

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade – Hearing date: 25 October 2018; Due date for answers: 7 December 2018

Portfolio QNo	Senator	BroadTopic	QuestionText	Written Hansard	Proof Hansard Page
1	Penny Wong	Jerusalem Announcement	<p>Senator WONG: Tell me when that started, the DFAT advising of foreign governments. I'd like to know how that was rolled out, please.</p> <p>Mr Sheehan: That began on the evening of 15 October.</p> <p>Senator WONG: That's the Monday evening?</p> <p>Mr Sheehan: Yes.</p> <p>Senator WONG: That's the first time we start outreaching about this decision?</p> <p>Mr Sheehan: To my knowledge, that is correct, yes.</p> <p>Senator WONG: And who did what?</p> <p>Mr Sheehan: Without going into details of which countries specifically—</p> <p>Senator WONG: I think, given the publicity around this, it would be good for Australians to know that we actually did speak to people. Was the post in Jakarta advised? Did they handle outreach in Jakarta? Can you please take me through which nations were advised and whether or not it was done by DFAT Canberra or in country.</p> <p>Mr Sheehan: I would suggest that I explain the process and then get to the issue of Indonesia specifically. We considered a number of countries and which countries should be briefed in advance and then—</p> <p>Senator WONG: How many countries were intended to be briefed in advance?</p> <p>Mr Sheehan: A significant number, but I would prefer not to go into precise detail as to exactly how many.</p> <p>Senator WONG: I'm sorry, but this is Senate estimates and that is not a PII claim. I'm asking you: which countries were on the list to be briefed ahead of the announcement?</p> <p>Ms Adamson: We determined that a range of countries needed to be advised and that list was drawn up in consultation within the department and shared more widely. As you know, and as you said in your earlier question, DFAT's role is often to implement a government decision or to advise. We did that in the normal way, paying attention—</p> <p>Senator WONG: Sure. I want to know which countries were on the list for pre-briefing.</p> <p>Ms Adamson: I'm sure you can understand that, regarding the order of countries—</p> <p>Senator WONG: I will—</p> <p>Ms Adamson: and which countries—</p>	Hansard	Nov-13

		<p>Senator Payne: Senator, could you let the secretary finish, please?</p> <p>Ms Adamson: we would rather not go into detail. But I think we can help you broadly—</p> <p>Senator WONG: No. I am maintaining my request for that. I am not prepared to have a situation where the government can trash a couple of longstanding foreign policy decisions without—</p> <p>CHAIR: Enough of the editorialising.</p> <p>Senator WONG: I'll try to change the verb, Senator Abetz, just for you—alter, without cabinet decision, and then be told that the Australian people can't be told which countries you considered needed to be pre-briefed because you're worried about the effect on, what, foreign relations?</p> <p>Ms Adamson: No. Could I say that all countries which we determined had an interest in this matter were pre-briefed, either on the evening or in the course of the day. You can be assured that DFAT did a very thorough job of ensuring—both through heads of mission here in Canberra and through our overseas posts—that notification of the government's expected decision was given to all countries with an interest.</p> <p>Senator WONG: I'm maintaining my request for which countries.</p> <p>CHAIR: Secretary, would you like to take that question on notice and consider it, because I could imagine that there would be very serious sensitivities with some of these matters.</p> <p>Senator WONG: She's hasn't indicated any of them, Chair. If there's a PII claim, she is obliged to refer it to the minister, the minister is obliged to take it and the Senate is entitled to consider it.</p> <p>CHAIR: That is why I have suggested taking it on notice—so that due consideration can be given to all of those matters.</p> <p>Ms Adamson: Thank you, Chair.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Is there a PII claim?</p> <p>Ms Adamson: I will take the question on notice.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Under the standing orders, you have to refer it—</p> <p>Ms Adamson: I'm aware of the rules, Senator.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Then why don't you follow them?</p> <p>Ms Adamson: Because I would like to take the question on notice.</p> <p>CHAIR: Excuse me. As chair, I will determine whether or not rules are being followed.</p> <p>Senator WONG: It's actually a matter for the Senate, Chair. How many countries were pre-briefed?</p> <p>CHAIR: That's been taken on notice, Senator.</p> <p>Senator WONG: No; the list of countries. How many were pre-briefed?</p> <p>Ms Adamson: We can give you an approximate number.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Thank you.</p>		
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2	Richard Di Natale	Israel - settlement activity	<p>Senator DI NATALE: Can I take it that the government has recently privately condemned settlement activity, Minister? Senator Payne: The government has raised its concerns with Israel in relation to settlement activity, as I indicated to you in the chamber recently, and we do so in our engagements with them.</p> <p>Senator DI NATALE: Can you detail when and how those criticisms were made?</p> <p>Senator Payne: I'll take that on notice. Actually, I can tell you that the previous minister raised it earlier</p>	Hansard	26-27

			<p>this year. It has also been raised directly with Prime Minister Netanyahu. I will get the finer details of that; or HK Yu, who is here, can add to that.</p> <p>Ms Yu: Yes, there have been a number of representations made by the Australian government with regard to the settlement issues. I'm happy to go through a number of interventions that we've made, if that would be helpful to you, Senator.</p> <p>Senator DI NATALE: Given that we've got restricted time, I'll get you to take those on notice.</p> <p>Ms Yu: Sure.</p>		
3	Richard Di Natale	Saudi Arabia - Australian business interests in Davos	<p>Senator DI NATALE: Perhaps while we're on the subject, could you advise how many Australian businesses have gone to Davos in the desert and what kind of facilitation the Australian government's provided? Senator Payne: I'll take that on notice.</p>	Hansard	27-28
4	Richard Di Natale	Cambodia - Resettlement MOU	<p>Senator DI NATALE: I'll ask a related question. The resettlement agreement with Cambodia will expire at the end of the year. Has DFAT had any input into whether that agreement will be extended beyond the end of the year?</p> <p>Ms Heckscher: That is a question for the Department of Home Affairs; however, the resettlement MOU has expired.</p> <p>Senator DI NATALE: Is DFAT recommending that that be extended?</p> <p>Ms Heckscher: That's a question for the Department of Home Affairs.</p> <p>Senator DI NATALE: Do you provide any recommendations, or do you have any dialogue with the Department of Home Affairs?</p> <p>Dr Shaw: I understand that Home Affairs has been engaging with Cambodia right throughout the process. We've had conversations with Home Affairs.</p> <p>Senator DI NATALE: What's the nature of those conversations?</p> <p>Dr Shaw: We talk about the implementation aspects of the agreement. Senator DI NATALE: Is your recommendation that the deal continue?</p> <p>Dr Shaw: We've been consulted on that. The advice that we provide, policy advice to the government—</p> <p>Senator DI NATALE: Not to the government—to the department. Have you provided any advice on the extension of that arrangement?</p> <p>Dr Shaw: Yes, we've been consulted on the extension.</p> <p>Senator DI NATALE: What recommendation are you providing to the department?</p> <p>Dr Shaw: I don't think it's appropriate for me to discuss that policy-wise.</p> <p>Senator DI NATALE: Why is it not appropriate?</p>	Hansard	29-30

			<p>Dr Shaw: Because that's policy advice we've provided to the government.</p> <p>Senator DI NATALE: I'm not asking you to provide policy advice to government; I'm asking you with regard to another department, the Department of Home Affairs. Have you recommended that that deal cease?</p> <p>Dr Shaw: I'm not in a position to answer that question.</p> <p>Senator DI NATALE: Why not?</p> <p>Dr Shaw: That's confidential policy advice that we've provided up to our executive—</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: That doesn't accept policy advice as a public interest immunity—that's very clear in Odgers. You can advance a public interest immunity, but not that one.</p> <p>CHAIR: Thank you, Senator Patrick.</p> <p>Ms Adamson: We'll take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator DI NATALE: You'll take that on notice. So you've got have an answer in front of you, but you're not prepared to provide it.</p> <p>Ms Adamson: No, I don't have an answer in front of me.</p> <p>Senator DI NATALE: Dr Shaw has an answer, but he's refusing to provide it.</p> <p>Ms Adamson: We'll take the question on notice. If we can get back to you during the day, we will; otherwise, we'll take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator DI NATALE: On what grounds are you taking it on notice, given that you've got the answer in front of you?</p> <p>Ms Adamson: I don't have the answer.</p> <p>Senator DI NATALE: Dr Shaw does.</p> <p>Dr Shaw: I don't have specific details of the conversations I had—</p> <p>Senator DI NATALE: I don't need the details. It's a yes or no answer.</p> <p>Dr Shaw: I do not have in front of me the details of conversations that have taken place with Home Affairs.</p> <p>Ms Adamson: We'll come back to you.</p> <p>Senator DI NATALE: Okay. Don't spend too much time workshopping the answer.</p>		
5	Penny Wong	Jerusalem Announcement	<p>Senator WONG: Can I return to our favourite topic. I have two questions. I assume that you saw this joint media release before it went out, this is in relation to the Middle East announcements that we've been discussing.</p> <p>Senator Payne: Yes.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Who put the paragraph in that makes specific reference to the Liberal candidate for Wentworth?</p>	Hansard	33-34

			<p>Senator Payne: The paragraph refers to the material publicly available and developed by Australia's former ambassador to Israel, Mr Sharma. That is a matter of fact. I don't know if somebody put the paragraph in or not. It's a joint media release.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Who drafted the release?</p> <p>Senator Payne: It was drafted in consultation between offices.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Did DFAT provide a draft of this release?</p> <p>Mr Sheehan: DFAT didn't draft the release. We did see the release before it went out.</p> <p>Senator WONG: So there was no departmental level draft that was then revised in ministers' offices if? It was generated in the ministers' offices?</p> <p>Senator Payne: I said that it was drafted between offices.</p> <p>Senator WONG: I'm just clarifying.</p> <p>Senator Payne: Yes, sure.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Correct?</p> <p>Mr Sheehan: I can only speak for DFAT in that regard.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Obviously I'm asking about DFAT, Mr Sheehan. On many occasions, there is a departmental draft which is then altered in the minister's office—normal practice. Before you decide that you need to get involved in this political game, Secretary Adamson, sometimes they are drafted in minister's offices?</p> <p>Ms Adamson: Yes.</p> <p>Senator WONG: I just want to be clear that this was entirely generated out of the minister's office and the department was not asked to advise on the draft.</p> <p>Ms Adamson: We were not asked to advise on the draft. As for the elements of it, after we were advised the previous day, there was language that went backwards and forwards between departments and two ministerial offices, but we did not hold the pen on the draft.</p> <p>Senator WONG: In all drafts that the department saw, was Mr Sharma included in the release?</p> <p>Mr Sheehan: I'd have to take that on notice. Senator WONG: When did you first become aware there was going to be a specific reference to the Liberal candidate in the week leading up to the by-election?</p> <p>Mr Sheehan: I'd have to take that on notice. I'm not sure when we first saw it.</p>		
6	Lisa Singh	Myanmar - Human Rights Council and UNGA Third Committee	<p>Senator WONG: Can you tell me what the government would like to see from the Myanmar government regarding the response to the UN fact-finding mission and other concerns that you've identified, Minister?</p> <p>Senator Payne: We are very concerned that the perpetrators are held to account, and we are supporting international efforts for accountability and justice in Myanmar. I am looking at our</p>	Hansard	40-41

