

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade - Questions on notice – Supplementary Budget Estimates 2019-20

Port folio Q No	Senator	Broad Topic	QuestionText	Written / Hansard	Proof Hansard Page
1	Sheldon	Hong Kong Workers	<p>Senator SHELDON: Gluttons for punishment, aren't we. A number of union leaders and workplace activists have been involved in the activities and protests in Hong Kong. I'm wondering whether you are able to make us aware in your estimation how many people have been terminated from their employment as a result of edicts, particularly looking at Cathay Pacific, Cathay Dragon, those companies, and how many union leaders have been terminated for being activists? Have you any statistics or figures, or any feel for it?</p> <p>Ms Adamson: We don't have statistics. I wouldn't expect that we'd be able to establish with any degree of precision the numbers. You referred to Cathay Pacific and also to Dragonair. We do know there have been some—how shall I put it? There has been pressure placed on a number of companies in relation to their employees and their participation in these protests. Many of the protests, I should note because I think it's important to the way Hong Kong is still functioning, are protests for which protesters seek a permit and are granted one. So, they are in many cases legally conducted, but the issue around the impact on particular individuals is one that is generally known. We have a sense of it, but we don't have—and I wouldn't expect that we would be able to gather either—specific data.</p> <p>Senator SHELDON: Could you take on notice a question regarding particularly Cathay Dragon but also Cathay Pacific, and about what's occurring with that workforce now and the terminations that have occurred?</p> <p>Ms Adamson: We can certainly give you a general answer to that, but I do feel I should caution that we won't be able to provide statistics.</p> <p>Senator SHELDON: If you are able to provide some details just regarding those two companies at this point, and I'll put a question on notice on what information you have.</p>	Hansard	6
2	Wong	Briefings to Parliamentarians	<p>Senator WONG: Have there been any government MPs and senators briefed separately or having dialogue with DFAT about the China relationship?</p> <p>Ms Adamson: Not in an organised sense. Let me just check with Ms Lawson.</p> <p>Senator WONG: I would encourage that that be checked, please. Are you going to come back to me?</p> <p>Ms Adamson: Yes, absolutely. It would be hard to know if an individual member or senator wants a piece of information—</p> <p>Senator WONG: I want to understand whether government MPs and senators are being given access to the department for particular briefings and discussions in relation to foreign policy, but China more broadly. That is apart from formal committee arrangements.</p> <p>Ms Adamson: Certainly I have not other than formal committee arrangements myself been involved. But we will check others.</p>	Hansard	10
3	Wong	Briefings to Parliamentarians	<p>Senator WONG: Minister, just to be clear—and I don't want to spend a long time on this—essentially you have taken a decision not to provide briefings to parliamentarians, nor to the shadow cabinet in relation to this difficult relationship without seeking advice from DFAT and contrary to the views of the Office of National Intelligence?</p> <p>Senator Payne: Is there a question?</p> <p>Senator WONG: Yes, I'm just putting that to you. Why?</p> <p>Senator Payne: We have discussed this before. When you first raised this in the media and then by correspondence I indicated in a discussion I think in the chamber and also I was asked in public commentary. As you mentioned, I wrote to you this week as well.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Last night.</p> <p>Senator Payne: We regularly brief across parliamentary committees on important policy issues. That includes the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security, the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade committees of the Senate and the joint commitment and its constituent bodies. We provide the Opposition Leader with briefings, which the Opposition Leader is, of course, appropriately entitled to receive, and some of those under legislation. In practice, we extend those briefings to counterparts on the shadow cabinet's national security committee. I can't recall an occasion, but I stand to be corrected, when a briefing has been requested by you or a national security shadow committee counterpart that has not been provided.</p> <p>Senator WONG: That's not correct. No, please, I can't let that stand.</p> <p>Senator Payne: I'm sorry. I said I can't personally recall.</p> <p>Senator WONG: I have asked you for more broader briefings. I have asked for the shadow cabinet to be briefed, and you don't wish to.</p>	Hansard	11-12

			<p>Senator Payne: I'm sorry. You are misinterpreting what I said. I said if you have asked for a briefing for yourself, for other members of the national security shadow committee, that has been provided. Where the issue has impacted all parties directly, for example, on cybersecurity, risks of foreign interference in 2017, we have provided those. The government is not persuaded that having our full panoply of national security agencies brief all parliamentarians beyond those on the shadow frontbench and on the relevant committees that already have access to briefings and assessments—and that is quite a broad number in total—is necessarily appropriate or desirable. The government has a joined up view on this, and I responded to you accordingly.</p> <p>Senator WONG: First—</p> <p>Senator Payne: But I will take on notice again your question in relation to the shadow cabinet and come back to you on that.</p>		
4	Wong	Barr Inquiry	<p>Senator WONG: The Australian Ambassador to the United States sends a letter to the President's chief of staff and to the attorney-general about an investigation that is not approved by the foreign minister's office?</p> <p>Senator Payne: The letter was discussed with me.</p> <p>Senator WONG: It was discussed with you?</p> <p>Senator Payne: Yes, by the ambassador.</p> <p>Senator WONG: When did you discuss that with him?</p> <p>Senator Payne: By the ambassador—I will check as to the exact date, but obviously prior to it being sent.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Was it prior to being sent?</p> <p>Senator Payne: Yes, of course.</p>	Hansard	16
5	Wong	Barr Inquiry	<p>Senator WONG: Did Mr Barr or the White House respond to Mr Hockey's letter?</p> <p>Mr Green: Yes, they did.</p> <p>Senator WONG: How did they respond, Mr Green?</p> <p>Mr Green: Let me just go to my timeline. Mr Barr's office telephones Mr Hockey's office in Washington to request a meeting, and that's followed up by an email.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Do you have timeline, Mr Green? Can you table the timeline?</p> <p>Mr Green: I'd very much prefer not to. The time line is highly sensitive and contains matters which relate to ongoing inquiries in the United States as well as other sensitive matters.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Can I make a suggestion?</p> <p>Senator Payne: We'll take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator WONG: The process is a PII claim by the minister.</p> <p>Senator Payne: We'll take your question on notice.</p> <p>Senator WONG: There were 125 questions taken on notice.</p> <p>Ms Adamson: We are willing, as much as we are able, to answer questions about the time line.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Secretary, I appreciate the culture that you demonstrate and model in these hearings, which I think is in the traditions of the Public Service. What I would request is that you consider redaction.</p> <p>Senator Payne: I have said we'll take it on notice.</p>	Hansard	17
6	Wong	Barr Inquiry	<p>Senator WONG: Is the Australian government providing any support to Mr Downer in relation to this investigation?</p> <p>Mr Larsen: If I may say, our very strong view is the nature and substance of—</p> <p>Senator WONG: I am asking about resources. Is he being provided with legal advice and support for legal costs? That is entirely reasonable.</p> <p>Mr Larsen: If we answer the question concerning whether a particular individual has received support—</p> <p>Senator WONG: Oh, come on!</p> <p>Mr Larsen: in relation to the inquiry, that goes to the question of whether or not—</p> <p>Senator WONG: Oh, come on!</p> <p>Mr Larsen: he is actually—</p> <p>Senator WONG: Really?</p> <p>Mr Larsen: It does, Senator, yes.</p> <p>Senator WONG: He is clearly a person of interest. He has been spoken about by Senator Graham. It's been written about in the United States. I have</p>	Hansard	18

		<p>been very sensible and reasonable about not contesting what is effectively a PII claim. I am entitled to ask whether any taxpayers' money is being used to assist Mr Downer in relation to this matter.</p> <p>Mr Larsen: In my view, Senator—</p> <p>Senator WONG: Well, I don't accept it. So we're going to have the committee consider it. I'm simply asking that. You might want to consider that. Maybe we will come back to it.</p> <p>Mr Larsen: I will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator WONG: You have raised the PII claim. You are not demurring from it, so we'll have to have the committee discuss it. I am simply asking—</p> <p>CHAIR: Well, he is now taking it on notice, as I understand it.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Why is that a secret? It's public money. That's what these estimates are about. There are a series of questions I will now ask about Mr Downer. I anticipate that the secretary or you will say, 'Well, we can't.' But, really, you are refusing to answer a senator's question in estimates about whether public money has been spent or is being spent in relation to a former high commissioner and a former foreign minister.</p> <p>Mr Larsen: I have indicated that I will take that question on notice.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: I raise a point of order. There is a guide to witnesses in respect of taking points on notice. Whilst it is appropriate to take questions on notice if the information sought is not available or incomplete, officials should not take questions on notice as a way of avoiding further questions during the hearing.</p> <p>CHAIR: And I don't think he's not.</p> <p>Senator Payne: Chair, you are ruling. I was just going to add to the point of order.</p> <p>CHAIR: As I understand it, where there are sensitive issues or officials want to give more thought in relation to a particular answer, the common practice has been to take it on notice so that a full, considered answer can be provided.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: Can he take it on notice to go to the minister? The minister is sitting at the table.</p> <p>CHAIR: But the minister and others might seek to take advice in relation to the appropriateness or other factors. Senator WONG: Can I just say that that is overly secretive. I understand the sensitivity.</p> <p>CHAIR: That is, with respect, editorialising. Is there going to be a question?</p> <p>Senator WONG: I am pressing the question about whether any decision has been made to provide financial or legal assistance to Mr Downer. I have accepted a number of occasions at the table where people have said they don't want to answer questions about timelines, content, whether cables have been asked for and what decisions have been made. I understand the sensitivity. But it is unreasonable for the department and the minister to be drawing a line as to whether or not public moneys are being spent to assist Mr Downer.</p>		
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8	Faruqi	Aid Investment Plans	<p>Senator FARUQI: And have there been periodic reviews of the overall aid investment plan in Palestine?</p> <p>Dr King: I could call on my colleague Jamie Isbister to speak to that. But, to the best of my knowledge, they're regularly reviewed, yes.</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: How often are these reviews conducted?</p> <p>Dr King: I'll defer to Mr Isbister, with your permission. Mr Isbister: As my colleague said, the aid investment plans are regularly reviewed. The Palestine program, I understand, was reviewed in the last 12 months to review its ongoing effectiveness.</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: How many reviews have happened in the last three years?</p> <p>Mr Isbister: The exact number in the last three years I'd have to take on notice.</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: That would be great.</p> <p>Mr Isbister: But the overall program has been reviewed, and the AMENCA program. The AMENCA NGO program was reviewed in the last six months.</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: Are the recommendations of the reviews made public at all? Are the reviews and the recommendations made public?</p> <p>Mr Isbister: When they are completed, the evaluation reviews are made public and a management response is attached.</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: So the ones in the last three years would be on some website?</p> <p>Mr Isbister: Yes. I'd have to take on notice whether the AMENCA 1 has been finalised in terms of the final report and the management response. But once it is, yes, it would be.</p>	Hansard	45-46
9	Sheldon	Hong Kong Workers	<p>Can the Department provide information on the termination or demoting of workers, including union leaders and representatives, in Hong Kong as a result of them having participated, or being accused of participating in the protests? This participation could either in person or due to expression of views, including via social media.</p> <p>Please provide any information (data, reporting, assessments etc.) the Department has.</p>	Written	n/a

