topic, there has been a huge amount of change for insurers following the Hayne royal commission. Between that and other new ideas that ASIC is thinking up, what sorts of measurements are you doing to understand the impact on industry and, more importantly, the impact on consumers?</p> <p>Ms Chester: I might need to take on notice the specific issue around the cash settlement information sheet that you referred to-I'm not closely familiar with that-so I can give you a more accurate answer. I think the issue, though, that you're raising is what expectations do we have now, given there will be changes to the requirements around claims handling going forward. From 1 July 2021, persons providing claims handling and settling services will need to be covered by an AFS licence. That's the first thing. We've also set out our expectations that those involved in handling insurance claims need to act consistently with the duty of utmost good faith. That's an existing requirement. We've been continuing to promote and enforce these standards. That was supported more recently by ASIC's action against the insurer Youi in November 2020 in the decision of the Federal Court.</p> <p>Senator McDONALD: If you're taking on notice my question about the cash settlement fact sheets, they were introduced from 1 January this year. I'm getting feedback that it is slowing down settlements. ASIC keeps coming up with these brilliant ideas. I want to know what measurements there are. What are you putting in place to understand the impact that it's having on consumers? I'm from a part of the world where we have a lot of natural disasters-not that many; you should come and visit, as it's fantastic. But do you understand the impact of regulation and how you introduce it? Do you have any systems in place to measure the impact on the outcomes for consumers? That's my question.</p> <p>Ms Chester: That's a very good question; let me help. Firstly, by way of background, I, too, come from Queensland. I spent a lot of time in a previous life looking at natural disaster funding arrangements. I spent about six weeks up and down the coast of Queensland, so I am very familiar with this, including public hearings and inquiries where we met with many people that had been affected.</p> <p>ASIC's role here, first and foremost, is about good consumer outcomes. The new claims handling arrangements, coupled with the obligations and expectations that we've articulated to insurers, including a letter that we wrote to them before the disaster season that commenced in November last year, was what our expectations were for rapid-fire claims handling.</p> <p>With respect to the cash settlement arrangements, I will take that on notice. I'm not aware, with the particular concern that you're raising, that it's anything to do with ASIC-that we've imposed a regulatory requirement such that it would hold up claims handling. Our raison d'être is to make sure that claims handling is managed not only honestly, efficiently and fairly by the insurers, but also as quickly as possible.</p>	Australian Securities and Investments Commission	25/03/2021	16-17
AET056	Susan McDonald	Regulatory changes slowing down claims	<p>Senator McDONALD: What about if the slowing down is actually the result of new, more onerous regulations that don't improve outcomes for consumers? We heard evidence last night about banks always taking the blame for unexpected defaults on loans. Now we're saying that it's always insurers' problems regarding the slowing down of claims, yet I'm hearing about almost a tsunami of new regulation requirements. Is it reasonable? I'm going to run out of time. The chair's giving me a wind-up. I will follow this up with you about it not always being the insurer's fault. How are you measuring what impact a whole raft of additional regulations is having on the industry and, most importantly, on consumers?</p> <p>Ms Chester: The regulatory changes that have been put in place by the government were subject to assessment by Treasury on the impact on the industry. The purpose of those regulatory changes and what is now required of the insurers should actually be speeding up claims handling outcomes. I'm not aware of the concern that you're raising with me. In the last three months I have met and spoken with the chairs and CEOs of all of the insurers. None of them have raised these regulations as a concern for us in terms of it slowing down claims handling and claims processing.</p> <p>The reason that claims handling and claims processing are so slow is a matter that's in the hands of the institutions. I'm happy to take the question on notice, look at that particular regulation that you've identified and come back to you more fulsomely as to whether or not there's an issue with that regulation holding things up.</p>	Australian Securities and Investments Commission	25/03/2021	17-18
AET057	Rex Patrick	GFG reporting obligations	<p>Senator PATRICK: In testimony in this committee on 20 February 2019, I talked with Mr Price and Mr Day about timely reporting in relation to GFG group. Can you give me some understanding as to whether or not GFG here in Australia are currently meeting their reporting obligations?</p> <p>Ms Chester: I'll take that question on notice.</p>	Australian Securities and Investments Commission	25/03/2021	19

AET058	Rex Patrick	Tax Avoidance and Minimisations; discussions with the Minister	<p>Senator PATRICK: I've got a couple more questions. On a slightly different topic, I'll go back to a submission you made, Mr Shipton, to the inquiry into corporate tax avoidance. You offered advice to the government about methods that could improve transparency in relation to tax avoidance and minimisation. One of the recommendations you made related to grandfathered large proprietary companies. I will read what you said:</p> <p>The concept of 'grandfathered large proprietary companies' could be removed from the Corporations Act and these companies required to lodge financial reports with ASIC. This would remove any inequity with similar companies that are required to lodge financial reports. Consideration may need to be given to privacy concerns that may have contributed to the original decision to provide the grandfathering exemption.</p> <p>Is that still ASIC's view? If not, why not?</p> <p>Ms Armour: I believe it is still our view, yes.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: Has the minister engaged with you in relation to this particular exemption, noting that a number of amendments have been put forward on a number of bills to seek to do exactly what ASIC recommended?</p> <p>Ms Armour: I would have to check whether or not we've had discussions on those matters with Treasury or with the minister's office.</p>	Australian Securities and Investments Commission	25/03/2021	19
AET059	Rex Patrick	Policy directions	<p>Senator Patrick: Finally, under section 12 of your act, Mr Shipton, the minister can give you directions in relation to policies. In this financial year have any directions been given to you; if so, what were those directions?</p> <p>Mr Shipton: I'm not aware of any directions, but let me take that on notice.</p> <p>Ms Armour: We were given a direction, but it may have been in the preceding financial year, in relation to collecting information about financial advisers.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: On notice, could you provide the directions in this financial year and the last financial year? They're supposed to be gazetted. Obviously, you're the central repository of knowledge about ASIC. I'd appreciate it if you provide that to me on notice.</p> <p>Ms Armour: Yes.</p>	Australian Securities and Investments Commission	25/03/2021	19
AET060	Jenny McAllister	List of super fund mergers	<p>Senator McALLISTER: This is probably for you, Mrs Rowell. I'm interested in merger activity. How many super fund mergers have taken place in the last few years and how many are currently on foot? You would have your data in a particular form?</p> <p>Mrs Rowell: Yes. I think there've been about eight in the last financial year and we're aware of something of the order of 15 more that are under discussion or at various stages of progress.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: On notice, could you provide a list of the mergers you are aware of that have taken place over the last two years and those where discussions are on foot?</p> <p>Mrs Rowell: We can provide the ones that have taken place over the last couple of years and the ones that are not confidential and are in train.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: Could you also give us a rough indication of the eight that have taken place so far, and what the split is between the not-for-profit and retail sectors?</p> <p>Mrs Rowell: I can. I think it is a mix. There have been some corporate and some not-for-profit. There were obviously some material retail ones; IOOF and OnePath spring to mind. But the weight has been in the corporate and the not-for-profit sectors. Some material retail ones are obviously still in train.</p> <p>Senator McALLISTER: So, of those eight, there is one in the retail sector?</p> <p>Mrs Rowell: I think there is more than one, but let me confirm that on notice.</p>	Australian Prudential Regulation Authority	25/03/2021	22
AET061	Perin Davey	Climate risk evaluation and the vulnerability assessments	<p>Senator DAVEY: As you're developing the pilot you're working with the banks. Are you also working with the resources sector, agricultural industries, to find out how they can be part of the solution?</p> <p>Mr Byres: I'm not sure. I'd have to take on notice what engagement we've had beyond the financial sector. As I said, we're learning here so we're happy to have input. I'll take on notice what other engagement we've had.</p> <p>Senator DAVEY: I'd appreciate that. Thank you.</p>	Australian Prudential Regulation Authority	25/03/2021	24
AET062	Larissa Waters	Climate risk disclosure	<p>Senator WATERS: Again, that's a guide; it's not a mandatory direction. Before we leave this particular topic, can you list for me any other countries that have either mandated climate risk disclosure or announced an intention to do so for the financial sector and/or large corporations? Have you got that to hand?</p> <p>Mr Byres: I don't have that to hand. I'm happy to take it on notice.</p> <p>Mrs Rowell: The UK has made it mandatory for its pension funds. I'm not sure if it's broader than pension funds. That's one that I am aware of.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: I think in the UK it is large companies as well.</p> <p>Mr Byres: We'll take that on notice and get you a list. Just to be clear, you asked for those that have and those that have flagged their intention to do so?</p>	Australian Prudential Regulation Authority	25/03/2021	27-28

AET063	Timothy Ayres	Insolvency cases	<p>In relation to the above companies and multiple items of correspondence to ASIC from creditors of the companies and representatives of creditors, the most recent dated 1 March 2021:</p> <p>1.Which member of the ASIC executive team responsible for insolvencies, administrations and liquidations has taken responsibility for responding to creditors in this matter? If no responsibility has been taken, why not?</p> <p>2.When will ASIC provide the creditors with a detailed response to the matters pertaining to the Walton insolvency that they have been seeking from ASIC?</p> <p>3.Is the relevant ASIC officer aware that in McCann, in the matter of Walton Construction (Qld) Pty Ltd (in Liq) v QHT Investments Pty Ltd [2018] FCA 1986 at paragraph 40, Derrington, J. said: ' That said, it is clear from the conduct of Mawson, the NAB and Mr Craig Walton that none of them sought to advance the interests of the companies and their unsecured creditors and if the companies received any advantage from their actions it was purely coincidental.</p> <p>And further, at paragraph 134, His Honour said: "The evidence identified above establishes, and I so find, that the strategies leading up to the entry into the Restructure Agreements and the entry into those agreements themselves were directed to the purposes of extricating the NAB and relieving Mr Walton and his associated companies from potential liability under guarantees to the NAB. They were devised by Mawson for the purposes of achieving the identified objectives."</p> <p>Does the finding of Derrington J. in relation to the conduct of the Walton companies and their principal, NAB and Mawson point to conduct that could constitute a criminal or civil offence which could be prosecuted by ASIC? If not, please provide a detailed explanation of why not.</p> <p>4.Does ASIC consider any of the conduct of the Walton companies and/or their principal, Mawson or NAB described in the judgement in McCann, in the matter of Walton Construction (Qld) Pty Ltd (in Liq) v QHT Investments Pty Ltd [2018] FCA 1986, or alternatively, if proven, the conduct alleged in the statement of claim filed in the Victorian Registry of the Federal Court of Australia in Williams &amp; Kersten Pty Ltd v National Australia Bank (VID993/2019) to be conduct that could constitute a criminal or civil offence which could be prosecuted by ASIC? If not, please provide a detailed explanation of why not? If so, please explain ASIC's apparent unwillingness to prosecute?</p> <p>5.In respect of a report of misconduct made by Walton creditors (ASIC ref: CAS-24183-D2Q6MS) and an email to the complainant on 24 February 2020 advising that ASIC is reviewing its decision in respect of the complaint:</p> <p>(a)Has the review been completed? If so, when? If not, when will the review be completed?</p> <p>(b)Will the complainant be advised of the outcome of the review?</p> <p>(c)Will the complainant be provided with detailed reasons for the outcome of the review? If not, why not?</p> <p>6.Does ASIC consider that the inclusion of Grant Thornton on NAB's panel of preferred insolvency practitioners creates a real or perceived conflict of interest in circumstances where Grant Thornton is acting in the Walton liquidation, NAB has been found by the Federal Court to have acted at the very least unconscionably in the Walton matter and inclusion on NAB's panel of preferred insolvency practitioners would confer financial benefits on Grant Thornton and its partners? If not, why not?</p> <p>7.Since 2015, what steps has ASIC taken to mitigate the impact of unregulated pre-insolvency advisors as described by ASIC in evidence to the Senate Economics References Committee 2015 inquiry into insolvency in the construction industry, and who routinely provide pre-insolvency advice designed to defeat the interests of unsecured creditors and facilitate illegal phoenixing activity?</p>	Australian Securities and Investments Commission	25/03/2021	
AET064	Alex Gallacher	Apprentices and trainees receiving both the Apprentice and Trainee Wage Subsidy and JobKeeper	<p>1.What is the total number of employers of apprentices and trainees that are receiving both the Apprentice and Trainee Wage Subsidy and JobKeeper?</p> <p>2.What is the amount being paid to employers that are receiving both the Apprentice and Trainee Wage Subsidy and JobKeeper by the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Each local government area;</li> <li>- Each state electorate; and</li> <li>- Each federal electorate.</li> </ul> <p>3.What is the total number of apprentices and trainees receiving just JobKeeper?</p> <p>4. How many apprentices/trainees are receiving both JobKeeper and the Apprentice and Trainee Wage Subsidy?</p>	Department of the Treasury	26/03/2021	
AET065	Rachel Siewert	Waubra Foundation	<p>Following the ACNC's decision to revoke the Waubra Foundation's charitable status and DGR status, the Waubra Foundation donated its gift fund to another organisation registered with the ACNC according to the terms of its Constitution. Which organisation received the funds of the Waubra Foundation, and what efforts did ACNC make to ensure that the recipient had similar objectives?</p>	Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission	30/03/2021	
AET066	Alex Gallacher	Cyber security incident	<p>1.On 25 January 2021, ASIC disclosed a cyber security incident related to a vulnerability in the Accellion file transfer appliance (<a href="https://asic.gov.au/about-asic/news-centre/news-items/accellion-cyber-incident/">https://asic.gov.au/about-asic/news-centre/news-items/accellion-cyber-incident/</a>).</p> <p>When and how did ASIC first become aware of this incident?</p> <p>2.When did ASIC disable the relevant server?</p> <p>3.When and how did ASIC first become aware of the vulnerability within the Accellion file transfer appliance?</p> <p>4.Accellion had a patch available for this vulnerability on December 20, 2020. When did Accellion first inform ASIC of this vulnerability?</p> <p>5.When did Accellion first inform ASIC of the patch it had developed for the vulnerability?</p> <p>6.The Australian Cyber Security Centre first issued an alert about the Accellion FTA vulnerability on 19 January 2021. It has further noted that it was working with cyber security partners' on the vulnerability since 12 January 2021 (<a href="https://www.cyber.gov.au/acsc/view-all-content/alerts/potential-accellion-file-transfer-appliance-compromise">https://www.cyber.gov.au/acsc/view-all-content/alerts/potential-accellion-file-transfer-appliance-compromise</a>).</p> <p>When did the ACSC first contact ASIC about the Accellion FTA vulnerability?</p> <p>7.The Reserve Bank of New Zealand was compromised through and exploitation of the Accellion FTA vulnerability on 25 December 2020. Was ASIC aware of this compromise before discovering its own incident? (<a href="https://www.rbnz.govt.nz/our-response-to-data-breach">https://www.rbnz.govt.nz/our-response-to-data-breach</a> )</p> <p>8.ASIC has stated that it "engaged independent cybersecurity experts to complete a forensic investigation." What were the findings of this forensic investigation?</p>	Australian Securities and Investments Commission	30/03/2021	