		<p>Statements</p>	<p>statement to the Human Rights Council on 18 September, which incorporates some of these observations. We want to see security for all communities in Rakhine state and to create conditions which are conducive to safe, dignified, voluntary and sustainable return of displaced Rohingya. We have urged the implementation of the MOU on repatriation, which would require full access for UNDP and UNHCR and also the full implementation of the advisory commission recommendations. We have sought the lifting of restrictions on humanitarian access, not just in Rakhine but also in Shan and Kachin states. We have also made clear our concerns in relation to media freedom.</p> <p>It is worth noting, and important to note, that, as a country in our region, we've been a long supporter of Myanmar's difficult processes towards democratisation—very difficult processes. They have been navigating complex political and development transitions. We will continue to focus on their efforts towards full democracy and towards peace and reconciliation, but accountability is a very important part of that. We have worked, as I said, to focus on the fact-finding mission outcomes. There was an Australian member of the fact-finding mission, Chris Sidoti, who'd be well known to many people in Australia. I sat down with Mr Sidoti for some time after the release of the final report, to get a firsthand appreciation of the work that had been done. This is something that we regard as the most significant humanitarian crisis in our region, and we are very focused on addressing it with counterparts and through Australia's direct engagement.</p> <p>Senator SINGH: Can we get a copy of the statement dated 18 September to the Human Rights Council?</p> <p>Senator Payne: Yes.</p> <p>Senator WONG: In the course of the early part of that answer did you indicate how these particular individuals were identified? Is it because they have particular connections to Australia, financial or otherwise?</p> <p>Senator Payne: They're identified through the information that is provided in the fact-finding mission, in large part.</p> <p>Senator WONG: I wasn't perhaps explaining myself clearly. There is a range of individuals identified in the fact-finding mission as being perpetrators or having responsibility for actions which the international community regards as inhumane. I'm trying to understand if our response to that is simply our being part of a collective response to these individuals for that reason as opposed to these individuals having a particular relationship with Australia and therefore a targeted sanction in respect of them being more effective.</p> <p>Senator Payne: More in relation to the former, based on their complicity in terms of the acts which have been perpetrated on the Rohingyas.</p> <p>Senator SINGH: I want to follow up on the humanitarian side of our response to the Rohingya crisis. I understand that in June we made an additional commitment of \$18.4 million for food and shelter for</p>		
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			<p>the camps in Bangladesh. I want to know where that's at. How much of that has been spent, if there's a breakdown, where has that been allocated and where did that kind of funding come from?</p> <p>Senator Payne: While we're looking for that information, there have been a number of statements, both through the Human Rights Council and, further, in the UNGA Third Committee, so I'll get copies of all of those for you.</p> <p>Senator SINGH: Thank you.</p>		
7	Lisa Singh	Rohingya Refugees	<p>Senator SINGH: UNICEF warned of catastrophic risk in Cox's Bazar from the monsoon season. Have you been informed of how the camps have coped through that season and what kinds of risk factors are coming out of that?</p> <p>Mr Kelly: Obviously, it would have exacerbated an already very difficult situation. The biggest challenge was the prospect of the outbreak of contagious disease.</p> <p>Senator SINGH: I know what the challenges were; I was there just before it. I wanted to know if, post the season, you've been informed of how everyone survived, basically?</p> <p>Mr Kelly: Apologies; I'm not across that level of information. We can provide a little more information.</p> <p>Senator Payne: We can take that on notice and come back to you.</p> <p>Ms Adamson: We can get that for you, and probably today because our post in Dhaka monitors this very closely; we can ask them for the information you are seeking.</p> <p>Senator SINGH: Thank you; that would be great.</p>	Hansard	41
8	Rex Patrick	Assange	<p>Senator PATRICK: Minister, are you aware whether Ms Bishop discussed Mr Assange on the visit she did to London in July for Australia-UK ministerial talks?</p> <p>Senator Payne: I'm not specifically aware, no, but I can seek advice on that and I'll come back to you on notice.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: Thank you. I think she then went on to the United States where—</p> <p>Senator Payne: We both did. They were all communicated at AUSMIN respectively, but I will seek advice.</p>	Hansard	46
9	Janet Rice	Singapore - human rights	<p>Senator RICE: I just want to start with the disturbing news out of Singapore about the execution of a Malaysian person on Wednesday for drug-related charges and the planned imminent executions of two men tomorrow. I'm wondering what awareness the Australian government has about that and what actions we are taking about that?</p> <p>Ms Adamson: I'll need to ask my colleague, head of our South-East Asia division responsible for Singapore, to come to the table. You are aware, of course, of Australia's long-standing and active opposition to the death penalty.</p> <p>Senator RICE: I am.</p>	Hansard	46-47

		<p>Ms Adamson: I am sure the foreign minister will want to contribute to that, since she recently launched a new plan. I'm sure you were there as well.</p> <p>Senator RICE: Sadly, I missed it. I was busy. But I intended to get there.</p> <p>Ms Heckscher: I was not aware of those either, the execution or imminent executions. We are, of course, aware that Singapore continues to have the death penalty. As you know, abolition of the death penalty is a very important part of our long-standing human rights policy, and abolition of it is something on which we advocate in multilateral forums around the world. We have made representations previously in relation to Singapore, but I am not aware of these current cases. I will need to go and find out about the cases.</p> <p>Senator RICE: There was an Amnesty International report and another online article. Yesterday's was a drug-related conviction. Tomorrow it is a man who has been named as Prabu Pathmanathan, a Malaysian national, and another man whose name has not released. Their executions are scheduled for tomorrow. Assuming that the Amnesty International report is accurate, which we have no reason to doubt, will the government be in a position to make immediate representations to the Singaporean government about those executions tomorrow?</p> <p>Ms Heckscher: I will need to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator RICE: Minister?</p> <p>Senator Payne: You would be aware, and the secretary just adverted to it, that we have recently launched our strategy in relation to abolition of the death penalty. The use of the death penalty in our region remains a concern to the Australian government. I will take up the issues you have raised and come back to you.</p> <p>Senator RICE: I think Australia's immediate representation could be a very powerful thing. I wanted to also ask more broadly about DFAT's view about the human rights situation in Singapore and, in particular, the situation around labour rights or lack of labour rights for migrant workers and the freedom to protest peacefully. I have heard reports that are concerning about the crackdown on the right to protest and the ongoing exploitation of migrant workers. Is this something that DFAT has been actively engaged in and is making representations to Singapore regarding?</p> <p>Ms Heckscher: I don't have any information with me. I will need to come back to you on some of those issues.</p> <p>Senator RICE: Has the government made any public or private representations about human rights in Singapore in recent times at all?</p> <p>Ms Heckscher: We consistently make representations on human rights in multilateral fora and certainly on the death penalty, of course. That's a very recent one. Whether we've made specific and recent</p>		
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			<p>ones, I would need to seek information.</p> <p>Ms Adamson: The generic descriptions you have provided are issues we are seeking to pursue through our term on the Human Rights Council. But let's check specifically in relation to Singapore.</p> <p>Senator RICE: You're not aware at all about anything that we have done in relation to Singapore in recent times?</p> <p>Ms Heckscher: We certainly have made previous death penalty representations several years ago. I have some specific information on those. But whether we have made more recent ones, I can't tell you.</p> <p>Senator RICE: The information is that there are currently around a million migrant workers earning as little as \$2 a day, who have virtually no rights at all, and in relation to the right to protest, people are being arrested and fined massive amounts as having a protest of even just one person is an illegal protest. I would appreciate you following up on that.</p>		
10	Janet Rice	Uyghurs	<p>Senator RICE: Are you also aware of the fact that there are six Australian residents who are Uyghurs who have travelled to China and haven't returned because they have been detained, either in jail, under house arrest or internment camps?</p> <p>Mr Fletcher: Are you referring to Australian citizens?</p> <p>Senator RICE: My information is Australian residents. I'm not sure if they are citizens or not; but permanent residents.</p> <p>Mr Fletcher: We're aware of a small number of Australians who travelled to Xinjiang and have returned. I don't know of any Australian citizens who have travelled to Xinjiang and have not returned. I don't know of others who may have Australian permanent residency but don't have Australian citizenship.</p> <p>Senator RICE: Of the ones you do know of, do you have any more details you can share about those cases?</p> <p>Mr Fletcher: There are three individuals who have told us that they were detained in Xinjiang during the course of last year, but who have since returned.</p> <p>Senator RICE: I am told there are a further six who haven't returned.</p> <p>Mr Fletcher: I don't have that information.</p> <p>Senator RICE: Perhaps you can take on notice to follow up and see if there is more information that you can gain about those six people.</p>	Hansard	49
11	Penny Wong	PIF	<p>Senator WONG:Can I go to the PIF? You'll take on notice, will you Minister, how long before—or did you have an answer? Senator Payne: No, I think that time frame is the accurate time frame. I was appointed on the 27th, I think, from memory. Ms Klugman: The PIF itself was 3 to 6 September, so there was a very short period of days between. Senator Payne: Correct. Immediately after that in briefings with the department arrangements were made. Senator WONG: No, it was actually when you</p>	Hansard	59

			were told the Prime Minister wouldn't attend so you had to attend. Senator Payne: I'm sorry; I will check that, yes.		
12	Penny Wong	Climate Change	Senator WONG: On notice, can someone give me a list of the programs and an explanation of those programs which fall under the minister's assertion that climate change is embedded in our aid program. Ms Adamson: Yes.	Hansard	63
13	Penny Wong	Climate Change Strategy	Senator WONG: Thank you. Has the new Minister for the Environment offered any input into the department's climate change strategy, either in her current capacity or as the former Assistant Minister for the Environment? Ms Walsh: The minister, herself, has not had any direct engagement with the strategy for our aid program, but we have consulted with her department officials. Senator WONG: I wasn't aware of this, but apparently she was formerly Assistant Minister for the Environment. Do you know if there was any input in that capacity? Ms Walsh: I am unaware. I can take it on notice and confirm.	Hansard	64
14	Penny Wong	Climate Change Strategy	Senator WONG: I don't think the government or anybody should be trying to defend the position by suggesting that Mr Tong has somehow made this up. He has been extremely gracious. Ms Walsh, you said earlier, when you were describing the climate change strategy, there was some limited stakeholder consultation. Can you give me some more detail on that, please? Ms Walsh: What I said was we're at the stage of now going out and seeking stakeholder engagement. Senator WONG: Can you tell me who the stakeholders are? Ms Walsh: I can't give you specific names of any particular organisations. What I can say— Senator WONG: Why not? Ms Walsh: I just don't have that list in front of me, and I'm not sure that I can confirm there's a specific list. I'm certainly happy to check that. Senator WONG: Who determines this? Ms Walsh: We'd do that internally, within the— Senator WONG: So someone in the department would determine who the draft strategy would be send to or be consulate with. Ms Walsh: That's right. Senator WONG: I do want to know who is being consulted with. Ms Walsh: Happy to take that on notice.	Hansard	64
15	Penny Wong	Climate Change Strategy	Senator WONG: You were going to give me some high-level information. Ms Walsh: I was going to say that it would be members of the NGO community, relevant academic and research institutes, and relevant sector players. Senator WONG: Thank you. And you'll give me that on notice. And the time frame around consultation? Ms Walsh: I'll give that to you on notice too, if that's okay. Senator WONG: Is there someone here who can tell me? I've been asking questions about this for two years. So it just would be nice if we could find out what was—I'm glad that it's finally moving. Ms Walsh: I just can't give you a specific date. I can say it will be very soon, because we are working towards an end-of-year time frame. It obviously has to be in the next little while.	Hansard	65
16	Penny Wong	Green Climate	Senator WONG: I'm frustrated. I am frustrated. I just want to know. PM&C provides advice and the	Hansard	66

	Wong	Fund	<p>Prime Minister decides. Is this something that was discussed between departments, with a brief provided, or is this a political-level decision? I just want to know who made the decision. Senator Payne: The Prime Minister indicated that, because of the concerns that had been raised around the Green Climate Fund, which have been adverted to by Mr Tinning and by Ms Walsh, although we have currently made a \$200 million contribution to the Green Climate Fund and the replenishment cycle is, in fact, as I understand it, not due until 2019, from memory, given the concerns around the Green Climate Fund administration and processes, we would not be making a further contribution. Senator WONG: When did DFAT first become aware of that decision? Senator Payne: Senator, I will ask the officials to take that on notice if we don't have that information with us today. Senator WONG: Do you have that? When did you first become aware, Mr— Mr Tinning: Mr Tinning. Senator WONG: I just haven't got my glasses on. Ms Klugman has the same problem, but I think hers is the opposite way around. Ms Adamson: We will take that on notice. Senator WONG: You need them for reading, not for looking. Leave them on; it's fine—solidarity! Ms Adamson: We will take that on notice. Senator WONG: Mr Tinning, when did you first become aware? Mr Tinning: I was travelling at the time, so I became aware when I was informed by my colleagues. Senator WONG: You became aware via the announcement—correct? Mr Tinning: That's correct. Senator WONG: How about you, Secretary? Ms Adamson: I will take that on notice. Senator WONG: Because you don't know or because you need to have a chat? Ms Adamson: Because I don't know. I need to check that. You asked specifically when. Senator WONG: Yes, sure, that's fair enough. How about I ask it this way: did you become aware as a result of the Prime Minister's announcement, or were you aware before? Ms Adamson: I can't recall exactly when I became aware, but I think I first became focused on it, if I can put it that way, when the Prime Minister announced it. But I would like the opportunity, please, simply to check. Senator WONG: Of course. I understand. Ms Walsh? Ms Walsh: Senator, I was travelling at the time, so I'd like to ensure that I can check my records before I give you a definitive answer. Senator WONG: With that caveat, did you—to use the secretary's terminology—become focused on it as a consequence of the Prime Minister's announcement? Ms Walsh: Senator, can I come back to you on notice, please, and just check and give you an accurate response?</p>		
17	Penny Wong	Undersea Cable - funding	<p>Senator WONG: Okay, I accept that. Can I go to the budget announcement in May about the internet cable to PNG and the Solomons. Can someone tell me how that is being funded—hopefully by reference to Mr Wood's very good but incomplete tables. Mr Wood: I can have a go. Senator WONG: Your mic's not on. Mr Wood: Senator, the undersea cable is being funded through a combination of mechanisms. Firstly, there's a contribution from the Australian aid program, and then, secondly, there are contributions from the PNG and Solomon Islands governments. In relation to the contribution from</p>	Hansard	67