10	Abetz	Magnitsky Act	<p>CHAIR: Whilst the officials are coming to the table, Minister, I was wondering if I could ask you what the government's view is in relation to the Magnitsky Act and whether it has application to Australia, or whether we already have sufficient protocols and other legislation in place which covers those things that are usually understood as the Magnitsky Act?</p> <p>Senator Payne: In the broad—and I will ask Mr Larsen to add to this—we have a system of sanctions application available to us which enables us to apply sanctions broadly both on human rights issues and others. We have, for example, specified named sanctions available to us which we have applied in Myanmar to specific individuals.</p> <p>You mentioned Bangladesh, I presume with a link to that matter. We have country sanctions we're able to apply to Syria and Russia, for example. There has been, as you know—and you are part of that conversation—some discussion around whether we should introduce a Magnitsky-style approach to sanctions. I think that is a conversation worth having. I'm certainly open-minded about the discussion and look forward to the chance to hear and participate as appropriate. But I'll ask Mr Larsen to talk about more of the detail on our capacity currently. Obviously, this is a matter which we have turned our minds to and continue to do so regularly, given the circumstances that arise from time to time.</p> <p>CHAIR: Much as I would like to hear from you, Mr Larsen—</p> <p>Senator Payne: He's very good.</p> <p>CHAIR: would you be so kind as to put that on notice for me, please, given the time constraints?</p>	Hansard	46
11	Abetz	Rohingya - ICC timetable	<p>CHAIR: The prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, I understand, has requested the court's judges to authorise an investigation into alleged crimes against the Rohingya people. Is that correct?</p> <p>Dr Strahan: Yes, it is.</p> <p>CHAIR: Do we have any view or expectation as to the timetable of that investigation? Once again, because my time allocation is short, I would like a short answer, please.</p> <p>Mr Larsen: I will be very short. I don't have a particular indication. These things can take quite some time.</p> <p>Senator Payne: We'll provide further information, if we have any, to you on notice.</p>	Hansard	48
12	Abetz	Azerbaijan - OCCRP Report	<p>CHAIR: Thank you for that. I turn to Azerbaijan and Armenia for a quick bracket of questions. It's about the 'Azerbaijani laundromat', as it's called. My bracket of questions asks whether the department, since the last estimates, has investigated the Azerbaijani laundromat. Can it say with confidence that no money was transferred into Australia, as is suggested by the Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project?</p> <p>Ms Raper: As we are unaware of any money being transferred to Australia under this so-called Azerbaijani laundromat issue, we have not taken the issue any further.</p> <p>CHAIR: Are you aware of the OCCRP's report on this?</p> <p>Ms Raper: I will have to take that on notice.</p> <p>CHAIR: If you could look into it. The suggestion is that \$200,000 has found its way into Australia. That's US dollars. They found their way into Australia between 2012 and 2014. Supposedly a lot more than that has found its way into New Zealand.</p>	Hansard	48
13	Abetz	China - Social Credit Scheme	<p>CHAIR: I will now turn to China. An author who rejoices in the name of Gordon G Chan, the author of The Coming Collapse of China, has written about the social credit scheme. He refers to the Global Times, the tabloid that belongs to the Communist Party-owned People's Daily. He reported that, as at the end of April 2018, authorities had blocked individuals from taking 11.14 million flights and 4.25 million high-speed rail trips under this social credit policy. Are we able to confirm that, or do we have any indication that that might be right?</p> <p>Ms Lawson: I don't believe we have those statistics, but we can check for you.</p> <p>CHAIR: The chances are that if a Communist Party-owned newspaper reports that, one could assume that might be right. If that is the case—and this follows on from some of the questions earlier from Senator Sheldon and me—have we made any representations to the Chinese regime about that, or do we treat that as an internal matter for them to deal with?</p> <p>Ms Lawson: We make broad representations about things like restrictions on freedom of movement. I would need to check if we specifically raised the social credit system. Generally, we would treat it as an internal matter. But we do raise broader concerns about the kinds of human rights expectations you would expect us to raise.</p> <p>CHAIR: The initiative is to, and I quote:</p> <p>Allow the trustworthy to roam everywhere under heaven, while making it hard for the discredited to take a single step.</p> <p>Ms Lawson: I will certainly take a good look at those comments and come back to you.</p>	Hansard	49
14	Abetz	Venezuela	<p>CHAIR: Yes. I understand the United Nations now has a report about Venezuela with the number of deaths in recent times. Is that right? Take that</p>	Hansard	49

			<p>on notice. Ms Raper: Certainly. CHAIR: If you could give me the figures on that, that would be helpful.</p>		
15	Abetz	Organ Harvesting in China	<p>CHAIR: If you could give me the figures on that, that would be helpful. I turn to the issue of organ harvesting and whether the department is aware of the China Tribunal, as it was called. Was it Geoffrey Nice QC who undertook an inquiry into this? Ms Lawson: We are aware that the China Tribunal, initiated by the International Coalition to End Transplant Abuse in China, has issued a report on organ harvesting in China. CHAIR: Do we think that's a robust report, one that's worthy of being treated seriously? Ms Lawson: We treat all reports on this issue very seriously. We are currently digesting the report. CHAIR: You're currently digesting it? Ms Lawson: We're looking at it at the moment. We take such reports very seriously. We take the allegations very seriously. We're strongly opposed to organ trafficking. We have raised our concerns with the Chinese government on many occasions about this matter. CHAIR: Thank you for that. I suppose there are reports and reports. But when you've got somebody like Sir Geoffrey Nice, QC providing his time free of charge; who is not part, as I am advised at least, of Falun Gong; and who comes down with these findings, it makes compelling reading. How long do you think it will take for the department to work its way through that report? Ms Lawson: We have people looking at the report at the moment. CHAIR: Could you take on notice then, please, what the department's determination is in relation to its robustness, validity and whether it is a worthy report for quoting, or whether you think there are certain 'issues', to use a diplomatic term? Ms Lawson: We can certainly come back about the report. CHAIR: That would be good. Have other countries responded to this report? Ms Lawson: I'm not sure. CHAIR: Could you look at that for me, please? I understand they have. I understand also that they have accepted the report. But I will await Australia's response.</p>	Hansard	49-50
16	Abetz	UN Economic and Social Council	<p>CHAIR: I want to go to Israel. I assume that nobody seeks to defend the UN lunacy that saw a vote of 40 to two that Israel is the only nation that violates women's rights? Is it true that that vote occurred with the support of countries such as Saudi Arabia, Iran, Pakistan and Yemen? Dr Lee: Thank you for that quote. I will just have to take that particular date. CHAIR: It's 23 July. Dr Lee: I will take it on notice. CHAIR: In 2019. The UN's 54-nation Economic and Social Council voted 40 to two, with nine abstentions, to single out Israel as the only state in the world branded as a violator of women's rights. Countries like Saudi Arabia and others, and Pakistan, voted. What do we say to these bodies in the United Nations? Dr Lee: As you know, we've been very strong advocates for Israel. We're very strong advocates against an anti-Israeli bias. We take that forward in a range of UN organisations where they come up. We've pursued that very strongly in the UN Human Rights Council where it has been a feature of our membership under item 7, of course. We voted against the resolutions there. It is similar within the General Assembly. I don't doubt what you've said there, but I don't have the specifics of that particular resolution. CHAIR: Take it on notice. Dr Lee: I will confirm that one and reaffirm our commitment to pushing back an anti-Israeli bias.</p>	Hansard	50
17	Abetz	International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance	<p>CHAIR: I understand that we joined the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance in June this year. Senator Payne: We did. CHAIR: Take on notice what actions the government is intending to take to promote holocaust remembrance in Australia. Do we intend to adopt the IHRA definition of anti-Semitism? Just take that on notice. Dr Lee: Okay.</p>	Hansard	51
18	Wong	South China Sea	<p>Senator WONG: Did Australia share any of Vietnam's concerns about the activities within Vietnam's EEZ? Mr Green: Australia has had concerns about the incident. We are certainly concerned at reports of disruptive activities in relation to longstanding oil and gas projects in the South China Sea. As we customarily do, we are encouraging all parties to exercise restraint and refrain from actions that</p>	Hansard	53

			<p>are provocative, destabilising or potentially dangerous.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Have any representations been made to China about any of these activities?</p> <p>Mr Green: I would have to check.</p>		
19	Wong	Pacific Labour Scheme	<p>Senator GREEN: Thank you. I want to confirm that that was based on an initial assumed intake of around 2,000 participants. Isn't it clear that the scheme has fallen a great deal short of its expected intake in 2018-19?</p> <p>Ms Klugman: No; I wouldn't say that at all. The start-up phase and the first phase of the Pacific Labour Scheme have grown very well and in line with our expectations. As the minister said, the 2,000 wasn't a target. Neither was it a cap. It was the maximum projected expectation for the purposes of MYEFO. The growth of PLS has been very steady in its first year. You would appreciate that we're talking about Pacific citizens coming into Australia. There's a lot of due diligence that needs to be done to make sure that the circumstances they are coming into are appropriate, that employers are ready to receive the workers and, for the sending states—we now have 10 arrangements in place with all of the countries we'd like to open Pacific Labour Scheme to—we have arrangements in place with those governments. We have done that in a way that is based on real, solid, careful consultation with those governments to make sure that the memorandum of understanding in the domestic arrangements in the sending countries balances the various factors that those governments want to balance when they look at taking up the opportunities of Pacific labour. The scheme itself has grown faster in this phase than the Seasonal Workers Program, for example. But it is, as you might imagine, a more complex and a more ambitious scheme than the Seasonal Workers Program, given that it is for employment in semiskilled as well as unskilled areas.</p> <p>Senator GREEN: I understand that.</p> <p>Ms Klugman: It is based on strong local labour market testing. It's for longer periods of time than the Seasonal Workers Program, which is, as its name suggests, seasonal.</p> <p>Senator WONG: I want to ask a follow-up to that answer. At the outset of that very comprehensive answer, you referred to expectations. What are those expectations? Are you able to provide Senator Green and the committee with your projected expected numbers under this program?</p> <p>Ms Klugman: I can certainly take that on notice.</p>	Hansard	65
20	Wong	Australian Climate Change Policy	<p>Senator WONG: That was your punchline. Since the PIF, have Pacific countries continued to raise concerns with Australian diplomats, missions or here in Canberra about the Australian government's stance on climate change?</p> <p>Ms Klugman: I am just trying to answer your question accurately. I can't think of any further instances of that taking place. It might help if I quote a statement from Prime Minister Bainimarama to his own parliament, Fiji's parliament, where he said—</p> <p>Senator WONG: We could get into a lot of Bainimarama quotes.</p> <p>Ms Klugman: Quotations.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Yes. Some of them would serve my argument very well and some may well serve yours. But what I am trying to understand is the extent to which there has been diplomatic communications about our position on climate change between the PIF and now. Senator Payne: For detail, we can take that on notice. I can respond by saying that I have been in a number of engagements since the holding of the Pacific Islands Forum. I may not get my calendar in completely the right order. They would include with Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea, Samoa and Fiji. In those bilateral engagements, we have discussed the broad bilateral relationship and not discussed the sorts of matters you are referring to.</p>	Hansard	73
21	Fierravanti-Wells	Pacific Debt Level	<p>CHAIR: I have one last question. What is the known debt level in the Pacific now? About two years ago, it was about \$5.5 billion. How much is it now?</p> <p>Ms Klugman: I don't have the accumulated number, but I will get it for you.</p> <p>CHAIR: Can you take that on notice?</p> <p>Ms Klugman: Certainly will.</p>	Hansard	81
22	Wong	ODA level	<p>Senator WONG: Secretary, when was the last time Australian ODA, as a share of GNI, was as low as those figures?</p> <p>Ms Adamson: I think it would be quite some time ago. I have all the previous figures in front of me. I will see if I can check them. I imagine that Mr Venugopal will have them.</p> <p>Mr Venugopal: I do. I have them on a table here going back to 1984-85. I think this is the lowest.</p> <p>Senator WONG: I think your evidence is that it is the lowest that you can ascertain with records going back to 1984. Is that correct?</p> <p>Mr Venugopal: That's correct. That is all I have.</p> <p>Senator WONG: The analysis by the ANU—it's not mine—says that, in fact, this is the lowest level as a share of GNI since the government began publishing data in 1961. That is the Development Policy Centre at the ANU. I presume you will need to take it on notice, Secretary and/or Minister.</p>	Hansard	83