AET067	Carol Brown	Tasmanian Housing Agreement	<p>1. I understand a series of reporting mechanisms were built into the agreement that the Commonwealth Government struck with the Tasmanian Government to waive the state's historic debt. Can you detail these mechanisms?</p> <p>2. How much funding has been redirected from the Tasmanian Government's former scheduled repayments to the Commonwealth to programmes that increase access to social housing, reduce homelessness and improve housing supply in Tasmania?</p> <p>3. Can you detail exactly what the Tasmanian Government has spent this money on?</p> <p>4. How many additional social or public houses have been built in Tasmania because of the Commonwealth's decision to waive the historic housing debt?</p> <p>5. I understand the Tasmanian Government is required to publicly report on how the additional funds, that would have been expended on debt recovery. Can you detail where this information is available?</p> <p>6. What progress has been made as part of the agreement between the Commonwealth and Tasmanian governments for the Tasmanian Government to reform local government planning and zoning reforms to support housing supply consistent with future population and economic growth projections?</p>	Department of the Treasury	30/03/2021	
AET068	Stirling Griff	Health promotion charity	<p>1.What criteria does a prospective charity need to meet to be classified as a "health promotion charity"?</p> <p>a.Should links to industries with vested commercial interests be a disqualifying consideration?</p> <p>b.If not, in which circumstances would such links be appropriate?</p> <p>2.I refer to a story published by the ABC on 26 March 2021, by Michael Workman and Stephen Hutcheon, which highlighted links which the Australian Tobacco Harm Reduction Association (ATHRA) has to a public relations firm with tobacco and vaping industry campaign links. ATHRA, registered as a health promotion charity, has previously been questioned by media about its vaping industry donations and start-up funding.</p> <p>Given Australia's strong stance against tobacco advertising and its strict regulation of vaping products (due to lack of evidence of e-cigarette safety or cessation effectiveness) is it appropriate for a health promotion charity to accept any direct or indirect funding or in-kind support from industry with vested interests that cause health harms?</p> <p>3.ATHRA almost exclusively only provides advice and advocacy about vaping and e-cigarettes rather than TGA-approved cessation methods. As the Senate Select Committee on Tobacco Harm Reduction reported, e-cigarettes are a significant part of the tobacco industry's product diversification strategy, and "the tobacco industry is also becoming more sophisticated in its lobbying efforts, often using fronts such as 'grass root' consumer organisations, specialist lobbying firms and providing support to "independent" think tanks" (p95).</p> <p>Does the ACNC have any concerns that industry may set up or use charitable organisations as vehicles to prosecute its interests and provide a veneer of authority and respectability to its products?</p> <p>4.Further, the guidelines for Article 5.3 of the World Health Organization's Framework Convention on Tobacco Control state that parties to the Convention - such as Australia - need to be alert to any efforts by the tobacco industry to undermine or subvert tobacco control efforts".</p> <p>a.Is the ACNC aware of the WHO framework?</p> <p>b.Should it factor this in its registration process for health promotion charities?</p> <p>5.Regarding the response to the 2018 Legislation Review. In Question Time in February, I was advised "The Treasury is currently engaging with the ACNC and will prepare advice for the minister on how to progress the necessary legislative changes to give effect to that government agreement to the recommendation." What engagement has the ACNC had with the Department or the Minister's office on a draft bill?</p> <p>6.Are you aware whether there is a draft in progress or in the final stages?</p> <p>7.Does the ACNC consider the ACNC's powers to investigate are broad enough to capture all types of offending by charities and responsible persons?</p> <p>8.(Ref QoN BET086) Aside from disqualification by ASIC, what other behaviours or offences provide the ACNC with grounds to suspend or remove someone as a "responsible person" to run a charity? Or are they all linked back to serious corporate offences?</p> <p>a.Does this capture all the types of offending and poor behaviour that might impact on a charity's good governance?</p> <p>b.Would additional requirements, for instance police checks of responsible persons, also be appropriate, or requiring a working with vulnerable people clearance where relevant to provide additional rigour especially in circumstances where a charity does not conduct such checks itself (for various reasons ranging from it being a sham or weak internal governance)</p> <p>9.The funding for the Risk Review Program amounts to \$3m over three years. How many "field-based compliance reviews" will this enable you to conduct?</p>	Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission	31/03/2021	
AET069	Bridget McKenzie	Dairy code	<p>1.I wanted to follow-up with you on my QON 115. The ACCC issued a Dairy Code: Initial observations on compliance update on 15 December 2020. As part of the ACCC's engagement and education' on the Code, the update outlines how the Commission raised awareness of the Code and educated about its requirements. Can you provide data on how many dairy farmers and processors these activities reached, and their efficacy?</p> <p>a.Did the ACCC monitor and evaluate the distribution of information from the Dairy Consultative Committee to farmers and processors?</p> <p>2.Regarding the requirement to publish non-exclusive Milk Supply Agreements (MSAs), can you provide data on the number of exclusive MSAs and non-exclusive MSAs?</p> <p>a.Are all processors (except those that meet the Code's definition of a small business entity) that have published exclusive MSA's now also publishing non-exclusive MSA's?</p> <p>b.(If no) How is the ACCC working to overcome this issue?</p> <p>3.The update reports that some processors have MSAs that appear to consist of multiple documents, therefore not meeting the Code's requirement that all written MSAs and all records of unwritten MSAs consist of a single document. Have processors been increasing in their compliance with this requirement?</p> <p>a.(If no) How will the ACCC work with processors to address this issue?</p> <p>4.The ACCC observed a number of processors failed to publish a report on disputes by the publishing deadline, with many not having disputes arising under, or in connection with, their MSAs during the reporting period. Given that this does not exempt processors from publishing a report on disputes, can you update how this issue is being overcome and whether there have been declines in failures to report?</p> <p>a.If failures to report are not declining, how will the ACCC continue to resolve this issue?</p> <p>5.Have processors found by the Commission to have MSAs that allow them to terminate the agreement in circumstances other than a material breach revised their MSAs to comply with the Code?</p> <p>a.(If no) How many MSAs remain non-compliant with the Code and how is the ACCC overseeing the resolution of this issue?</p> <p>6.Have processors who did not specify the end date for the supply period of the MSA in the agreement rectified this issue?</p> <p>a.(If no) How is the ACCC working to address this issue with processors?</p> <p>7.Overall, what is your assessment of non-compliance with the Code identified by the ACCC across the issues outlined in the update compared to compliance rates?</p> <p>8.Have you made an assessment of the full impact of the Dairy Code and whether it has met its key objectives?</p> <p>9.The update states there will be other opportunities for the ACCC and interested parties to put forward views on the efficacy of the Code, including suggestions to improve it. Will this be part of the 2021 review of the Code?</p>	Australian Competition and Consumer Commission	31/03/2021	

AET070	Bridget McKenzie	Regulatory basis for lending exclusions	<p>1.Yesterday I asked the Treasury whether there was a regulatory requirement to exclude certain borrowers, such as firearms, livestock or mining. They said no. I also asked whether it was discriminatory if banks did not support investment from these sectors. They said it was a matter for the banks.</p> <p>So, as the banking regulator, I ask you whether it is ok for banks to discriminate against tax paying businesses?</p> <p>If not, what steps are you taking to ensure that the banks support Australian industries, like firearms, like livestock, like coal mining?</p> <p>2.You responded to my QON 111 from 2019-20 Additional Estimates that APRA was not aware of any federal or state legislation or regulation that would prevent Authorised Deposit-Taking Institutions (ADIs) lending to licensed firearms traders, but lending policies can contain restrictions on lending to activities that are outside of the appetite of ADIs.</p> <p>I asked you on the back of financial institutions closing the accounts of legal, law-abiding firearm businesses. How can certainty be provided to licensed firearm and ammunition retailers that they will be protected from nonsensical lending and banking restrictions being placed upon them through ADIs in the future?</p> <p>3.There has also been media attention around banks that have either looked to or have restricted lending to livestock businesses on a platform of animal welfare. Bank Australia, for example, does not finance the live export or intensive farm industries. How can banks' ADI's exclude lending to agricultural businesses that are conducting legal activities, with world-leading animal welfare practices underpinned by Australian regulations?</p> <p>4.Beef Central reported on 21 April that one livestock exporter was denied a personal loan due to similar circumstances. How can individuals who work in legal jobs in these industries be protected from exclusion by ridiculous ADIs?</p> <p>5.Even the coal mining and resources sector is affected, with Bank of Queensland not directly funding mining projects and in 2018 they committed to cease funding equipment directly involved in the extraction of fossil fuels by 2023. The Bendigo and Adelaide Bank will not lend directly to projects in the coal and coal seam gas sectors. Is it discrimination to exclude certain types of businesses or industries from being able to access financial products and lending?</p> <p>6.What can be done to ensure financial institutions cannot use their ADIs to restrict individuals from personal lending or access to banking services?</p> <p>7.Is legislative change needed to stop this discriminatory behaviour?</p>	Australian Prudential Regulation Authority	31/03/2021	
AET071	Janet Rice	Census non-binary related data	<p>1.For the ABS's general data release, will this include data on respondents who provide a non-binary sex response?</p> <p>-If not, how will this reconcile when the sum of male and female do not add to 100%?</p> <p>-Has the ABS explored options to include the non-binary sex in the general release, to provide a clear view on how many people have replied to this question?</p> <p>2.Will the ABS issue instructions on how to answer the non-binary sex question? What in the ABS view constitutes a person of non-binary sex?</p>	Australian Bureau of Statistics	1/04/2021	
AET072	Nick McKim	Wealth data	<p>1.Does the ABS collect data through the Survey of Income and Housing (6553) that would enable reporting on wealth by deciles?</p> <p>2.Does the ABS provide data on wealth by deciles to the OECD for its Wealth Database?</p> <p>3.What data does the ABS collect on the concentration of wealth among the extremely wealthy (e.g. Top 5%, Top 1%, Top 0.1%, etc.)?</p>	Australian Bureau of Statistics	1/04/2021	
AET073	Alex Gallacher	Adecco Recruitment	<p>1.What is the value of the ABS' contract with ADECCO?</p> <p>2.Has the ABS followed up with their subcontractor ADECCO on whether any of their employees have been contacting Labor MPs to request assistance in relation to recruiting census workers?</p> <p>3.What is the reason that the ABS has employed ADECCO as a recruitment contractor rather than using ABS internal resources?</p>	Australian Bureau of Statistics	1/04/2021	
AET074	Alex Gallacher	ABS general resourcing	<p>1.What data collection programs has the ABS terminated or discontinued since the election of the Coalition government in 2013? Please list all data sets and data series that have been discontinued since 2013.</p> <p>2.How much did the ABS spend on each of these data collection programs in the year prior to their termination?</p> <p>3.How many ABS data series have been discontinued since the 2019 election?</p> <p>4.Is the ABS planning to discontinue any data collection programs in the next financial year?</p>	Australian Bureau of Statistics	1/04/2021	
AET075	Alex Gallacher	Further request for information in relation to 'limited tender'	<p>These questions relate to the table the ACNC provided in answer to a Question on Notice submitted by Senator Gallacher (27 October 2020 - Budget Estimates 2020-21 Portfolio answer BET143).</p> <p>Commonwealth Procurement Rules for limited tender:</p> <p>10.5. In accordance with the general rules for accountability set out in these CPRs, for each contract awarded through limited tender, an official must prepare and appropriately file within the relevant entity's records management system a written report that includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the value and type of good and services procured</li> <li>the statement indicating the circumstances and conditions that justified the use of limited tender; and</li> <li>a record demonstrating how the procurement represented value for money in the circumstances</li> </ol> <p>1.In the list of Limited Tenders you've approved - which was provided to the committee after last November's session (Budget Estimates 2020-21 Portfolio answer BET143) - there is a tender with Advanced Solutions International that well exceeds the \$80,000 threshold for Limited Tender. Notwithstanding there is a relevant exemption listed, how did you confirm there was no need for an open tender, no potential for a better value, before granting Advanced Solutions International a \$465,000 contract as a Limited Tender?</p> <p>2.Point 3 of the Department of Finance's Ethics and Probity in Procurement principles states: "A conflict of interest arises where an official, an adviser or a supplier has an affiliation or interest that might prejudice, or be seen to prejudice, his or her impartiality." Do you have any friendships or personal relationships with any executive personnel or owners of any of the companies you've approved limited tender contracts for? If so, please provide details and explain how you managed the conflict of interest.</p> <p>3.Limited Tenders aren't required to meet all procurement accountability measures, but they are required to meet a streamlined set of record keeping standards. The information you've provided covers the first requirement, but we've asked in the past for the [quoting from the rules] "statement indicating the circumstances and conditions that justified the use of limited tender" and the [quoting] "record demonstrating how the procurement represented value for money in the circumstances" you've told the committee in the past that these requirements have been met, yet in the table of answers 29 out of 34 say 'value for money' was N/A does that mean you don't have records of the value for money consideration, or you didn't consider the value for money?</p> <p>4.In none of the answers provided in that table, or in the previous less detailed version provided on notice after the 2019-20 Supplementary Budget Estimates, is there any content relating to the Commissioner's consideration or record keeping on the 'circumstances and conditions' that justify limited tender - again, is that because there are no records covering that consideration?</p> <p>5.Can we ask again specifically that the committee be provided with the Commissioner's record-keeping (ie notes or documents) that met requirement 10.5 (b) from the Commonwealth Procurement Rules in relation to the limited tenders listed in answer BET143.</p>	Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission	1/04/2021	