			<p>the Australian aid program, you will see that reflected in the totals for PNG and the Solomon Islands, so it's a subcomponent of those budget totals that you see. Senator WONG: Yes, so, in the Senate estimates reporting table which goes over the forward estimates, are you telling me that each of those activity approval amounts—not committed but approval, I assume—includes a component for the cable, or is this still at the stage of preapproval? Mr Wood: I would need to confirm that, Senator— Senator WONG: Okay. Mr Wood: in terms of where the project is in terms of approvals. I can tell you about the budget allocations. Senator WONG: Why don't you do that. But I was interested in understanding—I know it's a little granular— the extent to which the May budget announcement is already reflected in this table, which is your line item forward estimates of each of the regional ODA programs. Mr Wood: Yes. Senator WONG: Do you want to do it at a high level? You can give me the numbers at a high level; what you can't do is tell me where they are in this table or if they are— correct? Mr Wood: I can tell you that within the PNG budget allocation and within the Solomon Islands budget allocation are the amounts coming from the Australian aid program to support that. Senator WONG: How much, and over what period? Mr Wood: It's over a couple of years—the 2018-19 financial year and the 2019-20 financial year. I have in front of me the 2018-19 component. I could give you that. Senator WONG: Yes. Mr Wood: We have an amount of \$29.6 million for PNG and \$50.4 million for the Solomon Islands. Senator WONG: Can you on notice give me 2019-20? I want the total cost of the project over those two line items. Mr Wood: Sure. Senator WONG: Are you able to get that? Mr Wood: We could get that. Ms Klugman or Mr Kang may have more precise details. Mr Kang: In relation to the total cost of the project, we estimate that it will cost up to A\$200 million. As Mr Wood has said, that would be spread out over the 2018-19 and 2019-20 financial years. Senator WONG: It's still a reasonably short time frame for that expenditure, though. Is the budget allocation over only those two financial years, or are you anticipating 2020-21 as well? Mr Wood: It is. If you look at the table that has the forward allocations for PNG and the Solomon Islands, you'll see that it drops off in 2020-21, which reflects the terminating measures. So, effectively, it's a short-term terminating measure. Senator WONG: Just so I'm clear: on notice you're going to give me how much is in each of these columns for 2018-19 and 2019-20 relating to this project?</p>		
18	Penny Wong	Undersea Cable	<p>Senator WONG: Are you anticipating any expenditure in relation to that in the current financial year? Mr Kang: There is some expenditure which we would anticipate will take place in the current financial year. Senator WONG: Just so we're clear: I'm talking about the technical assistance component of the capital expenditure. Mr Kang: That's correct. Senator WONG: How much in this current financial year? Mr Kang: I'm sorry; I can't give you a precise figure— Senator WONG: I don't understand this. I understand you can't give me a precise figure, but you do budgets and then you work to those</p>	Hansard	69

			<p>budgets—you've got to go back if you are not working to them—so you must know broadly how much you've got to deal with? Mr Kang: To give you an example, there's an economic and social infrastructure program that's run out of the Australian High Commission in Port Moresby. They have a budget for that over four years. Part of that budget is to go towards this technical assistance and capacity building for the cable project in this financial year. Senator WONG: Can someone come back to me— Ms Klugman: We will come back to you on notice and give you an answer.</p>		
19	Penny Wong	Aid to Palestinian Territories	<p>Senator WONG: I want total amount and components for 2017-18 and 2018-19. Let's just do that. Ms Yu: For 2017-18, the total amount was \$43.8 million: \$26.5 million was provided to UNRWA; \$2.2 million to AMENCA 3; \$10 million to UN humanitarian fund for the PTs; and \$1 million to the Palestinian Authority—that was because it was suspended halfway, so \$1 million had gone by the time it was suspended, through the World Bank trust fund. And then we have other smaller amounts, which I'm very happy to go through if you'd like. Senator WONG: Do you want to just provide them on notice to me? Is that okay? Ms Yu: Sure, will do. Senator WONG: And then equivalent figures for 2018-19? Ms Yu: Yes, of course. For UNRWA, \$15 million and for AMENCA 3, \$2.5 million, bearing in mind, obviously, that the amount to APHEDA has been suspended; that \$2.5 million includes that for now, but it will be adjusted as a result. The amount to the UN humanitarian fund for the PTs is to be confirmed; we will allocate that throughout the year. There is no longer any funding allocated to the Palestinian Authority via the World Bank trust fund. Once again, the smaller amounts will be determined, and we can also provide the amounts that are already determined to you on notice.</p>	Hansard	72
20	Penny Wong	Aid to Palestinian Territories	<p>Senator WONG: On 2 July, Ms Bishop announced the government was discontinuing funding to the multidonor trust fund for the Palestinian Recovery and Development Program and allocating that money to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, as you and I have been discussing. Just to be clear, was that decision made by the minister at the cabinet level or by the department? Ms Yu: That decision was made by the foreign minister. Senator WONG: Were ministers consulted with prior to that decision being made? Ms Yu: I don't recall, unless of course the foreign minister's office consulted other ministers. Senator WONG: What about other MPs or senators—are you aware of any? Ms Yu: I'm not aware of any. Senator WONG: Did DFAT consult with other departments or agencies prior to the decision? Ms Yu: No, I don't recall consulting other departments. Senator WONG: Were any other governments or multilateral organisations consulted prior to this decision being made? Ms Yu: No. I guess, with regard to other governments, we engage in conversations about how we provide aid to PT with our like-minded. I'll have to take on notice exactly who we may have spoken to, but these things happen on a business-as-usual basis. Senator WONG: Perhaps on notice: which governments or multilateral organisations were consulted? Who did that</p>	Hansard	73

			consultation? And what position was expressed, if any, by these governments or multilateral organisations? Can you tell me what DFAT's assessment is of the impact this decision has had on those living in the Palestinian territories?		
21	Penny Wong	Aid to Palestinian Territories	<p>Senator WONG: In August of this year, the US indicated it would no longer provide funding to UNRWA. The US provided, I think, \$360 million-plus in 2017. That was reduced to, I think, under \$70 million in 2018— \$60 million, I'm told. Is that right? Ms Yu: The US actually recently cut its full funding to UNRWA— Senator WONG: Sorry, this is prior to the decision. It was \$364 million in 2017, then it was reduced to \$60 million in 2018 and then we had an August decision that says nothing; correct. Ms Yu: Yes, that's correct. Senator WONG: Are you able to give me any assessment of the impact of this decision on Palestinian refugees? Ms Yu: It has certainly had some impact on UNRWA's ability to fund basic quality services to Palestinians, so they have been seeking extra funds from other donors. To some extent they have been successful in filling some of the gaps. Senator WONG: Just remind me of the total shortfall, what was sought and where they are up to in seeking to fill the gap? Ms Yu: I do have that information but not on me, so I'll have to take that on notice. Senator WONG: Has Australia expressed any concern to the United States in relation to this decision? Ms Yu: I'll have to take that on notice. I'm not sure whether there has been any formal representation made. Senator WONG: I always love that word 'formal'! Has there been any communication at a political or an office level to the US about the impact of this decision? Ms Yu: I'll come back to you on that. Senator WONG: That's a 'I'll take it on notice'? Ms Yu: Yes. Senator WONG: Has Australia been approached to provide additional funding? Ms Yu: Yes, we were, but this was prior to the US announcing its total cut. I explained to you previously that we brought forward the \$5 million from this year to the previous year. That was at the request of UNRWA. Senator WONG: But have we been approached for additional funding subsequent to the US decision to cut funding? Ms Yu: Not to my knowledge. Senator WONG: Secretary? Ms Adamson: No. Senator WONG: Is the government considering making an additional contribution over and above what has been made to date to make up this funding shortfall? Ms Yu: That will be the decision of the government. We certainly have not provided advice to date. Senator WONG: You'll provide me on notice with the shortfall and what is being sought internationally? Ms Yu: Yes.</p>	Hansard	73-74
22	Eric Abetz	Aid to Palestinian Territories	<p>CHAIR: All right. That's all I need to know—thank you for that. Budget estimates question on notice No. 8— I'd asked, in relation to the fund for the families of martyrs: to the best of our understanding of that fund, would the families that lost family members during the demonstrations of which I was talking about be able to draw on the fund? Then I was told that the Palestinian National Authority has advised that the Palestine Liberation Organization provides financial support to convicted prisoners, detainees and their families without reference to the motivation behind the alleged or proven crimes. Do we just</p>	Hansard	77

			<p>accept what the Palestinian National Authority tells us? I ask that because one assumes that, if there are Palestinians in prison in the area controlled by the Palestinian National Authority, convicted prisoners would not be benefitting from such a fund. Further, if a Palestinian was in jail, let's say in Israel, for fraud, they wouldn't be the beneficiary of such a fund, would they? Ms Yu: We will have to clarify that with the Palestinian National Authority. CHAIR: Yes, if you could, because the assertion that they provide financial support to convicted prisoners, without reference to the motivation, I find a bit hard to believe, especially when in their budget they have a specific, as I understand it, martyr fund which suggests that there has to be a motivation behind their death or imprisonment. So if you could provide further details in relation to that, that would be helpful. I also asked, in that same question in relation to Egypt, that they also severely restrict entry to and from Gaza, and the answer that was provided was that Egypt manages its border-crossing point in accordance with its own assessment of its security concerns. That's fine. But would it be fair to say that they share similar security concerns to Israel, and therefore they have quite severe restrictions as well as on movements—is that correct? Ms Yu: Yes, I think that's fair to say. But it also notes that recent reporting indicates that the border crossing was kept open between Egypt and Gaza.</p>		
23	Eric Abetz	Aid to Palestinian Territories	<p>Ms Yu: As I indicated, these textbooks are textbooks of the country that they are actually operating in, thereby being developed by the Palestinian Authority in this case. CHAIR: Yes, but with whose money? Sure, the books are being developed in the Palestinian territories by the Palestinians for the Palestinians, but the fundamental question is: with whose money is this happening? If it's with our money, I think the Australian taxpayer wants an assurance that that money is not being put to the sort of use that has been exposed previously by my colleague, Senator Leyonhjelm. Ms Yu: As to whose money, I'll have to take that on notice, because I'm not sure whether it's the PA that prints them or whether it's UNRWA. Coming back to UNRWA's use of these textbooks, you might be pleased to hear that in April 2018 the UK announced it would be conducting a review of Palestinian textbooks. We have indicated to the UK our interest in taking part in that, so those discussions are underway. Previously I mentioned— CHAIR: When do we anticipate that review to be completed? I would have thought it wouldn't take too long to grab a textbook or half a dozen and go through them. We were told about this review, if I recall correctly, at last estimates. Here we are—what, about five months later? I reckon even I could read five textbooks within that time. Ms Yu: We have been chasing up this particular issue with our UK colleagues, so hopefully I'll be able to provide a more concrete response to you this time.</p>	Hansard	78
24	Eric Abetz	Aid to Palestinian Territories	<p>CHAIR: Is somebody able to assist me as to why the Palestinian population seems to attract one of the highest amounts of aid per capita in the world, if not the highest, as I understand it, at the very top level? That is in comparison to other populations that, some might say, might be in need of greater</p>	Hansard	80-81

			assistance. Do you want to take that on notice? Ms Adamson: Sure. Obviously, it goes to some of the issues that we've been talking about in the committee for some time, including history obviously playing a role. You are very well informed about the history of it and the particular circumstances of the Palestinian people at the moment. There is also a desire, I think, on the part of donors to ensure that when it comes to this elusive Middle East peace process contributions are able to be made towards that end. But these things are much debated; there are a wide variety of views and, from all accounts, the situation that many of those recipients are in continues to be quite dire.		
25	Eric Abetz	Aid to Palestinian Territories	CHAIR: Can you confirm that the Palestinian Authority announced on 5 March that it would increase payments under these programs for terrorism—if I can use that term—from \$350 million in 2017 to \$403 million in 2018? Ms Yu: I'll have to take that on notice.	Hansard	81
26	Eric Abetz	Aid to Palestinian Territories	CHAIR: That is a substantial increase. Is the word—fungibility? It just seems that the Palestinian Authority, whilst always crying poor to the world, always seems able to up the amount of money that it makes available to its martyr funds. That is a matter that has exercised my mind for a while, and that's why I've been raising it at these estimates for a while—and previously as well, while we were in opposition. Minister Carr at the time highhandedly sought to dismiss these concerns, which, sadly, are now all coming to light. But if you could take that on notice, that would be good. Can you advise whether the amount being paid to terrorists and their families—the martyr fund et cetera—in 2017 equated to about 50 per cent of the foreign aid that the Palestinian Authority receives? Please take that on notice and let me know. I assume you don't have that figure on you? Ms Yu: No, I do not. CHAIR: And I understand that a convicted terrorist in prison can receive 12,000 shekels per month, plus bonuses of 300 shekels per wife, 50 shekels per child and extra for being resident in Israel and Jerusalem. This can amount to about \$3½ thousand per month. By contrast, coming back to education, a teacher employed by the Palestinian Authority receives roughly \$615 per month. I think we can see how the Palestinian Authority has priorities; we give them money to pay their teachers a pittance and they just shovel their money elsewhere. Are you aware of a recent poll of Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip which found that 95.5 per cent of people believe that there is corruption within the government of the Palestinian Authority? Ms Yu: I wasn't aware. CHAIR: Are you aware that a survey of 1,200 people conducted by the independent Palestinian firm AWRAD, also found that 82 per cent of Gazans believe the same about Hamas? If you could have a look at that for me I would be much obliged. Ms Yu: Will do, Senator.	Hansard	81
27	Eric Abetz	Aid to Palestinian Territories	CHAIR: Can I get onto the issue of the Palestinian question and the support that is provided. Is it correct that: ... the UN High Commissioner for Refugees ... which helps more than 65 million "forcibly displaced people" in myriad conflict zones from Congo to Myanmar, employs 10,966 workers-- which	Hansard	81