			<p>I'm putting to you that our official development assistance is at the lowest level on record.</p> <p>Ms Adamson: We will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Thank you. Therefore, Australian ODA is lower as a share of national income than under Menzies, Holt, Gorton, McMahon, Fraser and Howard. You are taking that on notice too, Secretary?</p> <p>Ms Adamson: Well, the two are linked.</p> <p>Senator WONG: I know that.</p> <p>Ms Adamson: That is correct. The second bit is correct.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Correct.</p>		
23	Wong	Non-Grant Instrument Studies	<p>Senator WONG: Other than the budgetary impact, is there any evidence that you can point me to that shows that non-grant instruments are more effective in promoting development as compared to grant instruments? You have a diminishing ODA budget at a time where the demands, particularly for infrastructure in the region, are increasing for various reasons. I understand the logic behind trying to get more bang for buck, as it were. Is there any policy evidence that shows that there is any change or any difference in terms of development outcomes as between grants in ODA and debt or financial instruments of the sort we're describing?</p> <p>Ms Goulding: Yes, there is a body of evidence available that talks to the effectiveness of that form of finance. Obviously, it's been well established with the multinational institutions that I spoke of before. It relates in particular to the nature of the problem, if you like, that you're trying to solve. One example I can give you is a partnership that the department entered into with the former United States Development Credit Authority. It was a way to try and deal with the access to finance and capital gap that exists with women-led small and medium enterprises in South-East Asia. It was an initiative of the United States Development Credit Authority. Australia provided some co-financing. It was able to leverage in its first bond issue a total, I believe, of \$US8 million of capital to invest in the companies that were part of the bond. It has now issued a second bond and is seeking to raise \$US100 million to invest in those companies that will provide goods and services that benefit and promote gender equality.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Are you able on notice perhaps to provide us with some reference to some of the studies—I think you referenced a couple of them—or any others that demonstrate or go to the point of development policy impact as opposed to an outcomes impact as opposed to 'We've got to stretch the money further?'</p> <p>Ms Goulding: Absolutely.</p>	Hansard	87-88
24	Wong	Australia's global broadcasting presence	<p>Senator WONG: Do you know how our broadcasting presence in the Pacific region compares with that of other countries?</p> <p>Senator Payne: I'm happy to provide you with a detailed response to that on notice.</p>	Hansard	89
25	Wong	WTO Reform	<p>Senator WONG: Minister Birmingham gave a speech—in August I think—where he talked about updating the WTO rule book. You've given me two examples. Are you able to give me any further examples of our efforts to update the rule book and what reforms of the WTO we have been pursuing, and are these publicly documented anywhere? Can I plead with you, because it's been a long day.</p> <p>Mr Mina: I'll try and be brief.</p> <p>Senator WONG: We can have lots of words and then I'll have to ask the question again and again.</p> <p>Mr Mina: I'll try and be brief. The major areas of focus for WTO reform are dispute settlement, rule making and transparency, and, yes, Australia has tabled proposals in each of these areas and has been active in each of these areas.</p> <p>Senator WONG: Are they public?</p> <p>Mr Mina: Many of our positions are public, yes, and our negotiating proposals are public. I can table any of those—</p> <p>Senator WONG: Could you, on notice, provide me with, for the three examples you've indicated, the documents that demonstrate that?</p> <p>Mr Mina: I can do that.</p>	Hansard	93
26	Wong	Prime Minister's Chicago Speech	<p>Senator WONG: The minister in his speech that I've already referenced on 2 August talked about Australia and the PM acknowledging perceptions the WTO arrangements for developing countries have not kept pace with Chinese economic growth and weight in the world economy. Then in the Chicago speech the following month, the Prime Minister, Mr Morrison, said that China should be recognised as a 'newly developed economy'. I just want to understand when that phrase entered the lexicon for Australia. First, Minister—not that I look at everything you have said—I don't think that is a phrase you have used prior to the Prime Minister using it. Is that correct?</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: I don't think it's a phrase or a formulation of words that I have used in my speeches to date, no.</p>	Hansard	96

			<p>Senator Birmingham: Minister, when did you first become aware that the Prime Minister was taking this approach in this speech of 23 September? Did you see a draft beforehand?</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: I was aware beforehand. I would have to take on notice and check.</p>		
27	Ayres	Migrant Workers Taskforce Recommendations	<p>Senator AYRES: Could I just ask you some questions about working holiday visa holders. The letter gives a commitment to implement the recommendation to the Migrant Workers Taskforce, including bringing forward legislation—of course, those matters aren't within your portfolio; they're with Minister Porter. I assume you had engagement and discussion and agreement with Minister Porter on the implementation of the task force's recommendations prior to writing to Ms King. Is that correct?</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: Minister Porter, Minister Coleman and I had discussions about all of those relevant matters.</p> <p>Senator AYRES: I'm happy for you to take this on notice. Has Minister Porter given an indication to you of which recommendations require legislation and the time frame for drafting necessary legislation?</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: We'll have to take that on notice. There is a discussion paper in relation to, particularly, penalty strengthening that is in the public arena at present, and it's anticipated that that will lead to legislation in that regard. But, in terms of the 22 recommendations, we will take question that on notice and seek a response from the other agencies.</p> <p>Senator AYRES: Can I give you a couple of questions that you might take the same approach to?</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: Sure.</p> <p>Senator AYRES: Can you also come back to me about which of the task force recommendations can be implemented without the need for legislation, as well as the expected time frame of both legislation and the recommendations that don't require legislation? Senator Birmingham: Sure. In other circumstances, I might say that you should put those on notice to Attorney-General's and Workplace Relations directly, but, in the spirit of goodwill on this issue, we'll happily take them on notice and process them through.</p> <p>Senator AYRES: I appreciate that. There are other portfolios other than Industrial Relations that the recommendations fall under—Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business, for example. Have you had any engagement with any of those ministers?</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: Office to office, there has been some engagement around the margins of some of the issues that were discussed. The direct discussions were obviously with the Attorney-General and the minister for immigration, because that's where the commitments particularly related. Of course, the commitments made ultimately have whole-of-government sign-off from the PM as well.</p> <p>Senator AYRES: If you could come back to me with an outline of all of that, that would be helpful. There's a curious phrase in the letter. It talks about 'the worst forms of exploitation'. I don't want to put words in your mouth, but I assume that that really sits in the context of the kind of exploitation that's set out in the migrant workers report?</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: That report obviously is a baseline, for want of a better word, in terms of the types of reforms that are being undertaken.</p>	Hansard	112-113
28	Ayres	Uruguay Investment Treaty	<p>Senator AYRES: I have just—you'll be pleased to learn—one more set of questions. Can you come back to me on notice on the following questions on the Uruguay agreement that's coming to us. How many officers have been engaged in the negotiations? What is the breakdown of travel and travel costs, including accommodation costs, ancillary costs, staff costs and legal costs associated with negotiating that agreement?</p> <p>Mr Mina: We can very much come back to you with the detail. I will, however, note that, in the case of the Uruguay round—</p> <p>Senator AYRES: Uruguay round—</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: I hope it didn't take that long to negotiate!</p> <p>Mr Mina: It wasn't quite that long!</p> <p>Senator AYRES: I reckon you'll be doing better than Rockpool and their wages books to go back that far in— Mr Mina: In the case of the Uruguay investment treaty, there were two officers working very much as part of other duties that they had underway in our trade law branch. Much of that negotiation was able to be conducted remotely, and at least some of the negotiations were done through video conferencing. So part of the reason for that related to the individuals concerned, who had strong links. One of the officers involved was, in fact, our former ambassador to Uruguay. He ended up becoming the negotiator for this investment treaty reform project. So we were able to run efficiencies in that way. But should you wish for any further detail, we would be very happy to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator AYRES: I would like a breakdown, and I'll take into those things into account. I'm sure it's an important country to Australia. We do have a very small trade volume with Uruguay. I did wonder how many resources the department and the government have put into the negotiation of that agreement, but I'll—</p> <p>Mr Mina: One of the reasons, of course, we started with Uruguay was the closeness of the relationship, but also the fact of the readiness of both sides to look at introducing these new modern procedural safeguards into the investment treaty. It was a bit of an innovation for us—as it was for</p>	Hansard	114-115

			the Uruguayan government—to go in that direction, and it's proven very successful. Senator AYRES: Thank you. That's all I have.		
29	Fawcett	FTAs (Indonesia, Hong Kong, Peru)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · I understand that Australia is in the process of ratifying the free trade agreements with Indonesia, Hong Kong and Peru, what are the benefits of these agreements to the dairy industry? · Does the Hong Kong FTA guarantee zero tariffs on citrus products, and are there any additional benefits under the other agreements with Indonesia and Peru for citrus exporters and citrus producers? Also what are the benefits of these agreements to the grains industry? 	Written	N/A
30	Kitching	Caretaker Period Preparations	<p>In relation to the departmental email address set up by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade for use by Senator Wong in the event of a change of Government at the 18 May 2019 election:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) When and how did the Minister first become aware of the matter? 2) When and how did the Minister's Office first become aware of the matter? 3) Did the Minister discuss the matter with any officials of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If yes, please list the date, time and person with whom the Minister discussed the matter for each occasion the matter was discussed. 4) Did the Minister discuss the matter with any of her staff? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If yes, please list the date, time and job title of the staff member with whom the Minister discussed the matter for each occasion the matter was discussed. 5) Did the Minister's Office discuss the matter with any officials of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If yes, please list the date, time and persons involved in discussions for each occasion the matter was discussed. 6) When and how did the Minister first become aware of media interest in the matter? 7) When and how did the Minister's Office first become aware of media interest in the matter? 8) Did the Minister or her office raise any concerns directly with or seek any clarification from Senator Wong or Senator Wong's office in relation to this matter? 9) Did the Minister or her office receive any related correspondence from Senator Wong's office? 10) Did the Minister discuss the matter with Senator Stoker or her office in advance of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade appearing before the Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee at Supplementary Budget Estimates hearings on Thursday 24 October 2019? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If yes, please list the date and time for each occasion on which the matter was discussed. 11) Did the Minister's Office discuss the matter with Senator Stoker or her office in advance of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade appearing before the Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee at Supplementary Budget Estimates hearings on Thursday 24 October 2019? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If yes, please list the date, time and job title of the staff member with whom the matter was discussed with Senator Stoker for each occasion on which the matter was discussed. 12) Did the Minister or her Office provide any documents to Senator Stoker in relation to the matter? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If yes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. When were documents provided to Senator Stoker? ii. Please provide a copy of all documents provided to Senator Stoker. 	Written	N/A
31	Kitching	Contact with former Foreign Minister Ms Bishop	<p>In relation to advice from the former Minister for Foreign Affairs, Julie Bishop, about the conduct of Australia's foreign affairs:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Has the Minister or her office discussed Australia's foreign affairs with Ms Bishop since she ceased to hold that portfolio? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If yes, for each occasion please advise – <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. on what dates the discussion took place; ii. with whom the discussions took place. 2) Has the Minister or her office sought advice from her department about the role Ms Bishop could play in Australia's foreign affairs? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If yes, for each occasion please advise – <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. on what dates was the advice was sought; ii. from whom was the advice was sought; iii. at whose request the advice was sought; 	Written	N/A