AET076	Alex Gallacher	Various questions for ACNC operations and reporting	<p>1.Does the ACNC support the current government proposal to extend the commissions powers- through amendments to Governance Standards - that would enable the commission to take enforcement action against a charity whose staff or supporters may be in some way supporting or promoting an event where a summary offence may occur?</p> <p>2.The ACNC's last "annual" compliance report was 2018. When will the next report be publicly released?</p> <p>3.The ACNC Bushfire Charity Review: Australian Red Cross Society - <a href="https://www.acnc.gov.au/tools/reports/bushfire-response-2019-20-reviews-three-australian-charities">https://www.acnc.gov.au/tools/reports/bushfire-response-2019-20-reviews-three-australian-charities</a> argued the Red Cross "cannot make payments to support community infrastructure". How does this interpretation of charity and PBI status (ie that it can only be targeted at individuals who have experienced loss) sit with the work of international aid organisations and others involved in disaster relief?</p> <p>4.Please clarify how this interpretation interacts with the Commissioner's own interpretation statements on PBIs for instance at <a href="https://www.acnc.gov.au/tools/guidance/commissioners-interpretation-statements/public-benevolent-institutions">https://www.acnc.gov.au/tools/guidance/commissioners-interpretation-statements/public-benevolent-institutions</a> Paragraph 5.1.6 states: An entity may nevertheless be a PBI if its benevolence is targeted at a community, if all or the vast majority of people in the community are "people in need". This may be the case for PBIs providing benevolent relief in developing countries to disadvantaged communities.</p> <p>5.Please provide data relating to the number and duration of outages that have affected the ACNC register and other ACNC services over the past 12 months?</p>	Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission	1/04/2021	
AET077	Alex Gallacher	ACNC Travel costs	<p>For each financial year the ACNC has been operating, including as much of 2020-2021 as has passed, please provide an annual figure for:</p> <p>a.the commission's total expenditure on travel and related costs (ie travel, accommodation and per diem allowances covering all staff and the Commissioner)</p> <p>b.the amount of that total that relates to the commissioner's travel, accommodation and per diem allowances</p> <p>c.the amount of that total that relates to senior staff's travel, accommodation and per diem allowances</p> <p>d.the amount of that total that relates to travel, accommodation and per diem costs for all other staff (ie excluding the Commissioner and senior staff).</p>	Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission	1/04/2021	
AET078	Alex Gallacher	Product safety	<p>1.How many complaints in relation to product safety has the ACCC received in the past two years?</p> <p>a)How many of those complaints have related to life-threatening injuries or deaths?</p> <p>b)How many of those complaints have related to button batteries?</p> <p>c)How many of those complaints have led the ACCC to take action - aka, product recalls, etc?</p> <p>2.Does the ACCC keep track of button battery related injuries in any capacity? How many button battery related injuries have occurred in the past two years?</p> <p>3.How many product recalls has the ACCC issued in the past two years? How many injuries occurred in relation to those products prior to the issuing of recall notices?</p> <p>4.Is the ACCC actively working on the development of a general safety duty? How many meetings with stakeholders, Treasury, the Treasurer's office, or state and territory representatives has the ACCC had in relation to product safety matters, including the general safety duty?</p>	Australian Competition and Consumer Commission	1/04/2021	
AET079	Murray Watt	DG Institute - ACCC action/s	<p>Queensland solicitor Chris Baker asserts that, in May of 2019, he made complaints to the ACCC regarding alleged serious misleading conduct by DG Institute and its principal Dominique Grubisa. Mr Baker further asserts that the ACCC chose not to take action, instead suggesting it to be a matter for ASIC. However, in Mr Baker's view, the issues in question appear not to fall within ASIC's remit, as the services do not constitute financial services or a financial product under the Corporations Act. Mr Baker says that correspondence to the ACCC pointing this out went unanswered. According to media reports, people are severely and negatively impacted by the alleged conduct of DG Institute and its principal Dominique Grubisa. Has the ACCC taken further action in relation to these matters? If so, what actions? If not, why not?</p>	Australian Competition and Consumer Commission	1/04/2021	
AET080	Alex Gallacher	ACCC Northern Australian Insurance Report	<p>1.What do the ACCC say are the benefits to providing direct subsidies for insurance consumers in Northern Australia?</p> <p>2.In your Northern Australia Insurance Report you say the ACCC have investigated the relative merits of measures including government reinsurance pools, government insurers, direct subsidies, mitigation programs and licence conditions.</p> <p>oHas the ACCC created a model that examines the relative merits of the alternate proposals listed above?</p> <p>oIf yes - Can you please provide this model to the committee?</p> <p>oIf no - what methodology did the ACCC use to investigate the relative merits?</p> <p>oCan you provide a dollar for dollar value comparison of each of measures listed above?</p>	Australian Competition and Consumer Commission	1/04/2021	
AET081	Andrew Bragg	Eligible Rollover Funds (ERFs)	<p>1.ERFs - Reuniting more super bill</p> <p>a.Are you aware of any SFTs?</p> <p>b.Should the monies go to the ATO or to the successor fund?</p> <p>c.Is APRA concerned super funds are not acting in the best interests if they are not sending larger sums above \$6k (dormant) to the ATO for matching and reuniting with an active account?</p> <p>d.Will you issue guidance?</p>	Australian Prudential Regulation Authority	1/04/2021	
AET082	Andrew Bragg	Mergers - Maritime Super and Hostplus	<p>1.Does using a PST for the quasi merger create a tax event?</p> <p>2.How is this in the best interests of members where they crystallise when they could have used an SFT and get CGT rollover relief?</p>	Australian Prudential Regulation Authority	1/04/2021	
AET083	Andrew Bragg	Sole purpose test	<p>1.What is the latest update on your investigation into advertising by ISA as mentioned in the hearing?</p> <p>2.What sort of enforcement action might be taken?</p> <p>3.When will the findings be handed down?</p> <p>4.What is the status of the review into the New Daily or is it concluded?</p> <p>5.Payments to unions - how can it be justified that \$10m is paid each year to unions which is on way to \$30m?</p>	Australian Prudential Regulation Authority	1/04/2021	
AET084	Alex Gallacher	Continuous disclosure	<p>1.Has ASIC allocated any additional resources to enforcing continuous disclosure rules since?</p> <p>2.In what ways has ASIC changed its enforcement approach to continuous disclosure breaches since May 2020?</p> <p>3.How many enforcement actions has ASIC taken in relation to continuous disclosure breaches:</p> <p>a)In the two years prior to May 2020?</p> <p>b)Since May 2020?</p>	Australian Securities and Investments Commission	1/04/2021	

AET085	Alex Gallacher	Responsible lending	<p>If the Government repeals the responsible lending laws, there will no longer be a single regulator monitoring what lenders do or taking action about how they treat individuals. APRA testified to the Senate Economics Committee that it will not have a direct focus on "outcomes at an individual or customer level".</p> <p>1.Will ASIC have any focus on "outcomes at the individual or consumer level" in regulating the credit activities of non-ADI lenders?</p> <p>2.In regulating the credit activities of non-ADI lenders under the Government's proposed new regulatory arrangements, what focus will ASIC have on ensuring that individual loans are fair and not putting customers in financial hardship?</p> <p>3.Will ASIC continue to pursue cases of irresponsible lending of mortgages, credit cards and personal loans?</p> <p>4.What changes in particular will be made to the administration of credit card lending standards? Will these changes affect any of the reforms undertaken by the then-Treasurer Scott Morrison in 2018?</p> <p>5.In particular, will the require to assess the ability of a consumer to repay a credit card within a time period of three years be scrapped under the Government's proposed legislation?</p> <p>6.Given the Treasurer himself acknowledged that these reforms will "protect vulnerable Australians from predatory behaviour", what impact will scrapping this protection have on vulnerable consumers?</p>	Australian Securities and Investments Commission	1/04/2021	
AET086	Andrew Bragg	Squirrel Superannuation -ASIC handling	<p>1.How many either formal or informal complaints has ASIC received regarding Squirrel Superannuation Services Pty Ltd (SSS), Squirrel Limited or Supplier Services Pty Ltd ('the Squirrel Group')?</p> <p>2.How many meetings has ASIC held with current or former employees of the Squirrel Group regarding either formal or informal complaints regarding the Group's conduct when operating under the AFSL assigned to SSS?</p> <p>3.Apart from the current Federal Court action against SSS Pty Ltd for misleading and deceptive conduct, is ASIC looking into any other aspect of the Squirrel Group's activities, including conduct of current or former directors of group companies?</p> <p>4.Does ASIC have any concerns about the administration processes for any of the companies in the Squirrel Group?</p> <p>5.Is ASIC concerned about the actions of former directors in the Squirrel Group as highlighted in the Administrator and Liquidator reports?</p>	Australian Securities and Investments Commission	1/04/2021	
AET087	Andrew Bragg	ASIC proceedings in relation to superannuation funds	<p>1.Remediation - where is it paid from when there is no shareholder capital?</p> <p>2.Aware Super / First State Super - what happened in that case?</p> <p>3.What are you doing to ensure reforms designed to reduce fees don't result in fee increases?</p> <p>4.Back to the Aware Super example - if the court orders a fine as a result of ASIC's proceedings, will ASIC allow for this fine to be paid out of members' retirement savings?</p> <p>5.On this question of preventing roll overs by Industry Super Funds, I understand other funds regularly engaged in the same conduct, including Australian Super and HostPlus, and the conduct may in fact have been system by Industry Super Funds - is ASIC aware of this?</p> <p>6.Have other funds self-reported their unlawful conduct to ASIC in light of your legal action against Rest?</p> <p>7.Will ASIC take the same action against other funds that have acted unlawful where there is a system conduct?</p> <p>Thank you for responding to my Questions on Notice (number 125) regarding ASIC's liquidity review. I agree that this is worthy of close consideration as all customers deserve to know the risks of investing in different financial products.</p> <p>ASIC confirmed in its response that is responsible for liquidity disclosures by both RSEs and REs, but that its review was only looking at REs. This seems unusual considering RSE's invest directly in identical illiquid assets on behalf of millions of Australians, but when markets were volatile last March/April it was super funds (not REs) that went to the RBA asking for a bailout because of their liquidity issues. Given a clear case that disclosure may not have been adequate, on what basis can ASIC carve out super trustees from its review of disclosure?</p>	Australian Securities and Investments Commission	1/04/2021	
AET088	Andrew Bragg	Liquidity Review		Australian Securities and Investments Commission	1/04/2021	
AET089	Andrew Bragg	Adviser fees	<p>1.Why have the fees gone up?</p> <p>2.How does ASIC decide on which costs go into which bucket using, for example the BT super high court case, - how much of ASIC's costs will be funded by financial planners when no financial planners were involved or responsible for the enforcement action?</p> <p>3.Why the discrepancy between the proposed levy of \$1500 in June 2020 and actual amount of \$2500 in November 2020?</p> <p>4.Where did the following fines go?</p> <p>a.AMP \$5m</p> <p>b.Westpac \$9.15m</p>	Australian Securities and Investments Commission	1/04/2021	
AET090	Slade Brockman	ASIC's oversight of Financial Advisers	<p>1.In one year the total cost of ASIC's oversight of Financial Advisers has increased from \$33m (2018/19) to \$56.2m (2019/20). Please provide a breakdown of the amount of the increase by each category of ASIC activity (education, guidance, surveillance, enforcement etc).</p> <p>2.Provide a break-down of this increase in the ASIC Funding levy down by the size of the financial institution effected.</p> <p>3.I am advised that the ASIC Funding Levy for Financial Advisers who provide personal advice to retail clients has increased from \$1,142 in the 2018/19 financial year to \$2,426 in the 2019/20 financial year, an increase of 112% increase per financial adviser. In Senate Estimates on 25 March 2021, Commissioner Press described the increase in terms of per financial adviser as 29%. Please explain the difference between the apparent 112% increase and the 29% stated by Commissioner Press?</p> <p>4.At the hearing on 25 March 2021, there was discussion about the factors impacting the ASIC Funding levy for financial advisers in the 2019/20 year, and this was attributed to a significant increase in costs and a decline in financial adviser numbers. Given that enforcement activity from the Royal Commission has not yet been concluded and adviser numbers are continuing to fall, is there any indication on what the Levy will be in the 2020/21 financial year?</p> <p>5.At the Senate Estimates hearing on 25 March 2021, there was a discussion about a high profile case of a person who allegedly was passing him/herself off as a financial adviser. Please advise who will bear the costs associated with investigating and prosecuting this offence?</p> <p>6.The Professional Standards for Financial Advisers legislation put in place rules that prevent someone who is not a financial adviser from describing themselves as a financial adviser. Are there any penalties for media outlets incorrectly or negligently describing someone who is unlicensed as an actual financial adviser? Are there tangible measures ASIC is willing to put in place to prevent these types of misrepresentations within the industry?</p> <p>7.As announced by Minister Hume and the Treasurer on 9 December 2020, ASIC will be taking on the job of the Single Disciplinary Body and will also have responsibility for the FASEA Exam administration. Given that the deadline for existing advisers to pass the exam is only nine months away, can you please provide an update on ASIC's preparations?</p>	Australian Securities and Investments Commission	1/04/2021	