			is— less than one third of UNRWA's workforce. Which means that the UN's personnel commitment for Palestinian refugees is about 30 times higher than its level for the rest of the world's refugees. Ms Yu: I'll have to check that. CHAIR: If you could, and not only check those figures—they may well be wrong, but they're from a reputable publication—but if you could check that for me and then how the United Nations justifies this. If you could then take on notice: if this is the case, what representations will we make to the United Nations about its lopsidedness in support of the plight of refugees around the world?		
28	Eric Abetz	Iran	CHAIR: I just wanted to confirm that. Are we aware that on the 31st anniversary of the massacre of 30,000 Iranian political prisoners in the summer of 1988, the Iranian dictatorship regime began demolishing the mass graves of the victims. Is that known? Ms Yu: I wasn't aware, Senator. CHAIR: Could you please take that on notice and make some investigations, because I was going to ask whether we had made any representations	Hansard	82-83
29	Eric Abetz	Human Rights Council	CHAIR: Thank you. Can you confirm that, out of the 187 other—what do I call them—decisions? Mr Lee: Resolutions. CHAIR: Thank you. Of the 187 resolutions, were there any in relation to Iraq? Mr Lee: Iraq or Iran? CHAIR: Iraq? Do you have a list— Mr Lee: I will take that on notice.	Hansard	84
30	Penny Wong	Aid to Indonesia and Cambodia	Senator WONG: Okay. I just had a couple of other housekeeping issues. On notice while we're here, can I get an update. We had a discussion when Mr Wood referenced the question on notice that I think Senator Moore asked about what the reduction in the bilateral ODA program to Indonesia and Cambodia was for the purposes of funding the cable we were discussing. In the answer to that QON— thank you to the secretariat for providing it to me—you indicated you have yet to make a final decision on how and where to require the reduction. I wonder if that could, on notice, be updated. Ms Adamson: Certainly.	Hansard	88
31	Penny Wong	Disarmament	Senator WONG: I would also like to understand—and I'm happy for you to take it on notice—the pros and cons of having the ambassador located in Geneva as opposed to locating someone here who can then engage as necessary, both bilaterally and in the multilateral forum, given the state of NPT and disarmament discussions. If you'd prefer to take it on notice, I'm happy for you to do that. Mr Sadleir: I'd like to give a considered reply, so if we could take it on notice that would be good.	Hansard	89
32	Penny Wong	Pacific - aid investment	Senator WONG: Do you do something additional to the IMF assessment? Ms Klugman: We don't provide ratings. We don't have that sort of hard system, but we have an ongoing assessment that we do about the economies and their vulnerability, and that includes debt. Senator WONG: In what form does that eventuate? I'm trying to work out what I can ask for! Ms Klugman: I suspect the most easy to access would be something like an aid investment plan, which is the framework under which we choose what we spend aid money on, in partnership with our partner governments in the Pacific. Often, at the	Hansard	90-91

			beginning of one of those aid investment plans, you will have some sort of economic analysis. Senator WONG: But that's specific to whichever bilateral relationship— Ms Klugman: Correct. Senator WONG: I was looking more at an assessment of the countries in the region. Ms Klugman: I would be happy to have a look and see what we might have. Senator WONG: Thank you. Senator MOORE: So you do not have a comparator? Ms Klugman: A comparator to? Senator MOORE: To the debt levels. Senator WONG: It's the IMF— Ms Klugman: I was reading the IMF— Senator MOORE: You said that you—I take that as DFAT—don't use that as the only model, and you don't have a table saying— Ms Klugman: We don't have a parallel one to the one that the IMF does, using the same sort of methodology, but we take account of very credible— Senator MOORE: So it's part of the tools you use— Ms Klugman: It's one of the tools that we use. Senator MOORE: in the methodology that you use. Ms Klugman: Precisely, Senator. Senator MOORE: And you'll provide that to Senator Wong, about— Ms Klugman: I'll have a look at what we have.		
33	Kimberley Kitching	Syria - aid funding	Senator KITCHING: I think you should look in your party room. There is much discussion that Ms Bishop is going to be very busy because she'll be appointed to something. I want to ask you about Syria—and, Ms Adamson, I would like to say, thank you to your officers for coming to the joint standing committee to give us a briefing. In the 2016 budget, the government announced an additional \$220 million of aid to be spent in Syria and neighbouring countries over the next three years. Is that figure still accurate? Ms Yu: Yes, that's correct. Senator KITCHING: How much of that has been spent and how much is still to be spent? Ms Yu: For the current year? Senator KITCHING: Yes. Ms Yu: I seem to have just the total amount at the moment. My apologies, Senator. It doesn't actually go into year by year. Senator KITCHING: Will you take it on notice. Ms Yu: Yes, we can get that for you.	Hansard	93
34	Kimberley Kitching	Syria - ISIS hostages	Ms Yu: We provide funding through international organisations. As you can imagine, the Australian government does not run a bilateral program as such in Syria—the whole of Syria is 'do not travel'—so a lot of the assistance is actually delivered through very prominent international organisations. To the extent that funding is going to those organisations, and to the extent that we have a role in discussing the objectives that we want to achieve with our funding, the discussions with other donors will probably take place in that context. Senator KITCHING: Minister, could I ask for a briefing for the committee on that matter. And I would also like a briefing around the 700 hostages that ISIS have taken and the demands of those holding those hostages and whether we're doing any work to resolve that situation and whether we're involved at all? Senator Payne: In relation to the first part of your question, I'm sure we can provide an appropriate form of briefing. In relation to the second part of your question, I'll seek some advice and come back to you.	Hansard	94
35	Lisa Singh	Modern Slavery	Senator SINGH: Well, just one example that you could give in relation to that: has DFAT taken up the	Hansard	98

		- domestic workers in embassies	<p>rights of domestic workers in embassies in Australia?</p> <p>CHAIR: I correct myself: time has run out.</p> <p>Senator SINGH: Could you take that on notice?</p> <p>Senator Payne: We will, yes.</p> <p>Ms Adamson: It's a different part of the department but yes, we can certainly answer that. In fact, we could answer it later, if you have more time.</p>		
36	Claire Moore	Aid budget	<p>Senator MOORE: I've got a couple of questions around comments made by Assistant Minister Ruston on 25 September to Devex. I'm just wanting to know whether the department provided support to the minister when she was making those comments.</p> <p>Ms Adamson: Let me check that. We typically like to think that we support our ministers in whatever they're doing, but let me check and see whether we—</p> <p>Senator MOORE: I understand that.</p> <p>Ms Adamson: We've been providing briefings, but is there a particular aspect—</p> <p>Senator MOORE: Yes. There's a particular phrase that has been picked up across the industry where the minister said there will be 'no reduction in the investment and involvement of Australia in our aid budget'. That was said in the comments on record with Devex. I want to know, from your perspective, is that a commitment to maintain Australia's aid budget in real terms or does it take into account this government or the future government, should there be an election and another government. I'm trying to find out the meaning of that statement in the report.</p> <p>Senator Payne: Have you asked Senator Ruston?</p> <p>Senator MOORE: I have emailed. In terms of the process, it has caused some concern, particularly in view of the freeze into the future around indexation. If the department was providing that advice to Minister Ruston for the process, what was the intent?</p> <p>Senator Payne: Given the words are an observation made by Senator Ruston, I'd appreciate the opportunity to take that on notice and return to you with advice.</p> <p>Senator MOORE: Absolutely. We had statements about previous promises that hadn't happened in terms of reduction of aid budgets in previous times.</p> <p>Senator Payne: If you want to add to that and you want information on other matters, if you can add it to that question, that will be helpful.</p> <p>Senator MOORE: That would be fine. Thank you.</p>	Hansard	98
37	Lisa Singh	Tibet	<p>Senator SINGH: This question is for Ms Adamson. It can go on notice. You wrote to the Chinese ambassador on 12 June following up an earlier request by the foreign minister— Ms Adamson: Yes.</p> <p>Senator SINGH: for the Australian All-Party Parliamentary Group for Tibet to be allowed to visit Tibet. I</p>	Hansard	100

			just wondered whether there had been a response to that letter? It can go on notice. CHAIR: You'd best take that on notice. Ms Adamson: All right. I'll take that on notice		
38	Alex Gallacher	PAFTA	Senator GALLACHER: My next question will put that into perspective. If a Peruvian company brought an ISDS claim under CPTPP and lost, could they then use the Peru-Australia ISDS arrangement to make a similar claim? Mr Jory: No. There are provisions in both agreements to stop forum shopping. The investor would have to choose which agreement they were going to use. Senator GALLACHER: Excellent. Can the additional tariff reductions and increased quotas of the PeruAustralia Free Trade Agreement be rolled into the CPTPP agreement, given there are provisions in the CPTPP to add additional tariff cuts? Mr Jory: Can I take that question on notice? The only thing I would like to add is that the TPP-11 involves 10 other parties apart from Australia. Generally, if you wanted to amend that treaty you would require their agreement to that. But I'll take it on notice.	Hansard	101
39	Alex Gallacher	PAFTA	Senator GALLACHER: Can the additional services access with the Peru-Australia Free Trade Agreement be rolled into the CPTPP agreement? Mr Jory: I'll take that on notice. As I said before, it would require the agreement of all of the other TPP parties.	Hansard	101
40	Alex Gallacher	PAFTA	Senator GALLACHER: Can you provide us with a list of the tariff cuts and service access benefits in the Peru-Australia Free Trade Agreement which go beyond the benefits of the CPTPP? Mr Jory: I can. It's quite a long list, so it might be easier if I provide it in writing. I can say right here that upon entry into force the Peru-Australia Free Trade Agreement eliminated 93 per cent of tariffs, compared with 83 per cent of tariffs in the TPP. There was no provision in the TPP for sensitive market access items going into Peru, which include dairy, sugar, rice and sorghum. So there were outcomes in the Peru-Australia Free Trade Agreement which provided a new level of market access which is not included in the TPP at all. The tariff phasing on almost every agricultural product is better, and also the tariff phasing on a range of industrial products, including iron and steel, and pharmaceutical products, is all better in Peru. The list runs to several pages. I can provide you a comprehensive list in writing. Senator GALLACHER: That's excellent, Mr Jory. That's very clear. If you could take the complete list on notice, that would be appreciated.	Hansard	101-02
41	Alex Gallacher	India Economic Strategy	Senator GALLACHER: I've got some questions on that. I'd just like to be very clear: when would Minister Ciobo have first got a full, final copy of this report? Mr Merrifield: I would have to take that particular question on notice.	Hansard	105
42	Alex Gallacher	India Economic Strategy	Senator GALLACHER: Okay. What did we say—it was finished on 27 April? Mr Merrifield: 27 April, yes. Senator GALLACHER: The next occasion we saw some media reports on it was 12 July. So we've narrowed it down to somewhere between 27 April and 12 July? Mr Merrifield: That's correct. Senator GALLACHER: Could you take on notice exactly when you provided it to your office? Mr Merrifield:	Hansard	105