			<p>3) Has any official from departments or agencies reporting to the Minister discussed Australia's foreign affairs with Ms Bishop since she ceased to hold that portfolio?</p> <p>a. If yes, for each occasion please advise –</p> <p>i. on what dates the discussion took place;</p> <p>ii. with whom the discussions took place.</p>		
32	Kitching	Contact with former Foreign Minister Ms Bishop	<p>In relation to the article entitled 'Julie gives juggling advice' published in the West Australian on 18 September 2019:</p> <p>1) Was the Minister's office contacted in relation to the advice provided by the former Minister for Foreign Affairs, Ms Bishop?</p> <p>a. If yes, by whom, on what date, and at what time was the Minister's office contacted?</p> <p>2) Did the former Minister for Foreign Affairs, Ms Bishop, contact the Minister or her office before providing the advice?</p> <p>a. If yes, when, how and to whom was contact made?</p> <p>3) Was comment sought from the Minister or her office by the West Australian?</p> <p>a. If yes:</p> <p>i. When was comment sought?</p> <p>ii. Was comment provided?</p> <p>1. If not, why not?</p>	Written	N/A
33	Kitching	Contact with former Foreign Minister Ms Bishop	<p>In relation to the article entitled 'Bishop offers to help free Aussies in Iran' published in the Australian on 16 September 2019:</p> <p>1) Was the Minister's office contacted in relation to the offer of assistance provided by the former Minister for Foreign Affairs, Ms Bishop?</p> <p>a. If yes, by whom, on what date, and at what time was the Minister's office contacted?</p> <p>2) Did the former Minister for Foreign Affairs, Ms Bishop, contact the Minister or her office before providing the offer of assistance?</p> <p>a. If yes, when, how and to whom was contact made?</p> <p>3) Was comment sought from the Minister or her office by the Australian?</p> <p>a. If yes:</p> <p>i. When was comment sought?</p> <p>ii. Was comment provided?</p> <p>1. If not, why not?</p>	Written	N/A
34	Kitching	Executive Management	<p>1. In relation to executive management for the Department and its agencies, can the following be provided for FY 2018-19 and 2019-20 to date:</p> <p>a. The total number of executive management positions</p> <p>b. The aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions.</p> <p>c. The change in the number of executive manager positions.</p> <p>d. The change in aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions.</p>	Written	N/A
35	Kitching	Ministerial Functions	<p>1. In relation to any functions or official receptions hosted by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio since 1 July 2018, can the following be provided:</p> <p>a. List of functions.</p> <p>b. List of all attendees.</p> <p>c. Function venue.</p> <p>d. Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive).</p> <p>e. Details of any food served.</p> <p>f. Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage.</p> <p>g. Any available photographs of the function.</p> <p>h. Details of any entertainment provided.</p>	Written	N/A
36	Kitching	Departmental Functions	<p>1. In relation to expenditure on any functions or official receptions etc hosted by the Department or agencies within the portfolio since 1 July 2018, can the following be provided:</p> <p>a. List of functions.</p> <p>b. List of all attendees.</p> <p>c. Function venue.</p>	Written	N/A

			<p>d. Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive).</p> <p>e. Details of any food served.</p> <p>f. Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage.</p> <p>g. Any available photographs of the function.</p> <p>h. Details of any entertainment provided.</p>		
37	Kitching	Facilities Upgrades	1. Have any furniture, fixtures or fittings of the Secretary's office, or the offices of any Deputy Secretaries been upgraded since 1 July 2018. If so, can an itemised list of costs please be provided (GST inclusive).	Written	N/A
38	Kitching	Facilities Upgrades	<p>1. Were there any upgrades to facility premises at any of the Departments or agencies since 1 July 2018. This includes but is not limited to: staff room refurbishments, kitchen refurbishments, bathroom refurbishments, the purchase of any new fridges, coffee machines, or other kitchen equipment.</p> <p>2. If so, can a detailed description of the relevant facilities upgrades be provided together with an itemised list of costs (GST inclusive).</p> <p>3. If so, can any photographs of the upgraded facilities be provided.</p>	Written	N/A
39	Kitching	Staff Travel	1. What is the total cost of staff travel for departmental/agency employees for FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 to date.	Written	N/A
40	Kitching	Legal Costs	1. What are the total legal costs for the Department/agency for FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 to date.	Written	N/A
41	Kitching	Travel by the Secretary	<p>1. Can an itemised list of the costs of all domestic and international travel undertaken by the Secretary of the Department since 1 July 2018 be provided including:</p> <p>a. Flights for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the airline and class of travel.</p> <p>b. Ground transport for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials.</p> <p>c. Accommodation for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the hotels the party stayed at and the room category in which the party stayed.</p> <p>d. Meals and other incidentals for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials. Any available menus, receipts for meals at restaurants and the like should also be provided.</p> <p>e. Any available photographs documenting the Secretary's travel should also be provided.</p>	Written	N/A
42	Kitching	FOI Requests	<p>1. Please list the number of Freedom of Information Act requests ('FOI requests') received by the Department for the following years:</p> <p>a. 2013-14;</p> <p>b. 2014-15;</p> <p>c. 2015-16;</p> <p>d. 2016-17;</p> <p>e. 2018-19; and</p> <p>f. 2019-20 to date.</p> <p>2. For each year above, please provide:</p> <p>a. The number of FOI requests the Department granted in full;</p> <p>b. The number of FOI requests the Department granted in part;</p> <p>c. The number of FOI requests the Department refused in full; and</p> <p>d. The number of FOI requests the Department refused for practical reasons under the Freedom of Information Act.</p> <p>3. For each year above, please also provide:</p> <p>a. The number of times the Department failed to make any decision on a FOI request within the 30 day statutory period; and</p> <p>b. The number of times a request to the Department resulted in a practical refusal (i.e. no decision was made on the request).</p> <p>4. For each year above, please also provide:</p> <p>a. The number of times the Department's FOI decisions have been appealed to the OAIC; and</p> <p>b. The number of times has the OAIC overturned – in whole or in part – the Department's decision to refuse access to material.</p>	Written	N/A

			<p>5. Please provide the staffing (both ASL and headcount) of staff at the Department who work exclusively on FOI requests, broken down by APS level (e.g. three EL1s, four APS6s, one SES) for each of the following years:</p> <p>a. 2013-14; b. 2014-15; c. 2015-16; d. 2016-17; e. 2018-19; and f. 2019-20 to date.</p> <p>6. For each of the years above, please also list the number of officers who are designated decision makers under the Freedom of Information Act 1982 within the Department.</p> <p>7. In the past 12 months, has the Department seconded additional resources to processing Freedom of Information requests? If so, please detail those resources by APS level.</p> <p>8. Please provide the number of officers who are currently designated decision makers under the Freedom of Information Act 1982 within the Minister's office.</p> <p>9. Please provide the number of FOI requests currently under consideration by the Department. Please also provide the number of these requests that are currently overdue in response.</p> <p>10. Does the department consult or inform the Minister when it receives Freedom of Information requests? If so:</p> <p>a. How many times has this occurred in the past twelve months; and b. Please outline the process by which the Department consults the Minister.</p> <p>11. Has the Department consulted or informed another Department or agency about any FOI request in the past twelve months. If so, please provide the legal basis on which that consultation occurred (e.g. third party consultation, transfer of request).</p>		
43	Kitching	Briefings to Members of Parliament	<p>1. Has the Department/agency or the Minister's office provided briefings to independents/minor parties in the Senate or House of Representatives. If so, can the following be provided:</p> <p>a. The subject matter of the briefing. b. The location and date of the briefing. c. Who proposed the briefing. d. Attendees of the briefing by level/position.</p>	Written	N/A
44	Kitching	Acting Minister Arrangements	<p>1. Can the Department provide all leave periods of the portfolio Minister from 24 August 2018 to date. 2. Can the Department further provide acting Minister arrangements for each leave period.</p>	Written	N/A
45	Kitching	Staff Allowances	<p>1. Can a list of Departmental/agency allowances and reimbursements available to employees be provided.</p>	Written	N/A
46	Kitching	Market Research	<p>Market research</p> <p>1. Does the Department/agency undertake any polling or market research in relation to government policies or proposed policies. 2. If so, can the Department provide an itemised list of:</p> <p>a. Subject matter b. Company c. Costs d. Contract date period</p>	Written	N/A

			3. Can the Department/agency advise what, if any, research was shared with the Minister or their office and the date and format in which this occurred.		
47	Kitching	Advertising and Information Campaigns	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on advertising and information campaigns for FY 2018-19 and for the current financial year to date. 2. What advertising and information campaigns did the Department/agency run in each relevant period. For each campaign, please provide: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. When approval was first sought. b. The date of approval, including whether the advertising went through the Independent Campaign Committee process. c. the timeline for each campaign, including any variation to the original proposed timeline. 3. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all advertising and information campaign contracts in each period be provided. 	Written	N/A
48	Kitching	Promotional Merchandise	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on promotional merchandise for FY 2018-19. 2. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all promotional merchandise contracts in that period please be provided. 3. Can photographs or samples of relevant promotional merchandise please be provided. 	Written	N/A
49	Kitching	Ministerial Travel	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can an itemised list of the costs met by the department or agency for all international travel undertaken by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio since 1 July 2018 please be provided including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Flights for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials, together with the airline and class of travel. b. Ground transport for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials. c. Accommodation for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the hotels the party stayed at and the room category in which the party stayed. d. Meals and other incidentals for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials. Any available menus, receipts for meals at restaurants and the like should also be provided. e. Any available photographs documenting the Minister's travel should also be provided. 	Written	N/A
50	Kitching	Social Media Influencers	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on social media influencers for FY 2018-19 and 2019-20 to date. 2. What advertising or information campaigns did the Department/agency use social media influencers to promote. 3. Can a copy of all relevant social media influencer posts please be provided. 4. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all relevant social media influencer contracts please be provided. 	Written	N/A
52	Kitching	Commissioned Reports and Reviews	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Since 24 August 2018, how many Reports or Reviews have been commissioned. Please provide details of each report including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Date commissioned. b. Date report handed to Government. c. Date of public release. d. Terms of Reference. e. Committee members and/or Reviewers. 2. How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost. 3. The background and credentials of the Review personnel. 4. The remuneration arrangements applicable to the Review personnel, including fees, disbursements and travel 5. The cost of any travel attached to the conduct of the Review. 6. How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level. 7. What is the current status of each report. When is the Government intending to respond to each report if it has not already done so. 	Written	N/A
53	Kitching	Board Appointments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide an update of portfolio boards, including board title, terms of appointment, tenure of appointment and members. 2. What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio 3. Please detail any board appointments made from 1 July 2018 to date. 4. What has been the total value of all Board Director fees and disbursements paid. 5. What is the value of all domestic travel by Board Directors. 6. What is the value of all international travel by Board Directors. 	Written	N/A