AET091	Murray Watt	DG Institute - ASIC action/s	Queensland solicitor Chris Baker asserts that, in December 2019, AFCA wrote to ASIC in relation to concerns relating to DG Institute and its principal Dominique Grubisa. What action has ASIC taken in relation to these issues? If no action has been taken, why not?	Australian Securities and Investments Commission	1/04/2021	
AET092	Alex Gallacher	Implementation of Your Future, Your Super tools	<p>Comparison tool</p> <p>1.At what stage is development of the online super comparison tool for Your Future, Your Super?</p> <p>2.What comparable comparison websites has the ATO established?</p> <p>3.How many visitors is the ATO expecting to the site? How many visits have comparable comparison sites had?</p> <p>4.What consumer research has been undertaken (or is planned) in relation to the comparison tool?</p> <p>a)What is the scope of the consultation? Can you please provide a copy of the full scope of the consultation?</p> <p>b)Who has the ATO engaged to undertake the consumer research? Please provide a copy of the scope for this work</p> <p>5.What are the main competitor sites? What research has been conducted on the competitor sites?</p> <p>Default accounts and employer costs</p> <p>6.The Your Future, Your Super reforms will require the ATO and employers to change the way that superannuation is paid to employers. The Government's glossy brochure says that employers will be able to obtain information about an employee's existing superannuation funds from the ATO. The Government's glossy brochure on the reforms says that from 1 July 2022 "the ATO will enable digital software providers to give employers the option to automate the communications between the employer's payroll system and the ATO system." However, the stapling requirements will apply from 1 July 2021. Does this mean that employers will be required to manually enter information about employee's superannuation funds?</p> <p>7.Is the ATO going to be able to provide this information to every employer in the country on 1 July 2021?</p> <p>8.Given that many elements of the stapling mechanism are delegated to regulations - has the ATO seen draft regulations for the Bill?</p> <p>9.What is the ATO doing to help employers comply with these new requirements? Has the ATO contacted every employer in the country to let them know about these new requirements?</p> <p>10.Does the ATO have any estimate of how much time and/or money it will cost an average employer to update their processes and comply with these new requirements?</p> <p>11.Has the ATO consulted with small businesses about how these changes will impact their businesses?</p>	Australian Taxation Office	1/04/2021	
AET093	Andrew Bragg	Squirrel Superannuation - ATO handling	<p>1.How many either formal or informal complaints has the ATO received regarding Squirrel Superannuation Services Pty Ltd (SSS), Squirrel Limited or Supplier Services Pty Ltd ('the Squirrel Group')?</p> <p>2.How many meetings has the ATO held with current or former employees of the Squirrel Group regarding either formal or informal complaints regarding the Group's late or nonpayment of superannuation and/or other entitlements?</p> <p>3.How many employees (total without duplicates) have sought to lodge an unpaid entitlement claim with the ATO for any of the companies in the Squirrel Group?</p> <p>4.How many employees' claims have been rejected because they have claimed to have been employed by another company within the Squirrel Group?</p> <p>5.Is the ATO looking into any other aspect of the Squirrel Group's activities, including conduct of current or former directors of group companies?</p> <p>6.Does ATO have any concerns about the administration processes for any of the companies in the Squirrel Group?</p> <p>7.Did the ATO vote against the DOCA which was ultimately adopted by SSS creditors and, if so, why?</p> <p>8.Is the ATO concerned about the actions of former directors in the Squirrel Group as highlighted in the Administrator and Liquidator reports?</p>	Australian Taxation Office	1/04/2021	
AET094	Andrew Bragg	Economic support to ANZSIC Class 9552	<p>1.Can Treasury please provide details of the amount of COVID-19 economic support provided to ANZSIC Class 9552, covering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cash flow boost payments in 2019-20 and for the life of the program to date</li> <li>- JobKeeper payments in 2019-20 and for the life of the program to date</li> </ul> <p>2.Data should also include the number of entities and number of employees in Class 9552 that benefited from COVID-19 support payments</p>	Australian Taxation Office	1/04/2021	
AET095	Nick McKim	Petroleum resource rent tax (PRRT)	<p>1.What is the total value of carried forward expenditure under the PRRT in 2019-20? Will this value be higher or lower than that reported for 2018-19?</p> <p>2.Do you anticipate that the value of carried forward expenditure under the PRRT will rise in 2020-21</p>	Australian Taxation Office	1/04/2021	
AET096	Nick McKim	EU carbon border adjustment mechanisms	<p>1.What is the estimate of the impact of the EU's proposed carbon border adjustment mechanisms on Australian exports?</p>	Department of the Treasury	1/04/2021	
AET097	Nick McKim	Climate change	<p>1.Has Treasury costed the government's climate policy?</p> <p>2.Has Treasury updated its assessment of the economic cost of natural disasters that are forecast to become more frequent and/or intense as a result of climate change? Specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a)Has Treasury updated its assessment of the forecast cost of damage caused by natural disasters?</li> <li>b)Has Treasury updated its assessment of the forecast cost of insurance against natural disasters, including the number of properties which may become uninsurable?</li> <li>c)Has Treasury updated its assessment of the forecast reduction in property prices as a result of natural disasters?</li> </ul>	Department of the Treasury	1/04/2021	

AET098	Slade Brockman	FASEA Code of Ethics	<p>1. There has been criticism of the FASEA Code of Ethics, and particularly Standard 3 on a complete ban of all Conflicts of Interest. Will FASEA seek to amend Standard 3 before you cease operations?</p> <p>2. Referring to a media release on 17 March 2021 regarding the January 2021 FASEA Exam: Across all exams held to date, only 55% of people who re-sit the exams are passing. Beyond the possibility of participants simply not knowing the content, are there any other possible reasons for this high fail rate? What is FASEA doing to assist older, competent and experienced financial advisers, who may perhaps struggle with the recently introduced exam experience?</p> <p>3. Does FASEA provide exam feedback to those who have failed to assist with their preparation for their next attempt at the exam? What form does this take? Is it generic or specific?</p> <p>4. There has been substantial feedback from certain specialist areas in the financial advice market, such as stockbrokers, accountants and life insurance advisers, that they are being disadvantaged by an exam that better suits those mainstream generalist financial planners. Is this a fair assessment by industry professionals? Further, it is anecdotally known within the industry that a disproportionate number of experienced, competent specialists are leaving the sector as a result? Is FASEA monitoring this trend?</p> <p>5. The results for exams typically take approximately six weeks to be released. What is the reasonable and necessary grace period afforded to unsuccessful candidates who are required to sell and exit their businesses? If these deadlines are not met, what are the penalties?</p> <p>6. Through various Parliamentary hearings last year, it emerged that ASIC had funded a submission to FASEA on the Code of Ethics in mid-2018, that was prepared by two academics from Griffith University for ASIC's Consumer Advisory Panel. The submission was dated July 2018, however, it also refers to incorporating issues raised in the FASEA Consumer Forum of 29 June 2018. When was this submission received by FASEA?</p>	Financial Adviser Standards and Ethics Authority	1/04/2021	
AET099	Alex Gallacher	SME Loan guarantee program	<p>1. What proportion of the \$40 billion scheme has been committed?</p> <p>2. Is the expanded program only available to those who were on JobKeeper in the March quarter?</p> <p>a) Firms won't be eligible if they received JobKeeper in December quarter but not the March quarter?</p> <p>3. What is the cost of the expanded scheme?</p> <p>a) How many businesses are expected to access the expanded scheme?</p> <p>b) What is Treasury's assumption on the take-up of loans?</p> <p>c) What is the average size of the businesses?</p> <p>d) How many loans are expected to fail?</p> <p>4. How many businesses does expanding the threshold from \$50 million to \$250 million now include?</p> <p>a) How many JobKeeper businesses were within the \$50 million threshold and the \$250 million threshold in the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- First six months</li> <li>- December quarter</li> <li>- March quarter</li> </ul>	Department of the Treasury	1/04/2021	
AET100	Nick McKim	Support for employers	<p>1. What is the value of payments made under the Boosting Cash Flow for Employers scheme? Please provide this data in as much granularity as is available, ideally a table including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Period of payment (e.g. financial year).</li> <li>b. JobKeeper recipients.</li> <li>c. No. employees.</li> <li>d. Size of business (e.g. pre-COVID turnover used as a baseline).</li> <li>e. Industry sector.</li> <li>f. Company structure (i.e. publicly listed, private, sole trader, etc.).</li> </ul> <p>2. What is the value of subsidies provided under the Supporting Apprentices and Trainees scheme? Please provide this data in as much granularity as is available, ideally a table including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Period of payment (e.g. financial year).</li> <li>b. JobKeeper recipients.</li> <li>c. No. employees.</li> <li>d. Size of business (e.g. pre-COVID turnover used as a baseline).</li> <li>e. Industry sector.</li> <li>f. Company structure (i.e. publicly listed, private, sole trader, etc.).</li> </ul> <p>3. What is the value of loans made under the SME Recovery Loan Scheme? Please provide this data in as much granularity as is available, ideally a table including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Period of payment (e.g. financial year).</li> <li>b. JobKeeper recipients.</li> <li>c. No. employees.</li> <li>d. Size of business (e.g. pre-COVID turnover used as a baseline).</li> <li>e. Industry sector.</li> <li>f. Company structure (i.e. publicly listed, private, sole trader, etc.).</li> </ul> <p>4. What is the value of loans made under the Coronavirus SME Guarantee Scheme? Please provide this data in as much granularity as is available, ideally a table including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Period of payment (e.g. financial year).</li> <li>b. JobKeeper recipients.</li> <li>c. No. employees.</li> <li>d. Size of business (e.g. pre-COVID turnover used as a baseline).</li> <li>e. Industry sector.</li> </ul>	Department of the Treasury	1/04/2021	

AET101	Alex Gallacher	North Queensland Insurance	<p>1.The ACCC report into Northern Australia Insurance took 3 years to complete. The Government have had the final report for over 2 months. When will the Minister finally respond to the report?</p> <p>2.Has the department held meetings with insurance industry stakeholders in relation to a potential reinsurance pool for North Queensland?</p> <p>oIf yes, which insurers has the department met with?</p> <p>oWhat is the nature of those discussions?</p> <p>oHave any insurers expressed support for an insurance pool?</p> <p>oDoes Treasury share the ACCC's concerns that a reinsurance pool is not a viable method for providing relief to consumers in North Queensland facing increased insurance costs?</p> <p>oThe ACCC have explained that offering a reinsurance pool for North Queensland will transfer a significant risk posed by extreme weather events from insurers onto Governments.</p> <p>?Has Treasury considered the possible cost of the risk that will be borne by the Commonwealth budget because of a reinsurance pool for North Queensland?</p> <p>oWhat are Treasuries assumed costs for this risk?</p> <p>oThe ACCC suggests at Recommendation 8.1 of its report (into Nth QLD insurance) if governments want to provide immediate relief to insurance consumers in North Queensland facing acute affordability pressures, they should consider direct subsidies over other measures.</p> <p>?Has Treasury considered direct subsidies for to insurance consumers in North Queensland facing acute affordability pressures?</p> <p>?Does Treasury agree that direct subsidies would be an effective tool to drive down costs for insurance consumers in North Queensland facing acute affordability pressures?</p> <p>3.Does Treasury agree that direct subsidies would be a more effective tool than a government insurance pool to drive down costs for insurance consumers in North Queensland</p>	Department of the Treasury	1/04/2021	
AET102	Alex Gallacher	SME loan schemes	<p>1.What is the current and historical take-up of the SME loans scheme on a month-by-month basis?</p> <p>2.What is the typical size of businesses? What is the level of debt not expected to be repaid on the initial and extended schemes?</p> <p>3.What is the expected failure rate of businesses accessing the scheme assumed in the costing?</p>	Department of the Treasury	1/04/2021	
AET103	Nick McKim	Intergenerational report	When will the 2020 Intergenerational Report be released? Why has the release of the 2020 Intergenerational Report been delayed?	Department of the Treasury	1/04/2021	
AET104	Alex Gallacher	Jobkeeper support for businesses	<p>1.Does the ATO have a process in place to direct businesses in distress as a result of JobKeeper ending? How does this process work? Have you advertised this?</p> <p>2.Can the ATO please provide a table of revenue measures small business are eligible for in either the EFU, 2020-21 Budget or 2020-21 MYEFO, total base funding for the measure over four years, the amount spent to date including forward estimates impact and amount accessed by small business?</p>	Department of the Treasury	1/04/2021	
AET105	Alex Gallacher	Update request on Jobkeeper data	<p>1.Similar to the data provided in IQ20-000294 from the Senate Inquiry into the Australian Government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, specifically:</p> <p>a)The number of businesses and number of individuals that received JobKeeper in January, February and March. Please breakdown by state and territory.</p> <p>b)Please break this down by those receiving the Tier 1 payment and Tier 2 payment.</p> <p>c)Please break this down by Gender of recipients</p> <p>2.Please provide an update of IQ21-000015 from the Senate Inquiry into the Australian Government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>3.How many firms increased their turnover while receiving JobKeeper?</p>	Department of the Treasury	1/04/2021	
AET106	Jess Walsh	Jobkeeper eligibility and input-taxed suppliers	<p>1)Why is JobKeeper eligibility determined by GST Revenue?</p> <p>2)What is the rationale in excluding input tax supplies from the turnover test for JobKeeper?</p> <p>3)Did Treasury provide advice to the Treasurer that input tax supplies/sales should be excluded from JobKeeper? If yes can this advice be made available.</p> <p>4)Does this mean that small finance companies who rely on input-taxed suppliers (who receive no GST Revenue) have been excluded from receiving JobKeeper?</p> <p>5)Did Treasury consider or cost the impact of including input-taxed suppliers in the JobKeeper program? If so, what was the outcome of that costing?</p> <p>6)How many businesses and how many employees would have been brought into the JobKeeper scheme if input-taxed suppliers (who receive no GST Revenue) were eligible?</p> <p>7)Is Treasury aware of any input-taxed suppliers that have received JobKeeper? If so how much have they received?</p> <p>8)Is the ATO aware of any input-taxed suppliers that have received JobKeeper? If so how much have they received?</p> <p>9)Regarding input taxed-suppliers (who receive no GST Revenue) how many businesses operate on this model in Australia, and how many people do these businesses employ?</p>	Department of the Treasury	1/04/2021	