			Absolutely		
43	Rex Patrick	WTO GPA	<p>Senator PATRICK: I have a couple of questions on the WTO GPA. Is someone an expert on that? Ms Adamson: Yes, Mr Mina. Senator PATRICK: There are a couple of things. My understanding is that the agreement is settled amongst 56 countries. Is that correct? Mr Mina: That is correct. The membership of the government procurement agreement has now formally invited Australia to join the agreement. Senator PATRICK: My understanding is that you'll table that agreement in parliament in November, and that triggers the JSCOT and whatever else might flow from that. I was just wondering: noting that the text has been settled, is there anything that fetters it from being tabled earlier than that or perhaps by way of this committee? Mr Mina: The agreement, as with all other treaties, will go through the normal JSCOT, Joint Standing Committee on Treaties, process. My understanding is that towards the end of November that process can commence, and it will be examined in the normal way. Senator PATRICK: My question is: is there anything that fetters it from being made public now? Mr Mina: In fact, a very large part of the arrangements, which is the text of the agreement, is publicly available and has been for some time, because it is a largely text based instrument. So that's a matter of the public record. It has been available in the public domain for many years. If it relates to the market access schedules or the commitments that are made on a jurisdiction-by-jurisdiction basis, those elements would be tabled as part of the normal JSCOT process, together with all of the other detail. Senator PATRICK: I understand the normal process. I'm simply saying: is there anything that would fetter you from tabling it before that? Mr Mina: We would normally— Senator PATRICK: Other than that it's not normal process. Mr Mina: Yes, understood. I would need to check on that— Senator PATRICK: All right. That would be good. Mr Mina: and whether in fact there are constraints to us doing so. But there are a range, of course, of procedural steps that are required before one goes before JSCOT. Senator PATRICK: I understand the formal steps. If you wouldn't mind taking that on notice and getting back to us, that would be good</p>	Hansard	106
45	Alex Gallacher	China Trade	<p>Senator GALLACHER: If we go to the China International Import Expo, you've foreshadowed that Minister Birmingham will be at the import expo? Mr Fletcher: Yes. Senator GALLACHER: Who else from the government would be attending? Mr Fletcher: I believe Austrade will be there in full force. There will be 150 Australian companies—they are not from the government. A number of our state governments are sending ministers or representatives. And DFAT will be there by virtue of the ambassador being there, and some staff from DFAT Canberra will accompany the minister. Senator GALLACHER: Do we know how many? Mr Fletcher: One that I know of, maybe more. Senator GALLACHER: Only one government minister, Senator Birmingham? Mr Fletcher: Yes. Senator GALLACHER: He will be accompanied by an entourage of state government and private sector— Mr</p>	Hansard	109

			Fletcher: There will be state government people there separately, but as part of team Australia, so to speak. Senator GALLACHER: On notice, what will team Australia look like? Is it going to be five people, 10 people? Mr Fletcher: Yes.		
46	Eric Abetz	Taiwan Trade	CHAIR: New Zealand and Australia are often in the same sort of market in trying to export beef, dairy products, sheep et cetera. They are seen as our competitor. What sort of an advantage do they have in Taiwan over us in relation to tariff barriers? Mr Fletcher: Because of the arrangements they reached in 2012, they now have a lower tariff on a number of products. CHAIR: Including dairy, beef, sheep— Mr Fletcher: We each produce slightly different ranges of things, so it's not as though for everything we want to sell to Taiwan there is a cheaper New Zealand alternative. But there would be substantial overlap in some areas of— CHAIR: Could you on notice provide me with an analysis of trade between Australia and Taiwan and New Zealand and Taiwan and how the tariffs apply on the products coming from New Zealand and Australia?	Hansard	111
47	Eric Abetz	Iran Trade	CHAIR: Could you on notice provide me with an analysis of trade between Australia and Taiwan and New Zealand and Taiwan and how the tariffs apply on the products coming from New Zealand and Australia? Can I then move, given the time is moving on, to Iran. Who is our expert on trade with Iran? Ms Adamson: Ms Yu. CHAIR: And then I have a question or two about the TPP-11. Ms Yu, could you take on notice, because I assume you don't have it, the total imports and total exports for Iran each year for the past ten years? And then can you advise what the Austrade office in Tehran is currently working on? Ms Yu: I'll take your first questions on notice. I think we also have our colleagues from Austrade, so perhaps they are best placed to— CHAIR: All right. We will do that later on, will we? Ms Adamson: Yes. CHAIR: Are we able to detail any recent trade deals with Iran? Should that be with Austrade, as well? Ms Yu: Yes.	Hansard	111
48	Eric Abetz	Iran Trade	CHAIR: A recent report by the US State Department called Iran, 'The world's leading state sponsor of terrorism.' How do we feel about the government actively pursuing trade and attracting investment from a country with that title? Do we have any comments on that or want to take that on notice, given the hour of the night. Ms Adamson: We are happy to take that on notice.	Hansard	111
49	Eric Abetz	TPP	CHAIR: Thank you. How will the TPP-11 give our farmers an advantage over some of our toughest international competitors? Mr Mina: I think you and your colleagues will be well aware of the strategic and commercial significance of the TPP-11 in its breadth. It is the most significant and, in its breadth and coverage, the most complex and deep trade deal that Australia has done in the last two decades. It covers about a quarter of Australia's exports—about \$92 billion. On the particular question you asked in relation to Australian agriculture, I can confirm that in respect of a number of markets, including the Japanese market, through the TPP-11 we have managed to give a substantial boost to our export access	Hansard	111-12

			<p>into markets such as beef, where there's a very rapid reduction in the tariff that's available, and in respect of other products, such as grains—and I could go on. It also opens up two entirely new free trade agreements for Australia. They are, of course, with Mexico and Canada. Those agreements put us on a much stronger footing, particularly in relation to a number of the agricultural markets that we hold very dear to us in respect of our export access. I could detail, if you want it, further examples. CHAIR: Can you give me a few examples for our manufacturers and services exporters? Mr Mina: Certainly. On TPP-11, I would be able to give you a bit more on notice, but the TPP-11—and Mr Jory will be able to help me with some of this—delivers major new access for our investors, particularly in the resources and energy sector and for our service providers in areas such as professional services, business services, mining services and energy services, including into some of the Latin America markets—Chile, Peru and the like. It also opens up some substantial new services access into markets such as Japan, Canada and Mexico. The services export figures that we're talking about also represent about a quarter of Australia's services exports into TPP-11 markets. Mr Jory may have some more detail, or we could certainly add some more on notice. CHAIR: Do that on notice. Senator Gallacher?</p>		
50	Alex Gallacher	WTO	<p>Senator GALLACHER: You had issues raised about data storage by small and medium enterprises, large enterprises and associations. Mr Mina: We have had a very large and fairly intense dialogue with Australian industry, about these issues, at all levels. That's right. Senator GALLACHER: Could we get, on notice, a sample of that data, which sectors are raising the issue? Mr Mina: I'd be very happy to. Senator GALLACHER: Can we do the same with the ecommerce issues? Mr Mina: In fact, these are the ecommerce issues. Senator GALLACHER: So it's a conflation of the two. Mr Mina: These are the same set of issues. We've been— Senator GALLACHER: So it's not disaggregated. Although the minister does, quite clearly, 'pursue reform of ecommerce and data storage'. Okay, it's the same thing. Mr Mina: These terms are often used interchangeably. There are other elements in that package of issues that are described as ecommerce. I can detail those for you but, as you say, given the time, we could do that on notice.</p>	Hansard	113
51	Alex Gallacher	WTO	<p>Senator GALLACHER: Do you have WTO cases in the planning stage which you are considering initiating? Mr Mina: I think we spoke on the last occasion about some of the challenges we were facing with India's sugar measures. I indicated on that occasion that we were examining measures and— Senator GALLACHER: Perhaps on notice you could give us a snapshot of that. Mr Mina: we're continuing to do so. That's still the position that we continue with.</p>	Hansard	114
52	Alex Gallacher	WTO	<p>Senator GALLACHER: Just finally—and I'm happy for you to take these questions on notice—the Premier of Queensland raised the issue recently with the Indian foreign minister. Have any other federal parliamentarians made representations on this issue that the department's aware of? And what</p>	Hansard	114-15

			<p>representations have you made on this issue? Mr Mina: Well, Senator, I've just referenced Minister Birmingham's representations to his counterpart in Argentina. Senator GALLACHER: I did stay I was happy to take it on notice at the start. Mr Mina: I'm also happy to answer here, but if you wish I could take it on notice. It's up to you. CHAIR: If you can read your questions into the Hansard. Senator GALLACHER: So I see the Premier of Queensland raised the issue recently with the Indian Foreign minister. What representations have been made by other federal parliamentarians on this issue? What representations have DFAT made on this issue? If you can give us snapshot of that. It might be you don't know. Mr Mina: We can give you a snapshot and I'm happy to do that now. In fact— Senator GALLACHER: I'm happy to go to Austrade. CHAIR: On notice, please, if you could do that, thank you</p>		
53	Catryna Bilyk	Ministerial Functions	<p>Ministerial functions</p> <p>In relation to any functions or official receptions hosted by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio in the financial year commencing 1 July 2017, can the following please be provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of functions; • List of attendees including departmental officials and members of the Minister's family or personal staff; • Function venue; • Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive); • Details of any food served; • Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage; • Any available photographs of the function; and • Details of any entertainment provided. 	Written	
54	Catryna Bilyk	Departmental Functions	<p>In relation to expenditure on any functions or official receptions etc hosted by the Department or agencies within the portfolio in the financial year commencing 1 July 2017, can the following please be provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of functions; • List of attendees; • Function venue; • Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive); • Details of any food served; • Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage; 	Written	

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any available photographs of the function; and • Details of any entertainment provided. 		
55	Catryna Bilyk	Executive Office Upgrades	Were the furniture, fixtures or fittings of the Secretary's office, or the offices of any Deputy Secretaries, upgraded in the financial year commencing 1 July 2017? If so, can an itemised list of costs please be provided (GST inclusive)?	Written	
56	Catryna Bilyk	Facilities Upgrades	<p>Were the facilities of any of the Department's premises upgraded in the financial year commencing 1 July 2017, for example, staff room refurbishments, kitchen refurbishments, bathroom refurbishments, the purchase of any new fridges, coffee machines, or other kitchen equipment?</p> <p>If so, can a detailed description of the relevant facilities upgrade please be provided together with an itemised list of costs (GST inclusive)? Can any photographs of the upgraded facilities please be provided?</p>	Written	
57	Catryna Bilyk	Staff Travel	What was the total cost of staff travel for departmental employees in the financial year commencing 1 July 2017?	Written	
58	Catryna Bilyk	Media Monitoring	<p>What was the Department's total expenditure on media monitoring in the financial year commencing 1 July 2017?</p> <p>Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all media monitoring contracts in that period please be provided?</p>	Written	
59	Catryna Bilyk	Budget - Advertising and Information Campaigns	<p>What was the Department's total expenditure on advertising and information campaigns in the financial year commencing 1 July 2017?</p> <p>What advertising and information campaigns did the Department run in the relevant period?</p> <p>Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all advertising and information campaign contracts in that period please be provided?</p>	Written	
60	Catryna Bilyk	Budget - Promotional Merchandise	<p>What was the Department's total expenditure on promotional merchandise in the financial year commencing 1 July 2017?</p> <p>Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all promotional merchandise contracts in that period please be provided?</p> <p>Can photographs or samples of relevant promotional merchandise please be provided?</p>	Written	

61	Catryna Bilyk	Ministerial Overseas Travel	<p>Can an itemised list of the costs of all international travel undertaken by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio in the financial year commencing 1 July 2017 please be provided? This list should include the costs of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flights 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 airline and class of travel; • 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; • 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; • 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; and • Any available photographs documenting the Minister’s travel should also be provided. 	Written	
62	Catryna Bilyk	Social Media	<p>What was the Department’s total expenditure on social media influencers during the financial year commencing 1 July 2017?</p> <p>What advertising or information campaigns did the Department use social media influencers to promote?</p> <p>Can a copy of all relevant social media influencer posts please be provided?</p> <p>Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all relevant social media influencer contracts please be provided?</p>	Written	
63	Richard Di Natale	Nuclear Issues	Does the government support the Trump Administration's plans to terminate the Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces Treaty with Russia?	Written	
64	Richard Di Natale	Nuclear Issues	Does the government support the idea of a “No First Use” Declaration by countries including nuclear-armed states? What are the prospects for this?	Written	
65	Richard Di Natale	Nuclear Issues	What steps has the government taken to reduce Australia's own reliance on nuclear weapons since the 2010 NPT Review Conference?	Written	
66	Richard Di Natale	Nuclear Issues	Under what circumstances would the government be willing to end Australia's reliance on nuclear weapons completely?	Written	

67	Richard Di Natale	Nuclear Issues	Regarding the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, does the government expect that it will at some point achieve the 50 ratifications required for entry into force?	Written	
68	Richard Di Natale	Nuclear Issues	Does the government consider nuclear weapons to be a legitimate means of defence?	Written	
69	Alex Gallacher	PAFTA	Can the tariff cuts, quotas and increased service access offered by PAFTA be included in the CPTPP agreement either via side letter or any other means?	Written	
70	Alex Gallacher	RCEP	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When will negotiations of RCEP be concluded? 2. When will the RCEP agreement be signed? 3. Will the agreement include ISDS provisions? 4. Has Australia agreed to waive labour market testing for contractual service suppliers? 5. Does the agreement include a labour chapter? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Is it enforceable? 6. Does the agreement include an environment chapter? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Is it enforceable? 7. Has Australia agreed to give greater concessions on procurement than currently exist in existing agreements? 	Written	
71	Alex Gallacher	Bangladesh	Does Australia have a free trade agreement with Bangladesh?	Written	
72	Alex Gallacher	Sri Lanka	Does Australia have a free trade agreement with Sri Lanka?	Written	
73	Alex Gallacher	Nepal	Does Australia have a free trade agreement with Nepal?	Written	
74	Alex Gallacher	Pakistan	Does Australia have a free trade agreement with Pakistan?	Written	
75	Alex Gallacher	Bangladesh	<p>What programs does DFAT have to promote investment with Bangladesh?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Has trade grown between Australia and Bangladesh in the past six years? b. Has investment grown between Australia and Bangladesh in the past six years? 	Written	
76	Alex Gallacher	Sri Lanka	<p>What programs does DFAT have to promote investment with Sri Lanka?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Has trade grown between Australia and Sri Lanka in the past six years? b. Has investment grown between Australia and Sri Lanka in the past six years? 	Written	
77	Alex Gallacher	Nepal	<p>What programs does DFAT have to promote investment with Nepal?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Has trade grown between Australia and Nepal in the past six years? b. Has investment grown between Australia and Nepal in the past six years? 	Written	