54	Kitching	Appointments	<p>1. How many times has the Department prepared a brief for statutory authorities, executive agencies, advisory boards, government business enterprises or any other Commonwealth body which includes a reference to a former Liberal or National member of parliament at a state, territory or federal level.</p> <p>2. For each brief prepared, can the Department advise:</p> <p>a. The former member.</p> <p>b. The board or entity.</p> <p>c. Whether the request originated from the Minister's office.</p> <p>d. Whether the appointment was made.</p>	Written	N/A
55	Kitching	Stationery	<p>1. How much has been spent on ministerial stationery requirements in FY 2019-19 and FY 2019-20 to date.</p>	Written	N/A
56	Kitching	Media Monitoring	<p>1. What is the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the each Minister's office for FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 to date.</p> <p>a. Which agency or agencies provided these services.</p> <p>b. Can an itemised list of Austender Contract notice numbers for any media monitoring contracts in each period please be provided</p> <p>c. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year FY 2019-20.</p> <p>2. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency for FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 to date.</p> <p>a. Which agency or agencies provided these services.</p> <p>b. Can an itemised list of Austender Contract Notice numbers for any media monitoring contracts in each period please be provided</p> <p>c. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year FY 2019-20.</p>	Written	N/A
57	Kitching	Communications Staff	<p>1. For all departments and agencies, please provide – in relation to all public relations, communications and media staff – the following:</p> <p>2. By Department or agency:</p> <p>a. How many ongoing staff, the classification, the type of work they undertake and their location.</p> <p>b. How many non-ongoing staff, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location.</p> <p>c. How many contractors, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location.</p> <p>d. How many are graphic designers.</p> <p>e. How many are media managers.</p> <p>f. How many organise events.</p> <p>3. Do any departments/agencies have independent media studios.</p> <p>a. If yes, why.</p> <p>b. When was it established.</p> <p>c. What is the set up cost.</p> <p>d. What is the ongoing cost.</p> <p>e. How many staff work there and what are their classifications.</p>	Written	N/A
58	Kitching	Department Staff in Ministerial offices	<p>1. Can the Department provide an update on the total number of departmental staff seconded to ministerial offices, including:</p> <p>a. Duration of secondment.</p> <p>b. APS level.</p> <p>2. Can the Department provide an update on the total number of DLOs/CLOs for ministerial offices including APS level.</p>	Written	N/A
59	Kitching	CCDA Payments	<p>1. How many claims have been received under the Compensation for Detriment caused by Defective Administration scheme (CDDA) by the Department for FY 2018-19?</p> <p>2. How many claims were:</p> <p>a. Accepted.</p> <p>b. Rejected.</p> <p>c. Under consideration.</p> <p>3. Of the accepted claims, can the Department provide:</p> <p>a. Details of the claim, subject to relevant privacy considerations</p>	Written	N/A

			b. The date payment was made c. The decision maker.		
60	Kitching	Congestion Busting	1. Can the Department/agency advise how it is “congestion busting” in relation to bureaucratic bottlenecks and regulatory bottlenecks. 2. Have any additional resources been allocated within the Department to achieve “congestion busting” within the department.	Written	N/A
61	Kitching	Recruitment	1. What amount has been expended by the department/agency on external recruitment or executive search services in FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 to date. 2. Which services were utilised. Can an itemised list be provided.	Written	N/A
62	Kitching	Staffing	1. How many full-time equivalent staff are engaged at 21 October 2019. How does this differ from the figures presented in Budget Paper 4 in the 2019-20 Budget. 2. How many of these positions are (a) on-going and (b) non-ongoing. 3. How many redundancies have occurred in FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 to date. How many were: a. voluntary b. involuntary. 4. How many of those redundancies occurred as a result of departmental restructuring. What is the total cost of those redundancies. 5. What was the total value in dollar terms of all termination payments paid to exiting staff. 6. How much overtime or equivalent has been paid to staff in FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 to date. 7. How many section 37 notices under the Public Service Act 1999 have been offered in FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 to date.	Written	N/A
63	Kitching	Comcare	1. For FY 2018-19 and FY2019-20 to date, can the Department advise whether it has been the subject of any investigations involving Comcare. If yes, please provide details of the circumstances and the status. 2. Can the Department advise the number of sanctions it has received from Comcare in the FY2019-20 to date.	Written	N/A
64	Kitching	Fair Work Commission	1. For FY 2018-19 and FY2019-20 to date, how many references have been made to the Fair Work Commission within the Department or agency.	Written	N/A
65	Kitching	Fair Work Ombudsman	1. For FY 2018-19 and FY2019-20 to date, how many references have been made to the Fair Work Ombudsman within the Department or agency.	Written	N/A
66	Kitching	Office of the Merit Protection Commissioner	1. For FY 2018-19 and FY2019-20 to date, how many references have been made to the Office of the Merit Protection Commissioner within the Department or agency.	Written	N/A
67	Kitching	Public Interest Disclosures	1. For FY 2018-19 and FY2019-20 to date, how many public interest disclosures have been received.	Written	N/A
68	Gallagher	External Consultants	1. In relation to the use of all external consultants in the Department or agencies within the portfolio, can the following be provided. a. For each of the last six financial years from 2013-14 to 2018-19, the total amount spent on external consultants, including: i. contracts tagged as a “consultancy”. ii. contracts not defined as a “consultancy”, but tagged as “business intelligence consulting services”, “information technology consultation services”, “management advisory services”, “management support services”, “organisational structure consultation”, “risk management consultation services” or “strategic planning consultation services” b. The total amount of full time equivalent hours (FTE’s) provided by external consultants in 2018-19. c. The total amount of variances granted to external consultant contracts (including those specified in 1(a)(i) above) in 2018-19. d. A breakdown by consultant, specifications and project completion for 2018-19.	Written	N/A
69	Gallagher	Information Technology Consultants	1. In relation to expenditure on information technology in the Department or agencies within the portfolio, can the following be provided. a. For each of the last six financial years from 2013-14 to 2018-19, the total amount spent on information technology consultation services b. The total amount of full time equivalent hours (FTE’s) provided by information technology consultation services in 2018-19. c. The total amount contracted to information technology consultation services in 2018-19. d. The total amount of variances granted to information technology consultation services contracts in 2018-19. e. A breakdown by consultant, specifications and project completion for 2018-19.	Written	N/A

70	Gallagher	External Contractors	<p>1. In relation to the use of all external contractors in the Department or agencies within the portfolio, can the following be provided:</p> <p>a. The total amount spent on all contracts for Management and Business Professionals and Administrative Services for each of the last six financial years from 2013-14 to 2018-19.</p> <p>b. The total amount spent on all contracts tagged as “Temporary Personnel Services” for each of the last six financial years from 2013-14 to 2018-19.</p> <p>c. The total number of external contractors employed in 2018-19.</p> <p>d. The aggregate total remuneration payable for all external contractors employed in 2018-19.</p> <p>e. The total number of FTE hours provided by external contractors in 2018-19.</p>	Written	N/A
71	Gallagher	External Contractors	<p>1. In relation to the use of external information technology contractors in the Department or agencies within the portfolio, can the following be provided:</p> <p>a. The total amount spent on external contractors for each of the last six financial years from 2013-14 to 2018-19.</p> <p>b. The total number of external contractors employed in 2018-19.</p> <p>c. The aggregate total remuneration payable for all external contractors employed in 2018-19.</p> <p>d. The total number of FTE hours provided by external contractors in 2018-19.</p>	Written	N/A
72	Gallagher	Grants	<p>1. Please provide, for all administered and discretionary grant programs administered by each department and agency within the portfolio:</p> <p>a. Name of the administered or discretionary grant program.</p> <p>b. The recipient of the grant.</p> <p>c. The ABN or ACN of the grant recipient.</p> <p>d. The charitable status of the grant recipient.</p> <p>e. Who authorised the grant payment.</p> <p>f. For each year of the budget and forward estimates:</p> <p>i. What is the total funding budgeted for the program;</p> <p>ii. How much funding has been contracted and allocated;</p> <p>iii. How much funding has been contracted but not allocated;</p> <p>iv. How much funding has been committed but not contracted;</p> <p>v. How much funding is uncommitted, uncontracted and unallocated.</p>	Written	N/A
73	Gallagher	Staff	<p>1. The total cost of all staff employed under the Public Service Act for each of the last six financial years from 2013/14 to 2018/19.</p>	Written	N/A
74	Wong	Official Development Assistance	<p>Provide a table showing, for each year from 2014-15 to 2022-23, total Australian Official Development Assistance by country, regional and global programs with a breakdown by the following investment priorities for each country, regional and global program: infrastructure, trade facilitation and international competitiveness; agriculture, fisheries and water; effective governance (policies, institutions and functioning economies); education; health; building resilience (humanitarian assistance, disaster risk reduction and social protection); and general development support. For the years 2014-15 to 2017-18 provide actual amounts. For the years 2018-19 to 2022-23 provide 2019-20 Budget estimates. Please include in the table Departmental expenditure by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and by other Departments.</p>	Written	N/A
75	Wong	Official Development Assistance	<p>Provide a table showing, for each year from 2014-15 to 2022-23, total Australian Official Development Assistance by country and region of benefit with a breakdown by the following investment priorities for each country and region of benefit: infrastructure, trade facilitation and international competitiveness; agriculture, fisheries and water; effective governance (policies, institutions and functioning economies); education; health; building resilience (humanitarian assistance, disaster risk reduction and social protection); and general development support. For the years 2014-15 to 2017-18 provide actual amounts. For the years 2018-19 to 2022-23, provide 2019-20 Budget estimates. Please include in the table core contributions to multilateral organisations and other ODA not attributable to countries or regions.</p>	Written	N/A
76	Wong	Official Development Assistance	<p>For each of the years from 2019-20 to 2022-23 what amount of Official Development Assistance is budgeted to be provided across the whole of government?</p>	Written	N/A
77	Wong	Official Development Assistance	<p>For each of the years from 2019-20 to 2022-23 what amount of Official Development Assistance (ODA) is budgeted to be provided by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and what amount is budgeted to be provided by each other Australian Government department or agency involved in providing ODA?</p>	Written	N/A