			<p>1.What is the value of all JobKeeper payments? Please provide this data in as much granularity as is available, ideally a table including:</p> <p>a.No. employees nominated for JobKeeper.</p> <p>b.Size of business (e.g. pre-COVID turnover used as a baseline), including the number of SMEs.</p> <p>c.Industry sector.</p> <p>d.Company structure (i.e. publicly listed, private, sole trader, etc.).</p> <p>2.What is the value of JobKeeper payments made to companies that recorded a profit? Please provide this data in as much granularity as is available, ideally a table including:</p> <p>a.No. employees nominated for JobKeeper.</p> <p>b.Size of business (e.g. pre-COVID turnover used as a baseline), including the number of SMEs.</p> <p>c.Industry sector.</p> <p>d.Company structure (i.e. publicly listed, private, sole trader, etc.).</p> <p>3.What is the value of profit recorded by companies that received JobKeeper payments? Please provide this data in as much granularity as is available, ideally a table including:</p> <p>a.Size of profit.</p> <p>b.No. employees nominated for JobKeeper.</p> <p>c.Size of business (e.g. pre-COVID turnover used as a baseline), including the number of SMEs.</p> <p>d.Industry sector.</p> <p>e.Company structure (i.e. publicly listed, private, sole trader, etc.).</p> <p>4.What is the value of dividends paid by companies that received JobKeeper payments? Please provide this data in as much granularity as is available, ideally a table including:</p> <p>a.Value of dividends paid.</p> <p>b.No. employees nominated for JobKeeper.</p> <p>c.Size of business (e.g. pre-COVID turnover used as a baseline), including the number of SMEs.</p> <p>d.Industry sector.</p> <p>e.Company structure (i.e. publicly listed, private, sole trader, etc.).</p>	Department of the Treasury	1/04/2021	
AET107	Nick McKim	JobKeeper data	<p>The following quote is taken from Senate Estimates: "At the time decisions were made around the withdrawal of JobKeeper, the unemployment rate was forecast and expected to be significantly higher than, in fact, what it has proven to be. Employment levels were expected to be lower than what they've proven to be. So the changed dynamics in the labour market-" p.41</p> <p>1. How was the unemployment rate used to model the impact of withdrawing JobKeeper? What were the assumptions used?</p> <p>The following quote is taken from Senate Estimates: "Ms Brown: We could certainly provide you with JobKeeper entities by business size. The figures I've got here are on the basis of entities, not payments or individuals. The distribution would be a bit different if it were on the basis of individuals. So 91 per cent of JobKeeper recipients, in our most current data, are from microbusinesses" - p. 49</p> <p>2. Given the number of small businesses impacted by ending JobKeeper what analysis was done on specific impacts of ending the wage subsidy in March 2021?</p> <p>3. What were the estimated number of businesses on JobKeeper when it ended on 28 March and the size of those businesses?</p> <p>The following quote is taken from Senate Estimates: "Ms J Wilkinson: As the secretary said this morning, we certainly always designed JobKeeper in a way that it was suitable for a temporary and time-limited program. One of the things that you don't want in these sorts of programs is to remove incentives from business to innovate, to pivot, to find new opportunities and to make a decision about reallocating their capital and having labour reallocated in the economy. The longer JobKeeper was in place the greater the probability that those sorts of adverse impacts-which we reported in the JobKeeper review, but we said at that stage we were really not concerned about them in the short term because the overriding concern was to make sure we were providing the right sort of support to keep employers and employees connected. But we knew those issues would grow over time. We have been concerned about them growing over time." - p. 52</p> <p>4. At each of the following dates, how many businesses and workers were estimated to be on JobKeeper at the end of March 2021?</p> <p>- July 2020</p> <p>- September 2020</p> <p>- December 2020</p> <p>Only \$8 million out of \$50 million in Business Event Grants to provide assistance to the sector has been delivered.</p> <p>5. Did Treasury provide advice on the effectiveness of the current program when it was extended on 11 March 2021? What did that advice say? Was it reflected in the announcement to extend the grants?</p>	Department of the Treasury	1/04/2021	
AET108	Alex Gallacher	Jobkeeper and modelling		Department of the Treasury	1/04/2021	
AET109	Nick McKim	Wealth inequality	<p>1.What is the economic effect of the increased concentration of wealth among the extremely wealthy (e.g. richest 200 Australians)? For example, what effect is this having on demand, investment, wages growth and productivity?</p> <p>2.Why is the increased concentration of wealth among the extremely wealthy occurring? For example:</p> <p>a.Is it because asset price inflation is exceeding growth in the real economy?</p> <p>b.Is it because the extremely wealthy have market power that facilitates increased concentration of wealth?</p> <p>c.Is it because the tax system allows for the concentration of wealth?</p> <p>Over the last fifty-odd years there has been a structural trend that has seen an increase in the distribution of total factor income to profits, and a decrease in the distribution of total factor income to wages.</p> <p>1.What is causing this trend?</p> <p>2.What is the economic impact of this trend? For example, what effect is this having on demand, investment, and productivity?</p>	Department of the Treasury	1/04/2021	
AET110	Nick McKim	Distribution of total factor income		Department of the Treasury	1/04/2021	

AET111	Alex Gallacher	Grants and funding in relation to NHFIC	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does your department administer any grants programs or funds? If so, what are they?</li> <li>Do all of the grants programs have grant guidelines that are readily available to the public?</li> <li>Who is the decision-maker for these grants or funds? How is the decision-maker assisted in making their decisions - departmental advice, an advisory group, some other independent body?</li> <li>Were there any new grants programs or funds established in the 2020-21 MYEFO that your department is responsible for? If so, what are they, and how much funding was provided?</li> <li>For the new grants programs, have grant guidelines been developed? Where are they up to at the moment? Will you be consulting with the Department of Finance on these guidelines?</li> <li>For the new grants programs, who will be the decision-maker for the grants? How will the decision-maker be assisted in making their decisions, will it be departmental advice? An advisory group? Some other independent body?</li> <li>For the new funds, how will funding be distributed?</li> <li>For the new funds, who will be the decision-maker for the funding? How will the decision-maker be assisted in making their decisions, will it be departmental advice? An advisory group? Some other independent body?</li> <li>How will the decision making process ensure grants go to projects based on merit, and not whether they are in a marginal or target Liberal seat?</li> <li>Will the Department be having regard to the sports rorts scandal to ensure that is not repeated?</li> <li>What assurance can you give that this will not be another sports rorts scandal and that projects will be funded based on their merit and not where they fall on a Prime Minister's colour coded spreadsheet?</li> <li>Were there any grants programs or funds that you administer that were provided with additional funding in the 2020-21 MYEFO? If so, what were they, and how much funding was provided?</li> </ol>	National Housing Finance and Investment Corporation	1/04/2021	
AET112	Bridget McKenzie	Treasury portfolio follow up request on workforce data	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How many staff does the ABS have working in capital cities, including Canberra?</li> <li>Are any [department/agency] staff based in rural or regional locations? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How many?</li> <li>What percentage do capital city based-staff make-up of your workforce compared to rural- and regional-based staff?</li> <li>What opportunity exists for the [department/agency] to decentralise from city locations given staff have been able to work from home during COVID?</li> </ol> </li> <li>How many staff worked-from-home each month from the [department/agency] for the period October 2020 to March 2021?</li> <li>Responding to question 2, the [department/agency] has reported a # increase/decrease to the average productivity rating. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-e.[department/agency specific follow up questions]</li> <li>For question 3, [department/agency] data shows a decrease/increase of # per cent in the total number of sick days taken between April to September 2020 compared to the same period in 2019. What are the reasons for this decrease in personal/sick leave? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How will the [department/agency] work to maintain the reduction in personal/sick leave taken?</li> <li>If the [department/agency] has staff based in rural/regional areas, is there a comparison of sick leave taken for these staff compared to city-based staff?</li> </ol> </li> </ol> </li> </ol>	Department of the Treasury	1/04/2021	
AET113	Katy Gallagher	Treasury portfolio work from home requests	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How many requests to work from home on an ongoing basis has your agency received from staff since the Australian Public Service Commission published Circular 2020/9: Returning to Usual Workplaces' on 29 September 2020?</li> <li>How many of these requests have been rejected and approved? Please outline the reasons that requests were rejected.</li> </ol> <p>Issue 1 - Lack of detail in the Bill: 1.How many elements of the Bill are delegated to the regulations? 2.In consultation on the Bill, how many submissions were supportive of the new regulation making powers that the bill seeks to establish? 3.In particular, how many submissions raised issues with the power to set performance measures by regulation? Performance measures which will determine the performance of \$3 trillion of Australian workers' retirement savings? 4.How can a Member or Senator possibly know what they are voting for when there is nothing in the Bill and the regulations have not been produced? 5.Is it reasonable for Parliament to vote on a Bill when all of the relevant detail is in the regulation, and the regulation has not been given to Parliament?</p> <p>Issue 2 - Investment override power: 1.Under these powers the Treasurer has the power to declare certain payments illegal (s.117A/B of the SIS Act). It is possible that these laws could be used by a Government to require that a fund divest from certain assets, or prohibit a fund a from investing in specific payments? 2.If a Treasurer decided that he didn't want super funds investing in Coal Mines or Wind Farms under this law, could they declare any such payments as illegal and force a divestment? 3.In consulting with stakeholders, did the Treasury receive any feedback in relation to this measure? 4.How much of that feedback was negative?</p> <p>Issue 3 - Failure to cover administration fees: 1.At the last Senate estimates hearings in October, the Minister conceded the government did not intend on including administration fees in the new performance measures as part of the YFYS changes. Is this still the case? 2.Is this consistent with how the Productivity Commission saw these tests working based on its comprehensive 2019 report on super? 3.What analysis has Treasury undertaken of how the performance measure could work if it included administration fees? If none, why not? If some, can you please provide this work? 4.Which third parties or consultants has Treasury engaged to examine how the performance measures could operate with administration fees and/or any other charges included? If not why not? If so, can you please provide this work? 5.The Productivity Commission's report into super clearly envisaged that administration fees be included in the performance tests. At the last hearings, they provided a response on notice which pointed to the sections of its reports that detailed how it envisaged the enhanced outcomes test would operate and they clearly state administration fees should be included and the test should apply to MySuper products and choice products.</p> <p>Issue 4 - Regulatory impact on small businesses and employers: 1.The Government's glossy brochure on the reforms says that from 1 July 2022 "the ATO will enable digital software providers to give employers the option to automate the communications between the employer's payroll system and the ATO system." However, the stapling requirements will apply from 1 July 2021. oDoes this mean that employers will be required to manually enter information about employee's superannuation funds until 1 July 2022? olS the ATO going to be able to provide this information to every employer in the country on 1 July 2021? 2.These proposed laws will require employers to change the way they conduct payroll. However, much of the detail about these processes has been delegated to draft regulations. oHas the Treasury conducted any regulatory costing estimate of how much time and money employers will need to dedicate to changing their payroll processes? olf yes - does that costing consider the fact that the Bill will not pass before May 2021 at the earliest, leaving businesses with less than two months to comply with these new requirements? olf no - why not? Has the Treasury consulted at all with employers or small businesses about the cost of these changes? oWith most of the detail of the processes delegated to regulations, which have yet to be released in draft form, how could any employer reasonably know what the requirements on them will be on 1 July 2021?</p>	Department of the Treasury	1/04/2021	
AET114	Alex Gallacher	Your Future, Your Super		Department of the Treasury	1/04/2021	