78	Alex Gallacher	Pakistan	<p>What programs does DFAT have to promote investment with Pakistan?</p> <p>a. Has trade grown between Australia and Pakistan in the past six years?</p> <p>b. Has investment grown between Australia and Pakistan in the past six years?</p>	Written	
79	Alex Gallacher	Ministerial Functions	<p>In relation to any functions or official receptions hosted by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio in the past 12 months, can the following please be provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of functions; • List of attendees including departmental officials and members of the Minister's family or personal staff; • Function venue; • Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive); • Details of any food served; • Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage; and • Details of any entertainment provided. 	Written	
80	Alex Gallacher	Departmental Functions	<p>In relation to expenditure on any functions or official receptions etc hosted by the Department or agencies in the portfolio in the past 12 months, can the following please be provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of functions; • List of attendees; • Function venue; • Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive); • Details of any food served; • Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage; and • Details of any entertainment provided. 	Written	
81	Alex Gallacher	Executive Office Upgrades	<p>Were the furniture, fixtures or fittings of the Secretary's office, or the offices of any Deputy Secretaries, upgraded in the past 12 months? If so, can an itemised list of costs please be provided (GST inclusive)?</p>	Written	
82	Alex Gallacher	Facilities Upgrades	<p>Were the facilities of any of the Department's premises upgraded in the past 12 months, for example, staff room refurbishments, kitchen refurbishments, bathroom refurbishments, the purchase of any new fridges, coffee machines, or other kitchen equipment?</p> <p>If so, can a detailed description of the relevant facilities upgrade please be provided together with an itemised list of costs (GST inclusive)? Can any photographs of the upgraded facilities please be provided?</p>	Written	
83	Alex Gallacher	Budget - Staff Travel	<p>What was the total cost of staff travel for departmental employees in the past 12 months?</p>	Written	
84	Alex	Budget -	<p>What was the Department's total expenditure on advertising and information campaigns in the past 12</p>	Written	

	Gallacher	Advertising and Information Campaigns	months?		
85	Alex Gallacher	Budget - Promotional Merchandise	What was the Department's total expenditure on promotional merchandise in the past 12 months?	Written	
86	Alex Gallacher	Budget - Media Monitoring	What was the Department's total expenditure on media monitoring in the past 12 months?	Written	
87	Penny Wong	Pacific Labour Mobility	<p>(1) The Department has indicated changes have already been made to the Seasonal Worker Program to increase access from 1st July. Has DFAT provided any advice to the Minister regarding how further changes could be made to the Seasonal Workers Program (SWP) moving forward?</p> <p>(2) Does the Department assess that the Pacific region has the capacity to deliver extra workers?</p> <p>(3) Has the Department provided advice to the Minister on the Pacific's capacity?</p> <p>(4) Can the Department confirm the requirement for employers to organise training has been removed from the SWP? And has the Add-on Skills Training also ceased for the SWP?</p> <p>(5) How does the Department handle employer concerns about the approval process and timeframes relating to the Scheme?</p> <p>(6) Is the Department aware of concerns about high transaction costs affecting money transfers/remittances?</p> <p>(7) Has the Department made – or is considering – any measures to help reduce the costs associated with these transactions?</p>	Written	
88	Penny Wong	Pacific Labour Mobility	<p>(1) Can the Department provide an update on current numbers of Pacific Labour Scheme (PLS) workers from each of the Pacific states, and a gender breakdown too?</p> <p>(2) Can the Department provide a breakdown across sectors of work?</p> <p>(3) Can the Department provide a report on which employers have been approved, with a breakdown from where and how many PLS workers at each?</p> <p>(4) How is the registration of sponsoring employers being managed across the three departments (DFAT, Home Affairs, FairWork Ombudsman)?</p>	Written	
89	Penny Wong	Pacific Labour Mobility	<p>(1) Where is the Pacific Labour Facility (PLF) located?</p> <p>(2) Is the PLF staffed and managed by the Department or contractors?</p> <p>(3) How is administration of the PLS managed between the Department and the Department of Employment?</p> <p>(4) The PLF budget was to be finalised by April 2018. Can a detail breakdown be provided of the</p>	Written	

			<p>budget?</p> <p>(5) Is the Department aware of any coordination or efforts to work with the Australia Pacific Technical College to provide Add-on Skills Training and other training courses relevant to these labour mobility schemes?</p>		
90	Penny Wong	China	<p>(1) Can an update on the Department's China-related resources be provided?</p> <p>(2) How many people in the Department are specifically working on China here in Australia, in the North Asia Division? During 18-19 Budget Estimates in May the Department stated there was 18 staff on China, and the total FTE for the whole Division was 46, and hoping to get to 50. The Department set up a new China section in July – so have the NAD FTE increased since then, and have the China-specific staff increased since then?</p>	Written	
91	Penny Wong	Indonesia	<p>(1) Can the Department outline the extent of support Australia has provided to Indonesia in response to recent natural disasters, including total funding?</p> <p>(2) Where has this additional funding come from? Has it been reprioritised from within existing ODA funds?</p> <p>(3) In terms of Indonesia's response to foreign assistance, there were reports of Indonesia asking independent foreign aid workers to leave the disaster zone. Were any Australians affected by that?</p> <p>(4) How has the Indonesian government responded to Australian humanitarian assistance?</p> <p>(5) What does the Department assess to be the best way to provide assistance to Indonesia after natural disasters?</p>	Written	
92	Penny Wong	North Korea	<p>(1) How does the Department assess the current situation on the Korean Peninsula?</p> <p>(2) Is there any serious prospect of North Korea agreement to compete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearisation?</p> <p>(3) What does the Department assess the United States will agree to in return?</p> <p>(4) Australia has provided support to US efforts to ensure compliance with UN sanctions. Have any discussions occurred with the United States about other potential Australian assistance or involvement in relation to North Korea?</p> <p>(5) Has the Department provided advice to the Government on the types of sanctions that Australia might impose and maintain on North Korea?</p> <p>(6) Beyond aircraft patrols and the deployment of a frigate to monitor shipping, are any other ADF contributions envisaged?</p> <p>(7) Are any other economic measures being contemplated?</p> <p>(8) Is it likely that the second Trump-Kim summit, should it occur, will lead to a lowering of sanctions?</p> <p>(9) In the aftermath of US-DPRK discussion of the repatriation of remains, has any progress been made</p>	Written	

			on the repatriation of the remains of any of the 43 Australians who are still Mission In Action? Has the US or the government of South Korea been requested to raise this matter with North Korea on Australia's behalf?		
93	Penny Wong	Climate Change	<p>(1) Does the Department have a dedicated team on climate change? If Yes:</p> <p>(2) What is its primary focus of work? The aid program? Or multilateral meetings?</p> <p>(3) What is the Department's role in whole-of-government work on climate change?</p> <p>(4) Does the Department lead Australian representation in multilateral meetings on climate change?</p> <p>(5) How does the Department work with the Department of the Environment and Energy to ensure that:</p> <p>a. domestic policy will meet international obligations; and</p> <p>b. that the position Australia articulates internationally is consistent with our domestic policy settings?</p> <p>(6) What role does the Department play in reporting on Australia's obligations under the Paris Agreement?</p>	Written	
94	Penny Wong	Soft Power	<p>(1) How does the Department define 'soft power'?</p> <p>(2) How does the Department consider 'soft' power interacts with other components of power?</p> <p>(3) How would the Department consider Australia's soft power and influence in comparison with other countries? What are our relative strengths and weaknesses?</p> <p>(4) The Department is undertaking a 'Soft Power Review'. Submissions closed on 12 October. What is the timeframe and process for considering these submissions?</p> <p>(5) How does the Department intend to use the review? Will it inform a soft power strategy?</p> <p>(6) How will the soft power review interact with the Review of Australian Broadcasting Services in the Asia Pacific being conducted jointly by the Department of Communications and the Arts and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade?</p>	Written	
95	Penny Wong	Global Compact for Migration	<p>(1) What is the Department's involvement in the negotiations for the UN Global Compact for Migration?</p> <p>(2) Has Australia's delegation has been relatively active and has Australia played an important role in shaping the agenda?</p> <p>(3) Does the final text reflects many of the provisions that Australia was advocating for?</p> <p>(4) Does the Department understand the Compact to be 'non-binding' on member states?</p> <p>(5) Does this mean in practice that member states can decide how they implement provisions in accordance with their national policies and can develop action plans to suit local conditions and realities?</p>	Written	

			(6) I refer to Minister Dutton's comments, as reported in The Australian on 25 July, when asked on 2GB about supporting the Compact, Mr Dutton said: "not in its current form. We've been very clear about that." "And we're not going to allow unelected bodies to dictate to us, to the Australian people...". Does the Department share Mr Dutton's view on the Global Compact on Migration?		
96	Penny Wong	Geo Economics	<p>During 18-19 Budget Estimates in May, the Department's capability in terms of geo-economics, particularly with regards to analysis, policy response and integration of those policy responses into broader foreign policy activities, was discussed.</p> <p>Mr Green advised that one of the new sections established within the US & Indo-Pacific Strategy Division is a section called the Indo-Pacific Strategy and Geo-economics Section. And that "we have in that section one person who deals specifically with geo-economics"</p> <p>(1) Can the Department provide an update on the size of the section now? And the planned FTE? (2) How would the Department assess its skills and capability now? The Secretary said in May that there are "many of the basic skills but the way they come together in individuals in something we need to work at." Can the Department provide an update on what's being done now?</p>	Written	
97	Penny Wong	People-smuggling and Human Trafficking	<p>(1) Can the Department explain the role of the Ambassador for People-Smuggling and Human Trafficking? (2) What does the role currently entail? What are the Ambassador's responsibilities compared with that of the Home Affairs Department? (3) Would the Ambassador be regarded as the most senior person within the public service on this issue? (4) Which department takes the lead in negotiating third-country resettlement options?</p>	Written	
98	Penny Wong	Contractors	<p>With reference to a Sydney Morning Herald article from March this year, headlined 'Contractor spending more than doubles in five years at largest APS agencies', noting that the Department wasn't included in the piece.</p> <p>(1) How does the Department determine whether or not a piece of work should be outsourced to external consultants? (2) How much is spent on external consultants for non-aid related work? I.e. work that is non-ODA eligible?</p>	Written	
99	Penny Wong	Peacekeeping	<p>(1) In March 2018, the UN Secretary-General announced his Action for Peacekeeping (A4P) to revitalise support for and commitment to UN peacekeeping. What has been Australia's response to the Secretary General's initiative? (2) What concrete actions has the Department taken to revitalise UN peacekeeping? (3) Did Australia attend the High-Level Meeting held on 25 September?</p>	Written	