78	Wong	Official Development Assistance	<p>1) Why does Table 1 in the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFAT) publication Australian Aid Budget Summary 2019-20 show total Australian Official Development Assistance (ODA) of \$4,044 million in 2019-20, including amounts provided by other Departments, while table 2.1.1 of DFAT's 2019-20 Portfolio Budget Statements shows (on an accrual basis) total expenses for Program 1.2 (ODA) of \$3,411.1 million and total expenses for Program 1.3 (ODA – multilateral replenishments) of \$1,161.8 million in 2019-20 giving a total for the two DFAT-administered ODA programs of \$4,572.9 million in 2019-20?</p> <p>2) To the extent that the difference in the total amounts for 2019-20 is due to table 1 in the Australian Aid Budget Summary 2019-20 being in underlying cash rather than accrual terms, please provide a reconciliation including an explanation of which measures, programs or payments are recognised in 2019-20 on an accrual basis but not on an underlying cash basis and the relevant reasons for the different accounting treatment.</p>	Written	N/A
79	Wong	Pacific Islands – Maritime Boundaries	<p>Paragraph 26 of the 50TH Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) Communique commits Leaders to a collective effort to ensure PIF member countries' maritime zones cannot be challenged or reduced as a result of sea level rise.</p> <p>1) What concerns have PIF members raised about the impact of sea level rise on their maritime zones?</p> <p>2) What action will the Australian Government take to assist PIF members with these issues?</p> <p>3) Has the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade analysed maritime boundary and other international law issues associated with rising sea levels?</p> <p>4) What are the maritime boundary and other international law issues which the Department considers may be associated with rising sea levels?</p>	Written	N/A
80	Wong	Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific	<p>Paragraph 33 of the Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific (AIFFP) Design Document published by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade states: "It is likely AIFFP will finance some projects with higher risks and lower returns than those supported by the Multilateral Development Banks."</p> <p>Can the Department provide further information about the levels of risk and return that the AIFFP is likely to incur and the reasons for financing projects with higher risks and/or lower returns than those supported by Multilateral Development Banks?</p>	Written	N/A
81	Wong	Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific	<p>Paragraph 38 of the Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific (AIFFP) Design Document published by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade says the AIFFP will support Australia's efforts as part of the Trilateral Partnership for Infrastructure Investment in the Indo-Pacific, primarily via the PNG Electrification Partnership that was announced in the margins of APEC 2018.</p> <p>1) Does this mean that some or all of the Australian Government's announced support for the PNG Electrification Project will come from within the AIFFP's \$2 billion funding envelope?</p> <p>2) How much is the PNG Electrification Project expected to cost?</p> <p>3) What is Australia's expected contribution?</p>	Written	N/A
82	Wong	Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific	<p>1) Is it correct to interpret paragraph 57 of the Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific (AIFFP) Design Document published by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade as meaning that the legislative authority to make AIFFP loans will come from the Export Finance and Insurance Corporation's powers while the authority to make AIFFP grants will come from an amendment to the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997?</p> <p>2) If so, how will the Department ensure that these mixed sources of legislative authority, and the need to rely on the Export Finance and Insurance Corporation's powers for the AIFFP to make loans, do not give rise to governance problems?</p>	Written	N/A
83	Wong	Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific	<p>Paragraph 58 of the Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific (AIFFP) Design Document published by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade states: "The model proposed in this design enables AIFFP to be operational by 1 July 2019 with strong risk management and implementation systems in place. However, the model may evolve over time in response to Australian Government policy direction, including the potential establishment of standalone AIFFP legislation. Such legislation may result in a more streamlined governance process."</p> <p>1) Has any further consideration been given to standalone legislation?</p> <p>2) Is it the case that the 1 July 2019 start date for the AIFFP has resulted in less than optimal governance and administrative arrangements?</p>	Written	N/A
84	Wong	Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific	<p>Paragraph 76 of the Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific (AIFFP) Design Document published by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade refers to the AIFFP's investment mandate. Please provide the Committee with a copy of the AIFFP's investment mandate.</p>	Written	N/A
85	Wong	Australian	<p>With reference to the Australian Private Sector Mobilisation Climate Fund mentioned briefly in the joint media release of 13 August 2019 by the</p>	Written	N/A

		Private Sector Mobilisation Climate Fund	Prime Minister, the Foreign Minister and the Minister for International Development and the Pacific and also mentioned by the Foreign Minister during the Committee's supplementary estimates hearings on 24 October 2019: 1) What is the Australian Private Sector Mobilisation Climate Fund? 2) How will it mobilise private sector investments? 3) Who is designing this Fund? 4) What is the role of the Asian Development Bank in the Australian Private Sector Mobilisation Climate Fund? 5) How much funding will the Australian Government provide for this Fund? 6) Have the design and details of this measure been finalised? 7) When will the Fund commence operations?		
86	Wong	Pacific Labour Facility – Contract Value	With reference to evidence by Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) officials during the Committee's supplementary budget estimates hearings on 24 October 2019 that DFAT's contract with Palladium International Pty Ltd to manage the Pacific Labour Facility was valued at \$70 million, why does contract notice CN3562532 published on AusTender, as amended by contract notice CN3562532-A1, state that the contract value is \$77 million? 2) With reference to AusTender Contract Notices CN3562532 and CN3562532-A1, do these contract notices show that this contract was initially valued at \$55 million and that it was subsequently amended to a value of \$77 million? 3) Why did the contract value increase?	Written	N/A
87	Wong	Pacific Labour Facility – Publication of Contract Notice	1) With reference to AusTender Contract Notice CN3562532, why did the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade publish this contract notice on 22 December 2018, 81 days after the contract's start date? 2) Was this a breach of paragraph 7.18 of the Commonwealth Procurement Rules which require details of contracts to be published on AusTender within 42 days?	Written	N/A
88	Wong	Pacific Remittances	1) With reference to the statement at page 103 of the 2017 Foreign Policy White Paper that the Government was working with financial institutions to reduce further the cost of remittances to the Pacific, what steps has the Government taken to reduce remittance costs? 2) Have the costs of remittances from Australia to Pacific countries been further reduced? 3) What have been the typical costs for remittances from Australia to Pacific island countries in each year from 2014 to 2019?	Written	N/A
89	Wong	Pacific Diplomatic Presence	1) With reference to the Prime Minister's announcement on 8 November 2018 that Australia would ensure it had a diplomatic presence in every member country of the Pacific Islands Forum, in which countries has Australia opened new missions since this announcement? 2) What is the timeline for establishing Australia's diplomatic presence in each PIF member country? 3) How much funding has been provided for expanding Australia's diplomatic presence in the Pacific?	Written	N/A
90	Wong	Pacific Fusion Centre	With reference to the article "US plans in the Pacific islands could undermine Australia's efforts" published on the Australian Strategic Policy Institute's "The Strategist" blog on 12 June 2019, which states that the US administration is considering establishing "one or more open-source intelligence fusion centers to enhance cooperation with Pacific Island countries": 1) What information can the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade provide the Committee about this US proposal? 2) Has the Australian Government discussed this matter with the US administration? 3) Will there be duplication or overlap between the US and Australian-supported fusion centres?	Written	N/A
91	Wong	Official Development Assistance - Non-Grant Instruments	With reference to the statement on page 77 of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's Incoming Government Brief that "non-grant finance instruments such as loans, equity, guarantees ... can help increase the footprint of Australia's ODA with a smaller budgetary impact than grants": 1) Would assistance provided to Official Development Assistance (ODA)-eligible countries through loans, equity or guarantees fall within the OECD's current definition of ODA? 2) Can DFAT provide the Committee with further information about how the OECD's current definition of ODA treats the use of non-grant instruments such as loans, equity and guarantees?	Written	N/A
92	Wong	Aid Strategy	With reference to the 2014 Australian aid: promoting prosperity, reducing poverty, enhancing stability aid strategy document, and in light of the Minister's remarks during the Committee's supplementary estimates hearings on 24 October 2019 about the importance of ensuring strategies reflect contemporary circumstances and up-to-date data: 1) Does the Government have any plans to review Australia's aid strategy?	Written	N/A

			2) If not, why not, given that the five years since the 2014 strategy was adopted have seen Australia's aid funding cut to record lows, a significant shift in Australian Government policy towards the Pacific, changes in the international and regional environment, and a range of new initiatives and policy frameworks for international development globally?		
93	Wong	Gender Inclusive Aid	1) With reference to the finding of the 2017-18 Performance of Australian Aid report that Target 4, Empowering Women and Girls, was not achieved – What were the reasons for the under-performance against the target of ensuring that more than 80 per cent of aid investments address gender issues in their implementation? 2) Will the target be met in 2018-19?	Written	N/A
94	Wong	Disability Strategy	1) Will the Government renew the Development for All 2015-2020: Strategy for strengthening disability-inclusive development in Australia's aid program when it expires in 2020? 2) What steps are under way to develop a new strategy for disability-inclusive aid for the period beyond 2020? 3) Will the Government adopt stronger targets for disability-inclusive aid in any new disability strategy? 4) How will the Government ensure people with disabilities are partners in the development of any new strategy?	Written	N/A
95	Wong	Global Fund	1) What was the percentage increase on Australia's pledge for the 2017-2019 period? 2) What percentage increase did the Global Fund ask developed economies to make? 3) Did the Australian Government make a statement at the Global Fund replenishment conference in Lyon in October 2019? a. If yes, please provide the Committee with a copy of the statement. 4) Did the Minister for Foreign Affairs or the Minister for International Development and the Pacific issue a media release or statement announcing the Global Fund pledge? a. If no, did the Minister for Foreign Affairs decide not to issue a media release on the Government's contribution to a multilateral institution called the Global Fund because of the Prime Minister's recent political attacks on "negative globalism" and multilateral institutions?	Written	N/A
96	Wong	Australian Volunteers Program	1) Table 1 in the Orange Book (page 8) reveals that the Australian Volunteers Program has been cut by \$2.6 million for 19/20 – is that correct? 2) Has the Department determined where those cuts will come from within the Program? a. If yes, where? 3) In last couple of years the program has supported volunteers in 26 countries [according to the DFAT page] - will this cut result in a reduction in the number of countries? 4) How will that be determined?	Written	N/A
97	Wong	Global Gag Rule	1) Is the Department familiar with the US Administration's policy known as the 'Global Gag Rule'? Please briefly outline the policy. 2) At the Women Deliver conference in June, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said that: "We're seeing a pushback against women's rights, whether it is attacks on a woman's fundamental right to choose or violence against indigenous women and girls" – Does the Department agree with Prime Minister Trudeau's statement? 3) Does the Department assess there are any implications from the imposition of the Global Gag Rule? a. What does the Department consider the implications to be? 4) According to the 'Crisis in Care' report released on June 5 by the International Women's Health Coalition (IWHC): "the gag rule has led to a rise in unwanted pregnancies and unsafe abortions by cutting funding to organizations that provide sexual health services, including contraception and sexual education, and reducing access to safe abortions" and "In other cases, the rule has made health care less accessible by cutting assistance to organizations that provide a range of services, including HIV/AIDS testing and treatment, cancer screenings, and treatment for malaria" - Is the Department aware of these implications? a. Does it align with the Department's observations or assessments? 5) Is the Department aware of any organisations that Australia engages with or provides funding to, that have been impacted by the US Administration's imposition of the Global Gag Rule? 6) How much funding does Australia currently (19-20) provide to global sexual and reproductive health rights? a. Has this increased in light of the implications of the US policy?	Written	N/A
98	Wong	Solomon Islands	1) During the Prime Minister's visit to Honiara in June, he announced Australia would be establishing a 10-year bilateral infrastructure fund, worth up to \$250m, which would 'complement the Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific' - Is this additional funding? Or will it be	Written	N/A