AET115	Alex Gallacher	Super for housing proposals	<p>1.Has the Treasury provided the Government with any advice in relation to the proposals being circulated by the Member for Goldstein, Tim Wilson MP i.e., the release of superannuation for house deposits?</p> <p>2.Is Treasury aware of the research by Industry Super Australia, which indicates that capital city house prices could leap by up to 16% if individuals were able to access their superannuation? <a href="https://www.industrysuper.com/media/pouring-super-onto-the-overheated-housing-market-will-make-the-nations-retirement-savings-go-up-in-flames/">https://www.industrysuper.com/media/pouring-super-onto-the-overheated-housing-market-will-make-the-nations-retirement-savings-go-up-in-flames/</a></p> <p>3.Has Treasury provided any analysis of this research to external or internal stakeholders? Which stakeholders?</p> <p>4.Has Treasury conducted any modelling of the impacts of releasing superannuation for housing since the 2019 election? Or provided any other advice to Government on this matter?</p> <p>5.Does Treasury agree with the views of the former Finance Minister, Matthias Cormann that such a policy would increase house prices and reduce affordability for first home buyers?</p> <p>6.Does Treasury agree that such a policy would benefit individuals who own investment properties? For example, if someone owned three houses in Melbourne and one house in Canberra, would they stand to benefit from such a policy?</p> <p>7.(If modelling has been undertaken) Has any of this modelling been provided to Coalition backbenchers? Particularly the Chair of the House Economics Committee, Tim Wilson MP?</p> <p>8.Did any employee of Treasury correspond with the Chair of the House Economics Committee in relation to a proposal to release superannuation for housing? What information was provided in such correspondence?</p>	Department of the Treasury	1/04/2021	
AET116	Alex Gallacher	Update request on outlays for Homebuilder and Cash Flow Boost	Please provide an update of IQ21-000017 (Homebuilder and Cash Flow Boost) from the Senate Inquiry into the Australian Government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.	Department of the Treasury	1/04/2021	
AET117	Nick McKim	HomeBuilder data	<p>1.What is the value of grants approved under the Home Builder program? Please provide this data in as much granularity as is available, ideally a table including:</p> <p>a.Size of grant.</p> <p>b.Newbuild or renovation.</p> <p>c.Postcode of dwelling.</p> <p>d.Household income.</p> <p>e.Length of tenure (i.e. when the property was bought).</p> <p>f.Other property holdings (i.e. does the applicant own an investment property?).</p>	Department of the Treasury	1/04/2021	
AET118	Alex Gallacher	Data collection on housing	<p>1. Please provide data on the percentage of Australians who own their own home over the last 6 decades. Please also provide a break down according to:</p> <p>a. Age</p> <p>b. Location</p> <p>c. Gender</p> <p>2. Please provide data on the percentage of Australians who reside in rental accommodation over the last 6 decades. Please also provide a break down according to:</p> <p>a. Age</p> <p>b. Location</p> <p>c. Gender</p> <p>3. Please provide data on the average duration of tenancy over the last 6 decades.</p>	Department of the Treasury	1/04/2021	
AET119	Alex Gallacher	Data collection on Homebuilder	<p>1. Please provide data, based on the most up to date figures the Department of the Treasury can provide, on the number of the total applicants that have received their HomeBuilder Grant?</p> <p>2. Please advise what is the average amount of time between applications received and money granted?</p> <p>3. Please provide data on the total number of applicants that have had their application rejected?</p> <p>4.What number of HomeBuilder applications does Treasury estimate will fail to be paid because builders cannot meet the 6 month construction commencement timeframe?</p> <p>5.Please advise what percentage of HomeBuilder Grant applications are made by first homebuyers?</p> <p>6.At Budget Estimates in October 2020 Treasury said there were no exemptions to the eligibility criteria. Some state and territory revenue offices have established an objection process for people who are not satisfied with the outcome of their HomeBuilder application. Can Treasury please advise if any state or territory revenue offices have offered any exemptions to the HomeBuilder Eligibility criteria?</p> <p>7.The Housing Industry Association's latest housing forecasts predict about 180,000 homes will be built this year and that will drop to about 145,000 next year, then 143,000 in 2023 and then jumping back to 160,000 in 2024. Highlighting a gap in work between the end of the HomeBuilder and the return of immigration. Can Treasury please advise if it agrees with these forecast and provide the most recent Treasury housing forecasts?</p>	Department of the Treasury	1/04/2021	
AET120	Alex Gallacher	Ministerial-appointed observer to the NHFIC board	<p>Noting the appointment and public announcement of a Ministerial-appointed observer to the NHFIC board:</p> <p>1. Please advise how many Treasury portfolio agencies or statutory corporations include a Ministerial observer' on their board? like section 27 (2) of the NHFIC Act 2018?</p> <p>2. Please advise when Treasury advised the Minister he should consider appointing an observer on the NHFIC board?</p> <p>3. Please confirm whether Treasury put forward Mr Jeremenko to the Assistant Treasurer as a recommendation to fulfil an observer position on the NHFIC board?</p> <p>4. Mr Jeremenko, the Head of Treasury Market Conduct Division, is the Treasury board appointed observer' on the NHFIC Board. Please advise what experience he has had specifically with the housing market?</p> <p>5. Please advise if Mr Jeremenko attends all parts of the NHFIC board meeting, if not, which parts is he absent?</p> <p>6. Please advise how often does Mr Jeremenko directly updates the Minister on NHFIC board matters?</p> <p>7. Please advise if Mr Jeremenko has ever conveyed information or feedback or a position on behalf of the Minister to the NHFIC Board?</p> <p>8. At page 27, paragraph 3.25 of the NHFIC 2018 explanatory memorandum it envisages that such an observer position is "intended to support Government visibility of decision making, particularly in exceptional circumstances". Please identify the exceptional circumstances' that existed for the appointment of such an observer to NHFIC in October 2020?</p>	Department of the Treasury	1/04/2021	

AET121	Alex Gallacher	Continuous disclosure laws	<p>1.When did Treasury first provide any advice to the Morrison Government in relation to introducing a mental fault element into continuous disclosure laws?</p> <p>2.Does Treasury provide advice to the Government about how best to package legislation in omnibus bills?</p> <p>3.Did Treasury advise the Government to combine the controversial changes to continuous disclosure with the temporary extensions of certain COVID-19 corporate governance measures?</p> <p>4.Is the Treasury aware that Labor wrote to the Treasurer to offer Labor's support for splitting the bill and passing the temporary extensions of COVID-19 corporate governance measures?</p> <p>5.What are the consequences of not passing these temporary regulatory relief measures, which have now lapsed as of 21 March 2021?</p> <p>6.Did the Treasury provide any advice to the Government in relation to these consequences? Or in relation to Labor's proposal to split the bill?</p>	Department of the Treasury	1/04/2021	
AET122	Katy Gallagher	Treasury portfolio staffing profile	<p>1.Please provide a staffing profile for the agency as at 1 January 2021 and 01 April 2021 by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- APS ongoing: headcount and ASL;</li> <li>- APS non-ongoing: headcount and ASL;</li> <li>- Labour hire staff; headcount and FTE; and</li> <li>- Other contractors; headcount and FTE</li> </ul> <p>2.Please provide the percentage of staff engaged through labour hire arrangements as a percentage of total headcount.</p> <p>3.Please provide the total value of labour-hire contracts entered into between 1 July 2020 and 31 December 2020.</p>	Department of the Treasury	1/04/2021	
AET123	Slade Brockman	Questions for APRA on issues in relation to super funds and life insurance companies	<p>1.In a letter dated 9 March 2021 to Super fund and life insurance company CEOs, APRA mentioned emerging issues in the Group Super insurance market. I am particularly interested by the following words on tender practices, which seems to suggest that there has been some misconduct in this space: "APRA has also observed increasing incidences of undesirable tender practices, including abbreviated timeframes for the tender process, or to respond to revisions in insurance design or other parameters as part of that process, being imposed; life insurers being unduly restricted by RSE licensees seeking to have a major role in determining the reinsurers that must be used; and the data provided being inadequate, out of date and/or not made available to all tender participants. These sorts of practices contribute to many of the issues outlined above, as they adversely impact the ability of life insurers to effectively and appropriately respond to the tender request."</p> <p>Can you provide more context on the types of issues that you have seen, and whether there is any suggestion of illegality? If so, does APRA intend to take action and how?</p> <p>2.With regards to issues on volatility in life insurance premiums: Have there been significant increases in premiums for many clients, including those who are now in legacy products and those products labelled as level premiums? What is APRA doing to protect the interests of these retail life insurance clients? Has APRA paid attention to the scale of some of these increases and if so, please outline the scope of these increases.</p> <p>3.It has been reported that APRA's intervention into the Individual Disability Income Insurance market has made it much more difficult for small business owners and those who are self-employed to get income protection insurance. What is APRA doing to support the small business community that have been adversely impacted by these changes?</p> <p>4.In April 2019, APRA and ASIC issued a joint letter to super fund trustees to highlight their responsibilities for the oversight of fees being charged by financial advisers, including the need to check that services are being provided. I understand that it has become common for super fund trustees to request documents from financial advisers to prove the provision of services, such as Statements of Advice, that could contain personal information that should not be made available to these trustees. To what extent is APRA aware of these practices and what steps have you taken to address the issue that the provision of such information by financial advisers might breach the privacy obligations? Has APRA provided guidance to trustees on what is appropriate information to request and how to address the potential issues with privacy?</p> <p>5.Some life insurers have taken to offering upfront discounts in the first year or over the course of the first three years of a policy. Are existing clients indirectly paying for these discounts' by way of their large premium increases? If not, please provide some clarity on why premiums continue to spike for existing clients.</p>	Australian Prudential Regulation Authority	6/04/2021	
AET124	Larissa Waters	Submission to proposed changes to the Individual Disability Income Insurance	<p>I made a submission to APRA's consultation over proposed changes to the Individual Disability Income Insurance, and the impacts of the changes on claimants on parental leave at the time a claim was made.</p> <p>1.Can you provide an update on the timing for proposed reforms?</p> <p>2.Have any changes been made to ensure that claimants on parental leave are not unfairly disadvantaged?</p> <p>3.Will the income of someone on parental leave at the time of making a claim be assessed on that basis of their expected wage on returning to work, or their income while on leave?</p>	Australian Prudential Regulation Authority	6/04/2021	
AET125	Nick McKim	myGov ID	<p>1.What data did the IDEMIA facial recognition system use for and during its three years of liveness testing?</p> <p>a.Where was that data housed and processed?</p> <p>b.What has happened to the data since the contract with IDEMIA terminated?</p> <p>2.What data will the iProov system use?</p> <p>a.Where will that data be collected from?</p> <p>b.Where will that data be housed and processed?</p> <p>c.How will the data be used?</p> <p>d.What derivative or meta data will be created by this system?</p> <p>e.What systems/agencies/organisations will have access to some or all of this data?</p> <p>3.Did any Australian companies tender for the myGovID contract awarded to iProov?</p> <p>a.If so, why were these Australian companies awarded the contract?</p> <p>4.What consideration and evaluation criteria were given to sovereign tech capability in the scoping, tender, and selection processes?</p> <p>a.How were these criteria met by iProov's tender?</p> <p>b.How were these criteria not met by Australian tenders/companies?</p> <p>5.What consideration and evaluation criteria were given to data sovereignty in the scoping, tender, and selection processes (administrative, legal, etc.)?</p> <p>a.How were these criteria met by iProov's tender?</p> <p>b.How were these criteria not met by Australian tenders/companies?</p>	Australian Taxation Office	8/04/2021	