			<p>(4) At what level did Australia attend the meeting?</p> <p>(5) Did Australia issue a supporting statement at the meeting?</p> <p>(6) Can the Department provide a copy of the statement?</p> <p>(7) Given Australia's historical record as a supporter of UN peacekeeping operations, are there any Australians working as members of the PKO staff or are there any Australians seconded to the PKO?</p>		
100	Penny Wong	Health Security Initiative	<p>(1) In response to QON 173 (18-19 Budget Estimates) the Department advised that an overarching Performance Assessment Framework was being finalised. Has this framework now been finalised?</p> <p>(2) How will this framework assist in improving the efficiency and effectiveness of Australia's health investments?</p> <p>(3) Can a copy of the framework be provided?</p> <p>(4) I understand that Dr Jimmie Rodgers undertook scoping exercise in the Pacific (PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Fiji) earlier this year to determine the priorities of Australia's investments in the Pacific. Can the Department provide an overview of the priorities identified by Dr Rodgers and his team?</p> <p>(5) How has the identification of priorities progressed to project / program design?</p> <p>(6) Can the Department provide a breakdown by country and program of how funding will be spent both in the Pacific and Southeast Asia?</p>	Written	
101	Penny Wong	Contractors	<p>BE2018-19 QON 165-2 requested the breakdown of funding received by managing contractors by amount value and percentage of ODA.</p> <p>The Department has supplied figures for the 2016-17 financial year; can the Department provide this breakdown for the 2017-18 financial year and for the 2018-19 financial year to date?</p>	Written	
102	Penny Wong	Food Security	<p>The 2018 Food and Agriculture Organisation State of Food Security and Nutrition Report shows that undernourishment in Oceania has increased from 5.9% in 2014 to 7.0% in 2017.</p> <p>(1) What does the Department believe to be the course of this increase in the Pacific?</p> <p>(2) What proportion of the 2018-19 Budget is working to address nutrition in the Pacific, and how does this compare to previous years?</p> <p>(3) What proportion of the 2018-19 Budget is working to address food security in the Pacific, and how does this compare to previous years?</p> <p>(4) Can the Department provide a breakdown of all nutrition programs by country, delivery partner and funding amount?</p> <p>(5) How does the Department ensure that funding for agricultural programs works to increase food security in the Pacific?</p> <p>(6) Can the Department provide a breakdown of all food security programs by country, delivery partner</p>	Written	

			and funding amount?		
103	Penny Wong	Disability Inclusive Development	<p>Australia rightly considers itself to be at the forefront of Disability Inclusion in Development. Our current strategy Development for All 2015 -2020 is more than halfway through. The response to 2018-19 Budget Estimates QON83 demonstrates that performance of disability inclusive development has significantly dropped.</p> <p>(1) Is the Department concerned that performance on the two Aid Quality Check measures fell from 60% and 52% satisfaction in 2015-16 to 51% and 42% satisfaction in 2016-17 period?</p> <p>(2) Has the Department identified the cause of this decline? I note specifically health has fallen by over 20%?</p> <p>(3) What is the Department doing to rectify this decline?</p> <p>(4) In late July of this year, the former Minister for International Development and the Pacific announced \$16.4 million in funding for inclusive humanitarian initiatives. Can the Department advise where within the budget this funding has been allocated?</p> <p>(5) Can the Department provide a breakdown of how this funding is being spent?</p>	Written	
104	Claire Moore	Non-Communicable Diseases	<p>(1) On 27 Sep 2018, the UN General Assembly hosted its 3rd High-level Meeting on Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) in New York. It was attended by 23 heads of government and 55 health Ministers. Can the Department confirm who attended the meeting on behalf of Australia?</p> <p>(2) Given Foreign Minister Payne attended the UNGA and made a statement at the High-level Meeting on Tuberculosis, did the Department advise the Minister to also attend the meeting on NCDs?</p> <p>(3) Can the Department explain why given the importance of this issue to our future society that Australia had no ministerial representation?</p> <p>(4) Reports indicated that Australia did not make a statement at the latest high level meeting. Did the Department request a speaking slot for Australia?</p> <p>(5) Who made the decision for Australia not to speak and why?</p> <p>(6) Can the Department outline the key outcomes from the meeting?</p> <p>(7) Can the Department confirm what commitments, if any, Australia made?</p> <p>(8) What previous commitments has Australia made at earlier high-level meetings around reporting on progress?</p> <p>(9) Are we on track to meet Australia's commitment to achieving the Sustainable Development Goal 3.4 - to reduce premature death from NCDs by one third by 2030?</p> <p>(10) The Political Declaration from UN Members made no measurable or time bound commitments to achieve SDG 3.4 by 2030. Is the Department open to consideration of adopting Australia specific measurable and time bound goals?</p>	Written	

			<p>(11) At the UN General Assembly, the Australian Government co-hosted events on 'Tobacco Free Financing' and 'Cervical Cancer Elimination'. Who represented the Government at these events?</p> <p>(12) What side events did the Minister attend?</p> <p>(13) Can the Department provide a list of all Australian representation at side events – who attended, in what capacity and to which events?</p> <p>(14) Is the Department aware that there was a side event on 'the beer industry's contribution to development'?</p> <p>(15) Was this attended by any Australian officials?</p> <p>(16) Did the Minister or any official have any contact with the alcohol industry during the week of the UN General Assembly?</p>		
105	Claire Moore	Gender Equality	<p>(1) How does the current Gender Equality Strategy address the specific challenges that adolescent girls aged 10 to 19 face?</p> <p>(2) Given the strategy published in Feb 2016, with reference to the aid policy launched in 2014, does the new Minister intend to review the Gender Equality strategy moving forward?</p> <p>(3) Can details be provided of what percentage of current bilateral education spending is used to promote access to secondary education for adolescent girls, with a breakdown according to country?</p> <p>(4) What guidance notes or policies does the Department have to guide programming for adolescent girls?</p>	Written	
106	Claire Moore	Gender Equality	<p>(1) The launch of the DFAT and UNFPA Transformative Agenda for Women, Adolescents and Youth in the Pacific was held in Suva, Fiji on 9 Aug 2018. Given conflicting reports, can the Department confirm the amounts of aid funding for DFAT and UNFPA's Transformative Agenda and the complementary UNFPA Supplies funding?</p> <p>(2) Can the Department provide further information on the 2018-22 Transformative Agenda program beyond the 2-paragraph mention on the website?</p> <p>(3) Can a breakdown be provided of when the \$30 million contribution to the joint venture is projected to be spent?</p> <p>(4) Can the Department provide an indication of what this will be spent upon?</p> <p>(5) Will this be contracts, grants, and administered by whom?</p> <p>(6) Is the Department aware of any funding being earmarked to cover cervical cancer screening and treatment programs?</p> <p>(7) If so, can the Department provide details of recipient, location and funding amounts?</p> <p>(8) Recent job recruitment ads indicate the Transformative Agenda initiative will establish at least a Suva, Fiji duty station. Are there plans to establish further offices in the other 5 priority countries</p>	Written	

			<p>(Kiribati, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu)?</p> <p>(9) What further management support will be provided for the initiative?</p> <p>(10) Can the Department confirm whether the 'new contribution' to UNFPA Supplies of \$10M announced at the launch was in addition to the \$3.5 million pledged at the FP2020 summit in July 2017, or a re-announcement of old commitments?</p> <p>(11) Can an indication be provided of when the \$4.4 million earmarked for the Pacific will be spent and what it will be spent on?</p> <p>(12) Reports indicate contraceptives will aim to be made available through health service delivery points in all 6 countries. Are these already in existence, or is this yet to happen? Can detail be provided?</p> <p>(13) Given the initiative's system strengthening approach, why was PNG, a country in dire need of this, not included in the Transformative Agenda?</p>		
107	Claire Moore	Papua New Guinea	<p>(1) In BE2018-19 QoN#111, mention is made of a separately funded set of sexual and reproductive health initiatives for PNG that amounts to \$35 million between 2017 and 2019. Can the Department provide details of these 'new' initiatives that were indicated as having commenced in 2017?</p> <p>(2) Can the Department provide an outline identifying which organisations are involved and the budget for each?</p> <p>(3) Can the Department provide details of project expenditure across 2017-19, specifically, amounts spent to date and projected spend?</p> <p>(4) How many of these new investments are earmarked to cover cervical cancer screening and treatment programs?</p> <p>(5) In BE2018-19 QoN#110, the increase in family planning expenditure reported in the budget, is attributed, in part, to new investments through the ANCP. Can a list of these new investments be provided that clearly identifies the increased expenditure and the NGOs involved?</p>	Written	
108	Claire Moore	Papua New Guinea	<p>In QoN#121 BE2018-19, the Department acknowledged systemic constraints in PNG's medical supplies system affecting procurement and distribution and the challenges of poor supply chain-management. The Department also indicated written assurances from PNG Health, yet reports persist of interruption to supply with hospital supplies running out.</p> <p>(1) What is the Department's understanding regarding the drop in vaccination services available across PNG?</p> <p>(2) Can the Department confirm 40% of remote aid posts / small clinics in rural and remote areas have closed?</p> <p>(3) Are there some provinces where all aid posts have closed and no local health workers remain?</p>	Written	

			<p>(4) How is the transport of vaccines being handled when there is no electricity or running water?</p> <p>(5) Under these circumstances, what is Australian bilateral aid funding towards health services being spent on?</p>		
109	Claire Moore	Papua New Guinea	<p>(1) In QoN#124 BE2018-19, the Department confirmed the ADB are providing PNG with a US\$300 million policy-based loan plus US\$95 million towards further specific health sector project. However, ADB are suggesting a loan figure closer to \$200 million. How has the Department arrived at a different figure to that of ADB?</p> <p>(2) Can the Department clarify what conditions have been placed on this loan (e.g. what characterises a policy-based loan)?</p> <p>(3) What is the Department's understanding regarding what the ADB loan is to be utilised for?</p> <p>(4) The ADB have indicated the loan is Towards Achieving Universal Health Coverage and earmarked for health sector strengthening. Did the Department query the PNG Government whether the ADB loan funds could be used to address the polio crisis rather than rely upon asking for additional Australian aid?</p>	Written	
110	Claire Moore	Pacific	<p>A Pacific Roadmap for Sustainable Development was endorsed by PIF leaders on September 2017.</p> <p>(1) Can the Department outline what Australia's involvement has been in this work generated by the Pacific Island Forum SDG taskforce ?</p> <p>(2) Can an update on the status of the draft implementation strategy be provided?</p> <p>(3) What progress has been achieved towards integrating SDG implementation into existing national planning, monitoring and reporting processes across the Pacific?</p>	Written	
111	Claire Moore	MH17	<p>(1) In BE2018-19 QoN #107, the Department confirmed the government will provide \$50.3 million over 4 years from 2018-19 to support pursuing those responsible for downing Malaysia Airlines flight MH17 and mention is made of funding also providing for the continued operation of Australia's embassy in Kyiv. Can the Department detail what tasks are being handled by the embassy related to this case and the budget allocation, including staffing and what additional resources?</p> <p>(2) Is this funding from the ODA budget?</p>	Written	
112	Claire Moore	Multilateral Funding	<p>(1) To meet Australia's replenishment commitments, it appears that Australia's contributions to the following multilaterals would need to increase significantly in 2019-20:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria; b. Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance; and c. Global Partnership for Education. <p>Can the Department advise on the planned payments in 2019-20 for each of the above initiatives?</p> <p>(2) Has the Department considered recommending an overall envelope for multilateral pledges in the</p>	Written	

			next three years, to reduce the likelihood of one multilateral pledge being at the expense of other important contributions?		
113	Claire Moore	Polio	Does Australia plan to provide any further funding to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative beyond 2019-20, to offset the \$6 million in the current year to support the response to the outbreak in Papua-New Guinea?	Written	
114	Claire Moore	Papua New Guinea	(1) Can the Department advise if it has discussed with the Papua New Guinea Government increased action on malaria in response to the recent increase in the number of people infected with malaria? (2) What are the prospects for Australia funding additional action on malaria in Papua New Guinea, possibly in partnership with a multilateral agency?	Written	
115	Claire Moore	Humanitarian Funding	In the Foreign Policy White Paper, the Government outlined its intention to increase the humanitarian budget to \$500 million but the 2018-19 DFAT budget only increased the humanitarian envelope by \$10 million to \$409 million. Can the Department elaborate on how it intends to meet its commitment to increasing the humanitarian contribution?	Written	
116	Claire Moore	Conflict Prevention	(1) World Bank studies have shown that for each US\$1 spent on conflict prevention, US\$16 is saved down the road. Can the Department indicate how much aid funding is currently being invested in programs whose primary aim is conflict prevention or violence reduction? (2) Can the Department indicate how this funding is broken down across budget lines? (3) Can the Department also indicate as a percentage how much of this funding is specifically earmarked for conflict prevention and violence reduction programs, as opposed to funding that has been provided to partners on an un-earmarked basis that the partner then chooses to allocate to conflict prevention and violence reduction programs?	Written	
117	Claire Moore	Soft Power	(1) What are the key themes emerging from submissions to the Soft Power Review? (2) What are the initial findings around the role of the aid program and soft power in particular? (3) If the aid program is such an influential soft power asset, then does the Department acknowledge the Government should be rebuilding the aid program rather than consecutively cutting it?	Written	
118	Claire Moore	Aid Effectiveness	(1) How many ASL does the Office of Development Effectiveness have? (2) Is this staffing level sufficient to undertake comprehensive and regular evaluations of the aid program?	Written	
119	Claire Moore	Disaster Risk Reduction	(1) Is the Department able to confirm how much funding is provided to Disaster Risk Reduction programs, in this financial year? (2) And how has this changed from previous years? (3) Is the Department developing a Climate Change Strategy to ensure that aid investments consider and respond to climate change risks, impacts, and opportunities for low emissions, climate-resilient	Written	