		Infrastructure	<p>reprioritised from existing programs?</p> <p>a. If reprioritised from existing programs, which programs?</p> <p>2) Why was the decision made to create an additional bilateral fund rather than utilise the AIFFP?</p> <p>3) Does the funding for the 'Australian-Solomon Islands joint project to construct a border and patrol boat outpost in Solomon Islands' western provinces' – announced in Prime Minister's Press Release on 7 October – come from the new \$250 million infrastructure fund?</p> <p>a. If not, where is the funding coming from?</p>		
99	Wong	Cambodia ODA	<p>Cambodia</p> <p>1) What is the total Australian ODA Estimate for 2019-20?</p> <p>a. And of that, how much is bilateral aid?</p> <p>2) How does that compare to the Bilateral ODA Budget from the previous year?</p> <p>3) What projects or programs have been cut – or ceased to continue</p>	Written	N/A
100	Wong	Cambodia ODA	<p>According to the ANU's Development Policy Centre's Australian Aid Tracker, Australia's bilateral ODA to Cambodia has fallen from \$99m in 2014-15 to \$66m in 2019-20:</p> <p>1) Has the Cambodian Government raised any concerns about the cuts, or about the general diminution of Australia's presence?</p> <p>2) Have any of Australia's implementing partners raised any concerns about the cuts, or about the general diminution of Australia's presence, or other donor countries?</p> <p>3) How does the Department characterise Australia's level of access and influence in Cambodia now, and how does that compare to five years ago?</p>	Written	N/A
101	Wong	India	<p>1) What are Australia's priorities in the relationship with India over the next 12 months?</p> <p>2) Given there is often talk about opportunities to work together in the Indo-Pacific region, what are practical or concrete examples of that currently underway?</p>	Written	N/A
102	Wong	Quadrilateral Strategic Dialogue	<p>Noting the Quadrilateral Strategic Dialogue Partners (Australia, India, Japan, and the United States) met at Foreign Minister-level on the sidelines of UNGA in New York in September:</p> <p>1) What was the significance of that meeting?</p> <p>2) Were there any practical outcomes or initiatives to emerge from that meeting?</p> <p>3) Does the Department share the characterisation and objective of the Dialogue as made by US Secretary of State Pompeo in his 22 October 2019 speech at the Heritage Foundation in which he said: "We've reconvened 'the Quad' – the security talks between Japan, Australia, India and the United States that has been dormant for nine years. This will prove very important in the efforts ahead, ensuring that China retains only its proper place in the world"?</p>	Written	N/A
103	Wong	Afghanistan	<p>President Trump has stated his intention to withdraw American troops from Afghanistan. This was reportedly part of the negotiations that the US was undertaking with the Taliban to secure a political settlement.</p> <p>1) What is the Department's understanding of the current status of the negotiations with the Taliban to reach a political settlement?</p> <p>2) What is the Department's understanding of why President Trump [in a series of tweets on 7 Sept] called off the talks?</p> <p>3) Are there any indications of talks re-starting?</p> <p>4) What does the Department understand are the key issues or sticking points?</p> <p>5) If a political settlement is reached with the Taliban, how confident is the Department that some of the gains made in terms of women's rights will be protected?</p>	Written	N/A
104	Wong	Afghanistan	<p>1) Does the Department anticipate ongoing Australian engagement in Afghanistan?</p> <p>2) What is the nature of the Department's current engagement? (I.e. DFAT's role compared with Defence and other agencies)</p>	Written	N/A
105	Wong	Afghanistan	<p>According to the Afghanistan section of the Orange Book (pp 52-53) Australia's development cooperation supports activities focused on improving governance, women's education, reconstruction, community support etc. Does the Department assess that any Taliban-led civilian government would still be open to Australian assistance?</p>	Written	N/A
106	Wong	Afghanistan	<p>1) What is the Department's assessment of the current security situation in Afghanistan?</p> <p>2) What are the implications of a United States withdrawal for our role in Afghanistan?</p> <p>3) Have there been any discussions with the United States about Australia's involvement in the event of a US withdrawal?</p> <p>4) Have there been any discussions with our European partners?</p>	Written	N/A

			5) Has the United States made any specific requests for Australian support or involvement? a. If so, how would the Department characterise those requests – both in terms of formality and the scope of what is being sought?		
107	Wong	Saudi Arabia/Military Sales	In response to questioning in April (FADT Budget Estimates 19-20) about the last time the Department provided advice or input to Defence in relation to Saudi Arabia, which was provided on Notice (FADT Budget Estimates 19-20 QON#8), “DFAT last provided advice to Defence Export Controls (DEC) about an export to Saudi Arabia on 11 December 2018.”: 1) Has any advice or input in relation to Saudi Arabia been provided since then? 2) Does the Department play a proactive role in provide advice or assessments to the Defence Department, or is input usually only upon request from Defence for specific export applications? 3) Can the Department provide an explanation of how it conducts its assessments? 4) What would prompt or trigger a reassessment?	Written	N/A
108	Kitching	Southeast Asia Rubbish Deposits	The Philippines has threatened to cut diplomatic ties with Canada due to their exported waste. President Rodrigo Duterte has also accused Australia’s mislabelling of domestic waste as “offensive behaviour”. 1) Has the Philippines Government made any formal representations to the Australian Government in relation to the export of Australian waste? a. If yes: when, by whom and to whom were these representations made? 2) Have any nations in our region made representations to the Australian Government in relation to the export of Australian waste? a. If yes: When, by whom and to whom were these representations made? 3) Has the Australian Government given any undertakings to our neighbours in relation to the export of Australian waste? a. If yes: What is the nature of those undertakings? b. When, to whom, and by whom were these undertakings made? 4) We know that nations in our region regard climate change as an existential threat. How are Australian waste exports regarded in comparison to action on climate change? 5) Would the Department regard climate change or waste exports as a more pressing concern for our neighbours? 6) In New York on the 24th of September, the Prime Minister said: “We need to take action on climate change, but there are actually issues like plastics in our oceans which present even more immediate threats.” Does the Prime Minister’s statement reflect the views put to the Australian Government by our neighbours? a. If yes: Which nations have indicated waste exports are a greater threat than climate change? 7) At COAG in August, Scott Morrison agreed with state and territory leaders to establish a timeline to ban the export of plastic waste, paper, glass and tyres. Is this timeline consistent with undertakings made by the Australian Government to other nations? 8) How does the cancellation of the COAG meeting, and the failure to settle the national recycling agreement, impact on any undertakings given to other nations?	Written	N/A
109	Kitching	HOM/HOP Appointments	Governments of both persuasions have appointed senior politicians to diplomatic roles where they have the appropriate skills and experience to represent Australia in these roles. 1) Does the Department keep a record of how many former politicians are appointed to diplomatic posts? 2) Could you provide a list of all political appointments to diplomatic positions made since 2016?	Written	N/A
110	Kitching	HOM/HOP Appointments	Shortly before the election this year Tasmanian Senator David Bushby announced he was resigning from the senate and less than an hour later the Government announced his appointment as Consul-General in Chicago. When did the Department first prepare a brief on this appointment? 1) What was the selection process that led to then Senator Bushby’s selection? 2) How many other candidates were considered for the role? 3) What APS level is this appointment at? 4) Not asking about his personal salary, just the grade - is it equivalent to EL1, EL2 or is it treated as an SES appointment? 5) Is Mr Bushby now a member of the APS?	Written	N/A
111	Kitching	HOM/HOP Appointments	It has been reported that Ambassador Forsythe is a personal friend of the Foreign Minister. When was the Department first made aware of this potential conflict of interest? 1) How was this potential conflict managed? 2) Is it practice of the Morrison Government that Ministers can appoint personal friends to important government roles, representing our country	Written	N/A

			without disclosure of their interest in the matter? 3) When did DFAT first prepare a brief on this appointment? 4) What was the selection process that led to Ms Forsythe's selection? 5) How many other candidates were considered for the role?		
112	Kitching	HOM/HOP Appointments	Immediately following the election it was announced that Senator Sinodinos would be appointed as Ambassador to the United States. 1) When did the Department first prepare a brief on this appointment? 2) Unlike the appointment of former senator Bushby, Senator Sinodinos has continued in the Senate for several months after this announcement. When did the Department first seek advice from the Solicitor General, AGS, AGD or outside counsel on any constitutional or electoral law implications of the appointment? 3) Who else was considered for the role of Australian Ambassador to the United States?	Written	N/A
113	Kitching	HOM/HOP Appointments	1) When did the Department first prepare a brief on a diplomatic appointment for former Senator Fifield? 2) Did the Department ever prepare a brief on the suitability of Senator Fifield for appointment to any other diplomatic roles and if so, to what roles? 3) Was former Senator Fifield ever considered for the position of Consul-General in New York? 4) Were there any other highly qualified candidates who were considered for the role of Permanent Representative to the United Nations?	Written	N/A
114	Kitching	HOM/HOP Appointments	How many other former politicians are currently being considered for diplomatic appointments?	Written	N/A
115	Kitching	Julie Bishop and Palladium	Regarding the former Foreign Minister Ms Bishop's appointment to the Board of the Palladium Group: 1) When did the Department become aware that Ms Bishop was considering taking up a role with Palladium? 2) How many contracts does the Department currently have with the Palladium Group and its subsidiaries? a. What is the value of these contracts? 3) How many contracts and grants did the Department award to Palladium during Ms Bishop's time as Minister? 4) Has the Department adopted any policies to avoid perceived conflicts of interest or other probity issues when Palladium Group companies bid for contracts or apply for grants? 5) Has the Department sought any advice about the implications of the former Foreign Minister's role Palladium? 6) Has any consideration been given to probity and compliance issues around the Department's procurement processes given the size of Palladium's contracts and fact that the Department's former Minister is on the company's Board?	Written	N/A
116	Kitching	Rwandan Foreign Minister Visit	Regarding the visit to Australia by the Rwandan Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr Richard Sezibera earlier this year, the Department has confirmed in a Question on Notice that Minister Sezibera's visit was "treated as a private visit" and was not at the invitation of the Australian Government (Senate QoN 560). According to your answers to questions on notice, the Department became aware of the visit on 24 May when the Rwandan High Commission in Nairobi advised the Australian High Commission in Nairobi that Minister Sezibera was seeking to visit Australia. The Foreign Minister's Office became aware of the visit on 28 May. 1) Was the Minister notified? Or just her office? 2) Once aware of the visit, did the Minister, her office and/or the Department receive a copy of his itinerary or the activities to be undertaken on the trip? 3) Was the Department or the Minister aware that Dr Sezibera was planning to meet with Minister for the National Disability Scheme and Government Services the Hon Stuart Robert MP? 4) Did Minister Robert inform the Department or Minister Payne prior to his meeting with Dr Sezibera? 5) What was the purpose of the meeting? 6) Have any other Ministers met with Dr Sezibera? 7) Does the Department track which Cabinet Ministers meet with Foreign Ministers of other countries?	Written	N/A
117	Kitching	Rwandan Foreign Minister Visit	Regarding the visit to Australia by the Rwandan Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr Richard Sezibera earlier this year: The ABC [25 August 2019] published an investigative piece focused on Dr Sezibera's trip. It said: "His trip generated disquiet in the refugee community which led to the ABC uncovering allegations of a complex web of Rwandan spies living within the suburbs, creating a culture of fear among the refugees who had escaped that nation in pursuit of a safer life."	Written	N/A