AET126	Jenny McAllister	Early release of superannuation for victims of domestic abuse	Please provide the fiscal and underlying cash impact over the forward estimates, at the time of announcement, for the former measure allowing early release of superannuation for victims of domestic abuse.	Department of the Treasury	8/04/2021	
AET127	Malcolm Roberts	AER - Batteries and subsidies for renewables	<p>The AER plays a key role in regulating electricity networks except in Western Australia, setting the amount of revenue that network businesses can recover from customers for using their networks. Initially, it was envisaged under the NEM that new networks would be financed by the suppliers benefitting from them. This has tended to lapse and the only costs suppliers now pay are the "shallow" links to the main transmission line. This tends to distort competition if, as is often the case, a new supplier prevails upon the regulatory authorities and government agencies to regulate a new line and have the consumers pay for it.</p> <p>1.AEMO, in its Integrated System Plan for the National Electricity Market (NEM), identifies \$17.4 billion of transmission investments by 2040 that would be needed to accommodate its projections involving a doubling or trebling of rooftop solar together with more than 26 gigawatts of new grid-scale renewables. AEMO's estimate excludes most of the Snowy 2.0 costs. Its identified projects are: QUESTION: Is this expenditure a subsidy to wind and solar energy, itself only viable as a result of the regulatory provided subsidies and direct support from government in contracts and fiscal assistance?</p> <p>2. Among AER Strategic Objectives is " Use our expertise to inform debate about Australia's energy future, the long-term interests of consumers and the regulatory landscape". Transmission subsidies are additional to the \$7 billion a year paid to wind and solar under direct support, loans and the regulatory requirements on retailers to incorporate 33,000 GWh of wind and solar from major facilities and an uncapped amount from rooftops</p> <p>Question: How do you ensure that politicians and the community are made aware of these costs?</p> <p>3.You recently reported on high price events that took place in South Australia due to the loss of Pelican Point and scheduled servicing at the main link with Victoria. While the average price in South Australia has been at similarly low levels to that of other states, it has seen a great deal of volatility in recent years (and a catastrophic total loss of supply in 2016). Question: Do you see this pattern becoming more prevalent across the market as a result of the forced introduction of wind and solar? And do you see the increase in transmission links both to allow more large-scale wind/solar to be fed into major markets and to provide back-up for those most vulnerable to weather dependent energy as exporting the problem to other states?</p> <p>4.AGL has just announced another Big Battery this one to be located at the Loy Yang site. They include QUESTION: Is it true that these considerable developments are required only because the increase in non-dispatchable wind and solar requires the frequency control services they provide and is this not just another subsidy that the consumer must pay for a result of the subsidies to wind and solar?</p> <p>5.In some cases, as with the Neoen battery in Geelong, the facility has been made possible only because it was essentially specified in a government contract (and subsequently further assisted by a loan from the  CEFC "green energy" bank. QUESTION: Does it trouble you that such measures undermine a key goal you have, namely to: "Drive effective competition where it is feasible"?</p>	Australian Competition and Consumer Commission	9/04/2021	
AET128	Kimberley Kitching	Treasury portfolio engagement with Services Australia	<p>1.Did the department/agency engage with Services Australia in any capacity in the 2019-20 financial year? If yes, please provide full particulars.</p> <p>2.Has the department/agency engaged with Services Australia in any capacity in the current financial year to 31 March 2021? If yes, please provide full particulars.</p> <p>3.In the 2019-20 financial year, did the department/agency supply services or information to Services Australia? If yes, please provide full particulars.</p> <p>4.In the current financial year to 31 March 2021, has the department/agency supplied services or information to Services Australia? If yes, please provide full particulars.</p> <p>5.Does the department/agency employ technology or apps for users to access its services? If yes, did/does Services Australia have any involvement in the creation, development or ongoing maintenance of that technology or those apps? Please provide full particulars.</p> <p>6.Does the department/agency receive data, statistics or research information from Services Australia? If yes, please provide full particulars.</p>	Department of the Treasury	9/04/2021	
AET129	Nita Green	Allocation of budget funding for national epilepsy plan	<p>A comprehensive submission was put to Department of Health by Epilepsy Action Australia (EAA) for a "national epilepsy plan" in 2017 needing funding of \$4.4 million over 3 years. The department advised EAA there was funding available for only the first project (\$1.3m allocated in 2018 budget announcement) to establish a National Response Service.</p> <p>1.How did the Treasurer decide to allocate \$20 million in epilepsy support funding solely to Epilepsy Foundation Victoria (joint announcement with Health Minister in March 2019), an organisation in his electorate of which he was a Patron?</p> <p>2.Was the \$20 million announced in March 2019 in response to a submission and what was the objective of the "Epilepsy Smart Australia pilot program" (named in the announcement)?</p> <p>3.Why was this funding announced by the Treasurer as a pre-Budget commitment without any gap analysis, sector scan or tender process being undertaken?</p> <p>4.Why was the Epilepsy Society of Australia, the professional organisation for clinicians, scientists and technologists involved in the diagnosis, treatment and research of epilepsy in Australia not consulted prior to the funding decision?</p> <p>5.How was the decision made for the significant funding amount of \$20 million over 4 years committed to only one organisation whose operating budget was \$4 million for the prior year?</p>	Department of the Treasury	9/04/2021	
AET130	Kristina Keneally	Departmental equipment	What was the estimated value of all Departmental equipment that was lost, damaged, stolen or written off during each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 ; 1 July 2020-31 December 2020.	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	



AET131	Kristina Keneally	CDDA Payments	<p>1.How many claims have been received under the Compensation for Detriment caused by Defective Administration scheme (CDDA) by the Department for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020; 1 July 2020-31 December 2020?</p> <p>2.How many claims were:</p> <p>a.Accepted.</p> <p>b.Rejected.</p> <p>c.Under consideration.</p> <p>3.Of the accepted claims, can the Department provide:</p> <p>a.Details of the claim, subject to relevant privacy considerations</p> <p>b.The date payment was made</p> <p>c.The decision maker.</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET132	Kristina Keneally	Secretarial Travel	<p>1.Can an itemised list of the costs of all domestic and international travel undertaken by the Secretary of the Department for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020; 1 July 2020-31 December 2020 be provided including:</p> <p>a.Flights for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the airline and class of travel.</p> <p>b.Ground transport for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials.</p> <p>c.Accommodation for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the hotels the party stayed at and the room category in which the party stayed.</p> <p>d.Meals and other incidentals for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials. Any available menus, receipts for meals at restaurants and the like should also be provided.</p> <p>e.Any available photographs documenting the Secretary's travel should also be provided.</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET133	Kristina Keneally	Treasury Portfolio Departmental Functions	<p>1.In relation to expenditure on any functions or official receptions etc hosted by the Department or agencies within the portfolio for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020; 1 July 2020-31 December 2020, can the following be provided:</p> <p>a.List of functions .</p> <p>b.List of all attendees.</p> <p>c.Function venue.</p> <p>d.Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive).</p> <p>e.Details of any food served.</p> <p>f.Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage.</p> <p>g.Any available photographs of the function.</p> <p>h.Details of any entertainment provided.</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET134	Kristina Keneally	Treasury Portfolio Staff Travel	<p>1.What is the total cost of staff travel for departmental/agency employees for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020; 1 July 2020-31 December 2020.</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET135	Kristina Keneally	Treasury Portfolio Travel and Expense Claim Policy	<p>1.Please produce a copy of all travel and expense claim policies.</p> <p>2.Please produce a copy of all claim forms. If the forms are digital, please provide a screen shot of each section, including all dropdown options .</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET136	Kristina Keneally	Treasury Portfolio Declarations of Gifts and Hospitality Policy	<p>1.Please produce a copy of all relevant policies.</p> <p>2.Please produce a copy of the register of declarations of gifts as at 10 November 2020 .</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET137	Kristina Keneally	Treasury Portfolio Facilities upgrades	<p>1.Were there any upgrades to facility premises at any of the Departments or agencies for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020; 1 July 2020-31 December 2020. This includes but is not limited to: staff room refurbishments , kitchen refurbishments, bathroom refurbishments, the purchase of any new fridges, coffee machines, or other kitchen equipment.</p> <p>2.If so, can a detailed description of the relevant facilities upgrades be provided together with an itemised list of costs (GST inclusive).</p> <p>3.If so, can any photographs of the upgraded facilities be provided.</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET138	Kristina Keneally	Contract notice CN3757641	<p>With reference to contract notice CN3757641 published on Austender on 29 March 2021:</p> <p>What "building construction and support and maintenance and repair services" is Tnale Projects providing in the period 20 November 2020 to 30 June 2021 at a cost of \$325,352.50.</p> <p>Why was the contract notice relating to this contract not published on Austender within 42 days of the contract start date.</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET139	Kristina Keneally	Executive office upgrades	<p>1.Have any furniture, fixtures or fittings of the Secretary's office, or the offices of any Deputy Secretaries been upgraded for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020; 1 July 2020-31 December 2020. If so, can an itemised list of costs please be provided (GST inclusive).</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET140	Kristina Keneally	Treasury Portfolio Executive Management	<p>1.In relation to executive management for the Department and its agencies, can the following be provided for 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020; 1 July 2020-31 December 2020:</p> <p>a.The total number of executive management positions</p> <p>b.The aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions.</p> <p>c.The change in the number of executive manager positions.</p> <p>d.The change in aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions.</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET141	Kristina Keneally	Treasury Portfolio Social media influencers	<p>1.What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on social media influencers for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020; 1 July 2020-31 December 2020 .</p> <p>2.What advertising or information campaigns did the Department/agency use social media influencers to promote.</p> <p>3.Can a copy of all relevant social media influencer posts please be provided.</p> <p>4.Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all relevant social media influencer contracts please be provided.</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	

AET142	Kristina Keneally	Treasury Portfolio Media monitoring	<p>1.What is the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to each Minister's office for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020; 1 July 2020-31 December 2020.</p> <p>a.Which agency or agencies provided these services.</p> <p>b.Can an itemised list of Austender Contract notice numbers for any media monitoring contracts in each period please be provided</p> <p>c.What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year FY 2020-21.</p> <p>2.What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020; 1 July 2020-31 December 2020.</p> <p>a.Which agency or agencies provided these services.</p> <p>b.Can an itemised list of Austender Contract Notice numbers for any media monitoring contracts in each period please be provided</p> <p>c.What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year FY 2020-21.</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET143	Kristina Keneally	Treasury Portfolio Communications staff	<p>1.For all departments and agencies, please provide in relation to all public relations, communications and media staff the following:</p> <p>2.By Department or agency:</p> <p>a.How many ongoing staff, the classification, the type of work they undertake and their location.</p> <p>b.How many non-ongoing staff, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location.</p> <p>c.How many contractors, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location.</p> <p>d.How many are graphic designers.</p> <p>e.How many are media managers.</p> <p>f.How many organise events.</p> <p>3.Do any departments/agencies have independent media studios.</p> <p>a.If yes, why.</p> <p>b.When was it established.</p> <p>c.What is the set up cost.</p> <p>d.What is the ongoing cost.</p> <p>e.How many staff work there and what are their classifications.</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET144	Kristina Keneally	Treasury Portfolio Promotional Merchandise	<p>1.What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on promotional merchandise for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020; 1 July 2020-31 December 2020 .</p> <p>2.Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all promotional merchandise contracts in that period please be provided.</p> <p>3.Can photographs or samples of relevant promotional merchandise please be provided.</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET145	Kristina Keneally	Treasury Portfolio Market Research	<p>1.Does the Department/agency undertake any polling or market research in relation to government policies or proposed policies.</p> <p>2.If so, can the Department provide an itemised list of:</p> <p>a.Subject matter</p> <p>b.Company</p> <p>c.Costs each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020; 1 July 2020-31 December 2020</p> <p>d.Contract date period</p> <p>3.Can the Department/agency advise what, if any, research was shared with the Minister or their office and the date and format in which this occurred.</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET146	Kristina Keneally	Treasury Portfolio Advertising and information campaigns	<p>1.What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on advertising and information campaigns for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020; 1 July 2020-31 December 2020.</p> <p>2.What advertising and information campaigns did the Department/agency run in each relevant period. For each campaign, please provide:</p> <p>a.When approval was first sought.</p> <p>b.The date of approval, including whether the advertising went through the Independent Campaign Committee process.</p> <p>c.the timeline for each campaign, including any variation to the original proposed timeline.</p> <p>3.Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all advertising and information campaign contracts in each period be provided.</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET147	Kristina Keneally	Acting Minister arrangements	<p>1.Can the Department provide all leave periods of the portfolio Minister from 24 August 2018 to date.</p> <p>2.Can the Department further provide acting Minister arrangements for each leave period.</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET148	Kristina Keneally	Ministerial Functions	<p>1.In relation to any functions or official receptions hosted by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020; 1 July 2020-31 December 2020, can the following be provided :</p> <p>a.List of functions.</p> <p>b.List of all attendees.</p> <p>c.Function venue.</p> <p>d.Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive).</p> <p>e.Details of any food served.</p> <p>f.Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage.</p> <p>g.Any available photographs of the function.</p> <p>h.Details of any entertainment provided.</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	

AET149	Kristina Keneally	Appointments Briefs Prepared	<p>1.How many times has the Department prepared a brief for statutory authorities, executive agencies, advisory boards, government business enterprises or any other Commonwealth body which includes a reference to a former Liberal or National member of parliament at a state, territory or federal level.</p> <p>2.For each brief prepared, can the Department advise:</p> <p>a.The former member.</p> <p>b.The board or entity.</p> <p>c.Whether the request originated from the Minister's office.</p> <p>d.Whether the appointment was made.</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET150	Kristina Keneally	Ministerial Meals	<p>1.In relation to any breakfasts, luncheons, dinners or other meals hosted by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020; 1 July 2020-31 December 2020, can the following be provided :</p> <p>a.List of dates and types of meals.</p> <p>b.List of all attendees.</p> <p>c.Function venue.</p> <p>d.Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive).</p> <p>e.Details of any food served.</p> <p>f.Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage.</p> <p>g.Any available photographs of the function.</p> <p>h.Details of any entertainment provided.</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET151	Kristina Keneally	Board Appointments	<p>1.Provide an update of portfolio boards, including board title, terms of appointment, tenure of appointment and members.</p> <p>2.What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio</p> <p>3.Please detail any board appointments made from 30 June 2020 to date.</p> <p>4.What has been the total value of all Board Director fees and disbursements paid.</p> <p>5.What is the value of all domestic travel by Board Directors.</p> <p>6.What is the value of all international travel by Board Directors.</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET152	Kristina Keneally	Ministerial Stationery	<p>1.How much has been spent on ministerial stationery requirements in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020; 1 July 2020-31 December 2020 .</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET153	Kristina Keneally	Treasury Portfolio Declarations of Interest Policy	<p>1.Please produce a copy of all relevant policies.</p> <p>2.Please produce a copy of the register of declarations of interest as at 10 November 2020 .</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET154	Kristina Keneally	Treasury Portfolio Public Interest Disclosures	<p>1.For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020; 1 July 2020-31 December 2020, how many public interest disclosures have been received.</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET155	Kristina Keneally	Treasury Portfolio Departmental staff allowances	<p>1.Can a list of Departmental/agency allowances and reimbursements available to employees be provided.</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET156	Kristina Keneally	Treasury Portfolio Briefings	<p>1.Has the Department/agency or the Minister's office provided briefings to independents/minor parties in the Senate or House of Representatives. If so, can the following be provided :</p> <p>a.The subject matter of the briefing.</p> <p>b.The location and date of the briefing.</p> <p>c.Who proposed the briefing.</p> <p>d.Attendees of the briefing by level/position</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET157	Kristina Keneally	Treasury Portfolio Commissioned Reports and Reviews	<p>1.For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020; 1 July 2020-31 December 2020, how many Reports or Reviews have been commissioned. Please provide details of each report including:</p> <p>a.Date commissioned.</p> <p>b.Date report handed to Government .</p> <p>c.Date of public release.</p> <p>d.Terms of Reference.</p> <p>e.Committee members and/or Reviewers.</p> <p>2.How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost.</p> <p>3.The background and credentials of the Review personnel.</p> <p>4.The remuneration arrangements applicable to the Review personnel, including fees, disbursements and travel</p> <p>5.The cost of any travel attached to the conduct of the Review.</p> <p>6.How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level.</p> <p>7.What is the current status of each report. When is the Government intending to respond to each report if it has not already done so.</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	