			<p>development?</p> <p>(4) If a strategy is being developed, then when will it be released?</p> <p>(5) Is the strategy already written but awaiting publication?</p>		
120	Claire Moore	Child Protection	<p>(1) The key principle of the Sustainable Development Goals is to leave no one behind, and one of the key ways to ensure that vulnerable groups are considered, protected and empowered is through mainstreaming. Can the Department advise how many ASL are dedicated to ensuring that the needs and rights of children are considered in the design and implementation of aid programs?</p> <p>(2) Can the Department advise how many ASL are dedicated to ensuring that the needs and rights of women are considered in the design and implementation of aid programs?</p> <p>(3) Can the Department advise how many ASL are dedicated to ensuring that the needs and rights of people with a disability are considered in the design and implementation of aid programs?</p> <p>(4) How much does the Australian aid program invest in programs aimed at ending violence against children?</p> <p>(5) Apart from broader aid projects that address gender-based violence, are there any programs that specifically target ending violence against children?</p>	Written	
121	Claire Moore	Strategic Aid Targets	<p>(1) Nine out of ten of the aid program's strategic targets have been achieved. Is the Department reviewing whether the strategic targets should be updated or expanded, and what targets should be set going forward?</p> <p>(2) There are currently no targets for the aid program on climate change and managing climate-related risks, or on considering the needs and rights of children across the aid program, or aligning the aid program to the Sustainable Development Goals. Is the Department planning to set new targets to address these gaps?</p>	Written	
122	Claire Moore	Gender Equality	<p>The only strategic target for the aid program that has not been achieved is the target that more than 80 percent of investments, regardless of their objectives, effectively address gender issues in their implementation. Why has progress on gender equality and women's empowerment lagged behind other targets?</p>	Written	
123	Claire Moore	Sexual Misconduct	<p>(1) Has the international development sector been working closely with the Department to ensure safeguarding is reviewed and developed?</p> <p>(2) Has the Department been working closely with ACFID on the review they are undertaking?</p> <p>(3) Regarding Australia's participation in the recent UK Safeguarding summit, how do Australian standards compare to those of the UK Government?</p> <p>(4) Were there key recommendations or takeaways for the Department as a result of participating in the summit?</p>	Written	

			(5) Oxfam has just released its updated 10 point plan on safeguarding and has established an Independent Commission on Sexual Misconduct led by women’s rights experts. Has the Department been working closely with Oxfam through this process?		
124	Claire Moore	Democratic Republic of Congo	Given that prior to the Ebola outbreak, there were an estimated 13.1 million people in need of humanitarian assistance in the DRC (the same number as in Syria), can the Department please indicate how much humanitarian funding has been specifically earmarked for humanitarian assistance to DRC?	Written	
125	Claire Moore	Independent Review of Facilities	<p>(1) When was the report Review of Selected DFAT Facilities - Key Findings by Lynn Pieper commissioned?</p> <p>(2) What lead to the decision to commission the review?</p> <p>(3) The key findings of the report are available on the Department website – is this the full extent of the report. If not can the full report be provided?</p> <p>(4) The report and management’s response reference that this review considered 6 out of the 22 facilities of which DFAT has oversight.</p> <p>a. Why were these 6 facilities chosen to be part of the review?</p> <p>b. Did the Department select the 6 facilities or the independent reviewer?</p> <p>(5) Management’s response to the report notes that at the time of writing “there are no underperforming facilities” (2017-18).</p> <p>a. Had any of the 6 facilities selected as part of the review previously been required to develop a remediation plan to correct underperformance?</p> <p>b. Have any facilities been required to do so prior to 2017-18 period?</p> <p>(6) Do these facilities represent an accurate cross section of all facilities?</p> <p>(7) Can the Department provide a comparison of all 22 facilities on the basis of Location, Budget / funding cycle, Managing Contractor, Staffing numbers (Local / International), years of operation, number of projects managed and thematic focus of these programs?</p> <p>(8) Management’s Response to Recommendation 1 of the report states that the Office of Development Effectiveness will undertake an evaluation of selected set of facilities to be published in 2020.</p> <p>a. Is the intent that the same 6 facilities will be assessed, or will the Department undertake a broader evaluation of facilities?</p> <p>b. On what basis will facilitates reviewed by the ODE be selected?</p> <p>(9) The review talks quite positively about the place of facilities in Australia’s aid program. The review states that “some facilities today are very large; and the flexibility they enable is increasingly and consciously being used to strengthen links between the technical and the political, for more effective development results.” The report then goes on to say “it has resulted in role confusion (especially in</p>	Written	

			<p>early years of implementation) between DFAT and its contractors.” If the facilities are overseeing majority of aid programming in country – where is that balance between the Department and the contractor in shaping the diplomatic relationship?</p> <p>(10) Is it the Department staff or contractors that are building those long term relationships with our Pacific partners?</p> <p>(11) One of the criticisms that is thrown about by those opposed to the growing number and size of facilities is the risk that Australia’s development program is becoming transactional rather than transformational – something highlighted in the report. How does the Department characterise the work of facilities and what steps are being put in place to ensure our investment in facilities is transformational?</p> <p>(12) Can the Department provide figures of savings attained by each of the 22 facilities?</p> <p>(13) In response to Recommendation 2, the Department states that it will revise contracting, reporting and financial information templates. Can an update on the progress of this revamping of reporting systems be provided?</p> <p>(14) In response to Recommendation 5, the Department states that it will “improve the collection of information from and about facilities and share findings and lessons across program areas...”. Given the nature of facilities being operated by competing private corporations, how will the Department ensure lessons learned are shared and integrated into design and delivery of programs?</p>		
126	Claire Moore	Sustainable Development Goals	<p>Three years after committing to the SDGs, Australia's implementation of them domestically and in our international development assistance is lacking a governance framework. In QoN#193 BE2018-19, the Department indicated that as part of a whole of government initiative, each department assigned a particular SDG goal is responsible for managing and uploading their own data onto the reporting platform.</p> <p>(1) Does the Department consider the whole of government effort would benefit from an overarching strategy and that this could be addressed via a policy and planning framework for roll-out of the SDGs?</p> <p>(2) Does the Department think that future reporting on our SDG implementation would benefit from a National Action Plan?</p>	Written	
127	Kimberley Kitching	Our Ocean Conference	<p>Our Ocean Conference</p> <p>Former Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull has recently attended the Our Ocean conference in Bali. He noted the “very negative reaction in Indonesia” to Australia’s announcement that it was reviewing its position on the location of its Israel embassy. He also raised this with Indonesian President Widodo.</p> <p>(1) Do Mr Turnbull’s views reflect the official government position?</p> <p>(2) As Mr Turnbull was part of an official Australian delegation to the conference, does he not speak on</p>	Written	

			<p>behalf of the government?</p> <p>(3) If we accept that Mr Turnbull was speaking on behalf of the Australian government, what has changed in the weeks between Prime Minister Morrison announcing the proposed shift of Australia's embassy and Mr Turnbull's expressed reservations of the negative diplomatic consequences of this?</p> <p>(4) Was there also an unofficial reason for Mr Turnbull to attend the conference?</p> <p>(5) Was Mr Turnbull in attendance in order to attempt to repair the damage the initial embassy announcement caused to the Australia –Indonesia relationship?</p> <p>(6) Mr Turnbull noted that he was confident the Indonesia Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement would go ahead as planned. Has the Department been in contact with their counterparts regarding this? And, has there been any information received that would contradict this statement?</p> <p>(7) Since Mr Turnbull's statements, Prime Minister Morrison has said that while no final decision has yet been made on the location of the Israel embassy, when one is made, "proper process" would be followed. Was proper process followed in the first place?</p>		
128	Timothy Storer	Climate Finance	What is Australia doing to boost its climate finance to developing countries consistent with its obligations under the UNFCCC	Written	
129	Timothy Storer	IACEPA	<p>(1) Why did Indonesia request liberal origin requirements for Indonesian electric vehicles in IACEPA?</p> <p>(2) What are the details of this element of the agreement?</p>	Written	
130	Sarah Hanson-Young	Powering Past Coal Alliance	<p>The Powering Past Coal Alliance is an international commitment to phase out coal. It includes New Zealand, the UK, Canada, the ACT and South Korea's biggest coal province. Has the Australia Government been approached to join the powering past coal alliance?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - can the Department provide specific details about the date and origin of this request? - has Australia formally responded? - can the Department table its response to this request? 	Written	
131	Sarah Hanson-Young	Talanoa Dialogue	<p>The submission to the Talanoa Dialogue says Australia will develop a "long-term emissions reduction strategy by 2020", has this started?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - if not, when will it start? - who is doing the work? - will the public have opportunity for input? - will this involve phasing out coal by 2050, in line with the IPCC report, or earlier? 	Written	
132	Sarah Hanson-Young	Green Climate Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Green Climate Fund Board agreed to begin the replenishment process, has the Government communicated to the Green Climate Fund that it will not contribute to the first replenishment process in line with the Prime Minister's recent comments to Alan Jones? 	Written	

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have other members of the Green Climate Fund Board commented on the Prime Minister's statement on not tipping further funding into the fund? - can the Department table any communications of this nature? 		
133	Sarah Hanson-Young	Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will Minister Payne attend COP24? - if not, who will be sent to represent the Minister? • Will the Government send a delegation similar in size to previous years to ensure Australia's position is well represented? 	Written	
134	Don Farrell	Ministerial Stationery	What was the total cost incurred by the Department on new business cards for all Ministers, Assistant Ministers and Ministerial staff following the change of Prime Minister on 24th August 2018, and the subsequent reshuffle of the Government ministry on 28th August 2018 (please include production, design, and printing costs)?	Written	
135	Don Farrell	Ministerial Stationery	What was the total cost incurred by the Department on new letterhead and personalised stationery for all Ministers, Assistant Ministers and Ministerial staff following the change of Prime Minister on 24th August 2018, and the subsequent reshuffle of the Government ministry on 28th August 2018? (please include production, design, and printing costs)	Written	
136	Don Farrell	Ministerial IT	What was the total cost incurred by the Department on new electronic equipment (including telephones, ipads, computers, laptops) for all Ministers, Assistant Ministers and Ministerial staff following the change of Prime Minister on 24th August 2018, and the subsequent reshuffle of the Government ministry on 28th August 2018?	Written	
137	David Smith	Contractors	<p>Over the past 24 months, how many individuals have been carrying out duties within your agency who were not engaged as employees under Section 22 of the Public Service Act? , e.g. policy, ICT, program delivery.</p> <p>How many of these individuals have been providing services to the Department for greater than 12 months?</p> <p>What was the reason for not employing these individuals under Section 22 of the Public Service Act?</p>	Written	
138	Penny Wong	ODA Funding	<p>[Mr Wood's tabled documents on ODA funding]</p> <p>CHAIR: We've got them. They are so tabled; thank you.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Is it possible for the disaggregated budget estimate figures—which are for 2018-19, on the second page—to be disaggregated for the whole forward estimates years, please? Can we have that document too?</p> <p>Mr Wood: Yes. I think we gave you that format in response. I think it might have been question on notice 4 from the last estimates. We can update that.</p> <p>Senator WONG: I have some questions, which I'll come to shortly but not right now, but I thought I'd</p>	Hansard	59

			<p>give you some notice of that—if that's possible. If it's not possible, so be it.</p> <p>Mr Wood: I don't believe the budget numbers have changed, but we'll check and—</p> <p>Senator WONG: Since my question on notice?</p> <p>Mr Wood: Since your question on notice.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Just to flag for the officers, I want to understand the infrastructure financing component of these figures. I'll come back to that.</p>		
139	Richard Di Natale	Cambodia	<p>Senator DI NATALE: Given the limited time, could I ask you, on notice, to provide a summary of representations since that statement was made, when and where they were made and the specific responses received from the Cambodian government?</p> <p>Ms Heckscher: Yes, absolutely.</p> <p>The document subsequently tabled included when and where the representations were made, but not the 'specific responses received from the Cambodian government'.</p>	Hansard	28
140	Richard Di Natale	Myanmar	<p>Senator DI NATALE: I understand that other countries have suspended military ties with Myanmar. Has Australia received representations from other countries urging us to do the same?</p> <p>Ms Heckscher: Not to my knowledge. I would need to check the specifics of that because it's likely that we may not have received that ourselves—not to my knowledge.</p>	Hansard	31
141	Penny Wong	Jerusalem Announcement - Indonesia	<p>Senator WONG: I should also just clarify; I missed asking this in the morning with all the excitement. When did DFAT first become aware that the Prime Minister had communicated with President Widodo by text message in relation to these matters?</p> <p>Ms Adamson: I'd have to check that.</p> <p>Senator WONG: When did you become aware?</p> <p>Ms Adamson: When did I become aware?</p> <p>Senator WONG: Yes.</p> <p>Ms Adamson: I can't recall. There was a lot going on at that time—</p> <p>Senator WONG: There certainly was.</p>	Hansard	39
142	Nick McKim	Nauru - Aid Budget	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What impacts do the payments made to Nauru's Government have on the Australian Aid budget? 2. Is the cost of maintaining the offshore detention system causing a decrease in Aid that would otherwise be going to foreign aid projects? 	Written	
143	Jacinta Collins	New Colombo Plan	<p>Have there been any cuts to the New Colombo Plan?</p>	Written	