AET158	Kristina Keneally	Ministerial Overseas Travel	<p>1.Can an itemised list of the costs met by the department or agency for all international travel undertaken by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020; 1 July 2020-31 December 2020 please be provided including:</p> <p>a.Flights for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials, together with the airline and class of travel.</p> <p>b.Ground transport for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials.</p> <p>c.Accommodation for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the hotels the party stayed at and the room category in which the party stayed.</p> <p>d.Meals and other incidentals for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials. Any available menus, receipts for meals at restaurants and the like should also be provided.</p> <p>e.Any available photographs documenting the Minister's travel should also be provided.</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET159	Kristina Keneally	Ministerial Domestic Travel	<p>1.Can an itemised list of the costs met by the department or agency for all domestic travel undertaken by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020; 1 July 2020-31 December 2020 please be provided including :</p> <p>a.Flights for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials, together with the airline and class of travel.</p> <p>b.Ground transport for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials.</p> <p>c.Accommodation for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the hotels the party stayed at and the room category in which the party stayed.</p> <p>d.Meals and other incidentals for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials. Any available menus, receipts for meals at restaurants and the like should also be provided.</p> <p>e.Any available photographs documenting the Minister's travel should also be provided.</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET160	Kristina Keneally	Freedom of Information	<p>1.Please list the number of Freedom of Information Act requests ('FOI requests') received by the Department for the following years:</p> <p>a.2013-14;</p> <p>b.2014-15;</p> <p>c.2015-16;</p> <p>d.2016-17;</p> <p>e.2018-19; 2019-20, and;</p> <p>f.2020-21 to date .</p> <p>2.For each year above, please provide:</p> <p>a.The number of FOI requests the Department granted in full;</p> <p>b.The number of FOI requests the Department granted in part;</p> <p>c.The number of FOI requests the Department refused in full; and</p> <p>d.The number of FOI requests the Department refused for practical reasons under the Freedom of Information Act.</p> <p>3.For each year above, please also provide:</p> <p>a.The number of times the Department failed to make any decision on a FOI request within the 30 day statutory period; and</p> <p>b.The number of times a request to the Department resulted in a practical refusal (i.e. no decision was made on the request).</p> <p>4.For each year above, please also provide:</p> <p>a.The number of times the Department's FOI decisions have been appealed to the OAIC; and</p> <p>b.The number of times has the OAIC overturned in whole or in part the Department's decision to refuse access to material.</p> <p>5.Please provide the staffing (both ASL and headcount) of staff at the Department who work exclusively on FOI requests, broken down by APS level (e.g. three EL1s, four APS6s, one SES) for each of the following years:</p> <p>a.2013-14;</p> <p>b.2014-15;</p> <p>c.2015-16;</p> <p>d.2016-17;</p> <p>e.2018-19;</p> <p>f.2019-20, and;</p> <p>g.2020-21 to date.</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET161	Kristina Keneally	Treasury Portfolio Legal Costs	1.What are the total legal costs for the Department/agency for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020; 1 July 2020-31 December 2020 .	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET162	Kristina Keneally	Treasury Portfolio Congestion Busting	<p>1.Can the Department/agency advise how it is "congestion busting" in relation to bureaucratic bottlenecks and regulatory bottlenecks.</p> <p>2.Have any additional resources been allocated within the Department to achieve "congestion busting" within the department .</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET163	Kristina Keneally	Treasury Portfolio Fair Work Commission	1.For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020; 1 July 2020-31 December 2020, how many references have been made to the Fair Work Commission within the Department or agency.	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET164	Kristina Keneally	Treasury Portfolio Fair Work Ombudsman	1.For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020; 1 July 2020-31 December 2020, how many references have been made to the Fair Work Ombudsman within the Department or agency .	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	

AET165	Kristina Keneally	Treasury Portfolio Collateral Materials	<p>1.What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on collateral materials, including banners, publications, maps, charts and high visibility or protective clothing for events, functions, conferences, meetings, press conferences and site visits, including Ministerial events, functions, conferences, meetings, press conferences and site visits for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020; 1 July 2020-31 December 2020.</p> <p>2.For each event or function where the Department/agency expended funds on collateral materials, provide details of the event, including the date and location of each event, and details of the types of materials.</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET166	Kristina Keneally	Treasury Portfolio Recruitment Costs	<p>1.What amount has been expended by the department/agency on external recruitment or executive search services in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020; 1 July 2020-31 December 2020.</p> <p>2.Which services were utilised. Can an itemised list be provided.</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET167	Kristina Keneally	Treasury Portfolio Office of the Merit Protection Commissioner	<p>1.For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 ; 1 July 2020-31 December 2020, how many references have been made to the Office of the Merit Protection Commissioner within the Department or agency.</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET168	Kristina Keneally	Treasury Portfolio Staffing	<p>1.How many full-time equivalent staff are engaged at each of 30 June 2019 and 30 June 2020 10 November 2020.</p> <p>2.How many of these positions are (a) on-going and (b) non-ongoing.</p> <p>3.How many redundancies have occurred in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020; 1 July 2020-31 December 2020. How many were:</p> <p>a. voluntary</p> <p>b.involuntary.</p> <p>4.How many of those redundancies occurred as a result of departmental restructuring. What is the total cost of those redundancies.</p> <p>5. What was the total value in dollar terms of all termination payments paid to exiting staff.</p> <p>6.How much overtime or equivalent has been paid to staff in each of the 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020; 1 July 2020-31 December 2020.</p> <p>7.How many section 37 notices under the Public Service Act 1999 have been offered in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020; 1 July 2020-31 December 2020 to date.</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET169	Kristina Keneally	Departmental staff in Minister's office	<p>1.Can the Department provide an update on the total number of departmental staff seconded to ministerial offices, including:</p> <p>a.Duration of secondment.</p> <p>b.APS level.</p> <p>2.Can the Department provide an update on the total number of DLOs/CLOs for ministerial offices including APS level.</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET170	Kristina Keneally	Comcare	<p>1.For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020; 1 July 2020-31 December 2020, can the Department advise whether it has been the subject of any investigations involving Comcare. If yes, please provide details of the circumstances and the status .</p> <p>2.Can the Department advise the number of sanctions it has received from Comcare in the each of the periods; 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020; 1 July 2020-31 December 2020.</p>	Department of the Treasury	20/04/2021	
AET171	Kristina Keneally	Contract notice CN3757882	<p>With reference to contract notice CN3757882 published on Austender on 30 March 2021: Please provide details of the "promotional video" being produced by Hoabinh International Tourism and Trading Investment Co Ltd in Hanoi, Vietnam, in the period 18 February to 25 March 2021 at a cost of \$12,248.39.</p> <p>Why was the contract notice relating to this contract not published on Austender within 42 days of the contract start date.</p>	Australian Competition and Consumer Commission	20/04/2021	
AET172	Gerard Rennick	Gold holdings	<p>1. Does the RBA lease gold to the Perth Mint?</p> <p>2. If so, why does the RBA lease to a wholesaler/retailer given that the RBA says that the gold in the London vaults does not move so why lease it to an entity that actually sells physical gold?</p> <p>3. Why is it necessary to give six months' notice to inspect Australia's gold reserves?</p> <p>4. Why won't the RBA release the details of the audit report into Australia's gold reserves?</p> <p>5. Foreign relations should not supersede transparency of our gold reserves, especially given the strong friendship Australia has with the UK. Suggesting relations with the Bank of England could be impacted if the Audit findings were released only serves to create greater distrust in the custodianship of our reserves does it not?</p> <p>6. Could the RBA explain how the lending market has formed an important part of goldminers financial and risk management. Given the RBA hasn't acquired any physical gold in over 20 years it is clearly not engaged in lending for risk management of forward sales or otherwise it would have taken physical delivery of gold produced by Australian gold miners.</p> <p>7. Given the RBA hasn't acquired physical gold through lending, i.e. covered hedging does the RBA accept that engaging in uncovered lending is market manipulation that works against the interests of the gold mining sector in Australia which employs up to 60,000 people and investors in gold mining companies?</p>	Reserve Bank of Australia	1/04/2021	

AET173	Nick McKim	Lending/TFF/small business /Wealth effects / inflation / business liaison	<p>Monetary policy</p> <p>1. [Verbal:] Is there any restriction on the RBA using credit guidance to direct monetary policy towards productive purposes?  a. Further: Is there any restriction on the type of assets the RBA can purchase?</p> <p>2. What value of the TFF allocation accessed by banks has been directed to:  a. business lending,  b. household lending (mortgages), and  c. other lending?</p> <p>3. What proportion of the remaining TFF not yet accessed by banks is allocated to:  a. business lending,  b. household lending (mortgages), and  c. other lending?</p> <p>The wealth effect</p> <p>1. Has there been any diminution in the efficacy of so-called 'wealth effects', particularly as household debt to income ratios have risen? Are recent rises in house prices expected to yield the same increase in household consumption as previous rises in house prices, all else being equal?</p> <p>2. What is the relationship between the 'wealth effect' and persistently low wages growth in recent years? In other words: Has the availability of access to greater home equity offset the reduction in increases in income from work?</p> <p>Inflation</p> <p>1. Is the RBA required to use the consumer price index (CPI) when seeking to achieve the target band of inflation of 2-3%? Or is the RBA able to take into account other considerations not adequately captured in CPI, such as inflation in housing costs attributable to land price inflation?</p>	Reserve Bank of Australia	1/04/2021	
AET174	Slade Brockman	Wealth effects/inflation/business liaison	<p>Could I ask a quick question? In terms of sector analysis, going back 15 years ago, I was policy director with the Pastoralists and Graziers Association and we used to have a regular quarterly meeting with the RBA to discuss the sector. Is that still ongoing?</p>	Reserve Bank of Australia	24/03/2021	105
AET175	Susan McDonald	Lending	<p>Senator McDONALD: Critics argue that the economy has ample access to credit and that the government's reforms will lead to more credit than the system needs. As I understand it, the reforms are designed more to reduce the cost and delay in accessing credit and, in the case of existing borrowers, lower interest rates. Can you tell us about how credit is currently distributed? Is it distributed evenly or unevenly, and how has the debt-to-equity ratio changed over time?</p> <p>Dr DeBelle: The total lending numbers show that, in aggregate, the level of small business lending is basically the same as it was two or three years ago—different businesses are getting loans and repaying them within that aggregate number. For medium sized businesses it is pretty much the same; it hasn't really gone anywhere for the better part of two or three years. For larger businesses there has been some growth in lending. We want banks to make responsible lending decisions, we want them to lend to people they think have a reasonable capacity to repay them. As Michelle said, when you're making the loan you don't know exactly how the future is going to play out, so you want to take a risk based approach to that. The question is: have we struck the right balance in taking some risk while ensuring sensible risk based lending decisions are being made? We can provide you with more detail as to how that lending has evolved over the last few years if you want.</p>	Reserve Bank of Australia	24/03/2021	106
AET176	Gerard Rennick	Gold audits	<p>Senator RENNICK: My first question is in regard to our gold. It sits in London vaults. I asked you some questions on notice about that last time. You said you've done two audits of our gold—I'm assuming that is in our history, in the last 20 years—and counted seven per cent of the stock and nine per cent of the stock. Has the RBA ever sighted all of our 80 tonnes of gold at any one time when we purchased it or since we purchased it?</p> <p>Dr DeBelle: When it was here, we did. But since it has been in London—and I will correct my answer if I have got this wrong—I think the answer is no. We did sample audits, fairly standard auditing practice, when we did those two audits that you've just referred to. They were both sample audits.</p> <p>Senator RENNICK: When did it leave Australia?</p> <p>Dr DeBelle: I'll have to get back to you on that. It was before my time. I can't answer that question directly.</p>	Reserve Bank of Australia	24/03/2021	108
AET177	Nick McKim	Lending/TFF/small business	<p>Has the RBA examined at all the efficacy of investment banks as a vehicle to direct monetary policy to productive ends or any other ways in which monetary policy could be better directed to more productive ends?</p>	Reserve Bank of Australia	24/03/2021	113