			<p>1) Is the Department aware of these concerns and these allegations? a. If so, for how long has it been aware of this? 2) Did the Department or the Minister express any concerns about the visit to Stuart Robert?</p>		
118	Kitching	Department Tenders - Banquet and Catering Services	<p>1) In relation to a Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade tender published on AusTender for banquet and catering services which closed on 12 August 2019 – ATM ID is DFAT 247: The tender is for a panel of providers for banquet and catering services “to deliver high quality catering services appropriate for senior Australian and foreign dignitaries” – is that correct? 2) What is the outcome of the Tender – has a panel of providers been determined? a. If yes: Who is on the panel of providers? 3) What kind of events would this panel of providers be engaged to assist with? 4) What is the total budget for these services? 5) The tender description refers to senior Australian and foreign dignitaries. Who are the senior Australian dignitaries? 6) Why is the Department catering for senior Australian dignitaries? 7) Are there circumstances where the Department would cater for senior Australian dignitaries at an event where no foreign dignitaries are in attendance? a. If yes: What are these circumstances?</p>	Written	N/A
119	Sheldon	Civil Society Partners	<p>1) Can the Department provide a list of the names of all civil society organisations (including but not limited to NGOs, community groups, churches, faith based groups, and trade unions) that are in receipt of funding from the Department to deliver or assist in the delivery of development assistance or other programs: a. In the Pacific? b. In Southeast Asia? 2) Of these organisations, can the Department indicate which are faith-based or church groups and what faith they represent? 3) What processes are in place to ensure and assess that any services or programs delivered by religious partner organisations are done so in an inclusive way, with the relevant outcomes of the aid recipients – including health and education – as the guiding priority? 4) What are the programs of the Department which are conducted in partnership or otherwise with trade unions or organised labour in Southeast Asia and Pacific countries? 5) Are there any policies or directives in place that would prevent or in any way hinder the development and/or awarding of partnerships with trade unions or organised labour to deliver Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade work or programs? 6) Can the Department provide a list of the 57 Australian Organisations currently holding accreditation under the Australian NGO Cooperation Program?</p>	Written	N/A
120	Sheldon	China - Social Credit Scheme	<p>What preparations or analysis is the Department conducting in regards to the impacts that the roll out of the Chinese social credit system is having, or will potentially have: 1) On Australians travelling in or resident in China? 2) On Chinese citizens resident in Australia, including those here as students and tourists? 3) On Australian citizens and permanent residence with mainland Chinese heritage?</p>	Written	N/A
121	Sheldon	Pacific Labour Mobility	<p>1) What is the total value and timeframes of the contract or contracts held by Palladium to administer the Pacific Labour Facility? 2) What is the total value and time frames of the contract or contracts held by Palladium to administer the Pacific Labour Scheme? 3) What qualifications are held by the staff of the Pacific Labour Facility Welfare Unit? 4) What Pacific languages are spoken by those staff? 5) Other than consultation on the design of the Pacific Labour Facility program, what kind of regular involvement do Australian trade unions have - a. With Palladium? b. With the Pacific Labour Facility Welfare Unit? c. In directly supporting and advising workers who come to Australia under the Pacific Labour Facility? 6) Has the Department or Palladium staff, including in the Pacific Labour Facility Welfare unit, received any reports or complaints of underpayment or about concerns relating to working conditions from Pacific Labour Facility workers or others? a. If so, what was the nature of these reports?</p>	Written	N/A

			b. How have these reports been responded to by Palladium and/or the Department?		
122	Keneally	Migrant Workers Exploitation and Trafficking	<p>1) Does the Department consider there is exploitation, trafficking and slavery occurring in and to Australia?</p> <p>2) Does the Department accept the view that overseas organized crime and illegitimate labour-hire are using loopholes to traffic people to and in Australia?</p> <p>3) Does the Department agree with Assistant Minister Jason Wood who said in a Joint Standing Committee on Migration Report, that: "Organised crime and illegitimate labour-hire companies are using this loophole to bring out illegal workers who are often vulnerable and open to exploitation"?</p>	Written	N/A
123	Keneally	Migrant Workers Exploitation and Trafficking	<p>1) The Migrant Worker Taskforce Report states: "Migrant workers can be particularly vulnerable to slavery and exploitation by either those who facilitate their journey to Australia, or by employers once they arrive. Many suspected victims of trafficking and slavery have entered Australia on legitimate visas" – Is that an accurate statement and does the Department agree with that?</p> <p>2) The Migrant Worker Taskforce Report also states that the Taskforce: "...acknowledges the very grave matter of criminal labour exploitation in Australia, including human trafficking, slavery and slavery-like practices" – does the Department agree with that statement?</p> <p>a. If so, how large is how large is the issue in Australia?</p>	Written	N/A
124	Keneally	Migrant Workers Exploitation and Trafficking	<p>1) Does the Department agree that migrant workers and "airplane people" – people that travel to Australia legally by plane and subsequently claim asylum – are particularly vulnerable to slavery and exploitation?</p> <p>2) Is the Department concerned that almost 100,000 people have come to Australia by plane and claimed asylum over the last five year?</p> <p>3) Many "airplane people" come from Malaysia, is that an issue for our relationship?</p> <p>4) Why would so many people be coming from Malaysia?</p> <p>5) Did Australia's High Commissioner to Malaysia acknowledge concern about high numbers of Malaysians applying for asylum in Australia?</p> <p>6) Is the Malaysian Government concerned about this issue?</p>	Written	N/A
125	Keneally	Migrant Workers Exploitation and Trafficking	<p>Regarding the US State Department 'Trafficking in Persons Report 2019':</p> <p>1) Does the Department provide information for the Report?</p> <p>2) Who coordinates and provides that detail regarding Australia's profile?</p> <p>3) Does the Department work closely with Home Affairs on that detail?</p> <p>4) Does the Department agree with the following statement in the report: "Although the government meets the minimum standards, it did not convict any traffickers, initiated fewer prosecutions, did not adequately screen for indicators of trafficking among vulnerable groups, and limited some victims' access to services based on their participation in law enforcement investigations"?</p> <p>a. Is it concerning to the Department that Australia did not adequately screen, initiated fewer prosecutions and limited some victims' access to services?</p> <p>b. Is it Home Affairs that initiates prosecutions?</p> <p>c. Which Department was limiting access for victims?</p> <p>5) The Report also states: "The government decreased law enforcement efforts." From the Department's perspective, what rationale is there for the Government decrease efforts?</p>	Written	N/A
126	Di Natale	Cambodia	<p>1. Some in the Cambodian community in Australia are concerned about the actions of the Cambodian Ambassador allegedly abusing his mission by engaging in political recruitment. Has the Government taken any action regarding these concerns?</p>	Written	N/A
127	Di Natale	Turkey/Syria	<p>1. What is the Government's view of President Trump's recent decision to withdraw US forces from Northeast Syria?</p> <p>2. Has the Government conveyed these views to the US Administration? If so, at what level?</p> <p>3. Please detail the representations the Government has made to the Turkish Government regarding Turkey's invasion of Syria.</p> <p>4. Is the Government aware that the Chairs of the Foreign Affairs Committees of Germany, France, the UK, the European Parliament and the US House of Representatives have referred to Turkey's military action as a violation of international law?</p> <p>a. Does the Australian Government agree with that assessment?</p> <p>5. How does the Department define ethnic cleansing?</p> <p>6. Turkish President Erdogan has indicated that his objective in Syria is to expel the Kurdish population and replace them with millions of non-Kurdish refugees from elsewhere in Syria. Does the Department agree that Turkey's actions could constitute ethnic cleansing?</p>	Written	N/A

			<p>7. No doubt the Department is aware of the execution of Kurdish politician and leader Hevrin Khalaf, who was pulled from her vehicle and executed by Turkish-backed fighters on 12 October. Does the Department think this type of action could constitute a war crime?</p> <p>8. Is the Government aware of other alleged atrocities committed by Turkey or forces aligned with Turkey that could constitute war crimes?</p>		
128	Di Natale	Armenia/Azerbaijan	<p>1. When was the last time someone from DFAT last visited Artsakh (also known as Nagorno Karabakh)?</p> <p>2. How does the Department come to its conclusions on travel advice?</p> <p>3. Why has the Department of Foreign Affairs classified regions of the Republic of Armenia as 'Do Not Travel'?</p> <p>4. Azerbaijan maintains a blacklist of individuals who have visited Artsakh. Is DFAT's "Do Not Travel" travel warning relating to Artsakh and parts of Armenia informed by this black list?</p> <p>5. What is DFAT's position on the fact that Australian parliamentarians, including the Premier of NSW Gladys Berejiklian, are on that black list?</p> <p>6. Has DFAT made representations to Azerbaijan on behalf of Australian citizens who are on the black list?</p> <p>7. Does the fact that Australia does not recognise Artsakh contribute to the region's travel warning?</p> <p>8. How has the Department come to the determination that Armenia's border regions, and the region of Artsakh, have a higher degree of risk than other contested regions in Europe?</p> <p>9. While the Australian Government does not recognise Nagorno-Karabakh as an independent state, does the Department acknowledge:</p> <p>a. that the region of Nagorno-Karabakh operates as a de facto independent territory that is not governed by Azerbaijan?</p> <p>b. that the region is home to a civilian population of 150,000 Armenians, mostly living in the concentrated population centre of Stepanakert, who democratically and overwhelmingly exercised their right to self-determination in an internationally monitored referendum in 1991 under the then applicable laws of the Soviet Union?</p> <p>c. That Stepanakert has not seen conflict since the ceasefire was declared in 1994?</p> <p>10. The Australian government has declared its commitment to the OSCE Minsk Process, and in past Senate Estimates proceedings, its support for the need to uphold the Minsk Group's equal principles of 1) the right to self-determination, 2) territorial integrity and 3) non-use of force. Does the Department recognise the Republic of Armenia's territorial integrity?</p> <p>11. Recently, sections of the Armenia-Azerbaijan border in Armenia's northern "Tavush" region have come under fire by Azerbaijan. Is it the Department's view that these attacks are in violation of two of the OSCE's principles of conflict resolution – by violating Armenia's territorial integrity and its resort to the use of force?</p> <p>12. Does the department acknowledge that its travel warnings only reinforce Azerbaijan's efforts to isolate the civilian population of Artsakh?</p>	Written	N/A
129	Di Natale	Organ Harvesting in China	<p>1. DFAT has stated in its 2019 report on China, issued on 3 October 2019, that it has not been able to verify the claims of Falun Gong practitioners that they have suffered psychiatric experimentation and organ harvesting.</p> <p>a. Can the Department please advise what efforts it has made to verify these claims?</p> <p>b. The Government indicated during Senate Estimates on 24 October that it is currently considering the China Tribunal judgement. Will the Government take into account the China Tribunal judgement in updating its assessment regarding psychiatric experimentation and organ harvesting on Falun Gong practitioners?</p> <p>c. Has the Government spoken to the Chair of the China Tribunal, Sir Geoffrey Nice QC, in forming its judgement?</p>	Written	N/A
130	Rice	Forest Industries Delegation to Japan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What advice did the Department provide to any Ministers in relation to the visit? • Who was included in the delegation? • What meetings occurred as part of the delegation trip? • Have any memoranda of understanding or other forms of agreement been progressed as part of the trip? If so, have they been concluded? • What requests were received by the delegation from non-Australian stakeholders? • What gifts, if any, did Departmental staff (Australia-based or locally engaged) receive during the delegation's visit? 	Written	N/A
131	McKim	Travel Advice to Indonesia	<p>1. There is a very real risk that sex outside of marriage, including all same-sex sexual activity, will soon be criminalised in Indonesia. If it is, what will the Government do to warn Australians planning to travel to Indonesia?</p>	Written	N/A
132	McKim	Human Rights	<p>1. A number of Commonwealth countries have recently decriminalised homosexuality, including India, Belize, Trinidad and Tobago and Malawi. What is the Government doing to promote decriminalisation in the remaining Commonwealth countries that continue to make LGBTIQ+ people criminals for just being themselves?</p>	Written	N/A
133	Stoker	Caretaker	<p>1. What constitutes typical preparation during the caretaker period of departmental IT systems and equipment to effect a potential transition of</p>	Written	N/A

		Period Preparations	<p>government?</p> <p>2. Did any Shadow Minister, their staff or members of the Labor Party contact the Department during the Caretaker Period to make any specific or general requests about transitional arrangements for after the 18 May election?</p> <p>3. If the answer to (2) is yes, please identify the name of the person who made contact, their title, the date and time of the contact, the method of contact and the substance of the communication. Please provide copies if applicable.</p> <p>4. If the answer to (2) is yes, did the contact include a request for the provision of email addresses or user accounts?</p> <p>5. If the answer to (2) is yes, did the contact include a request for the provision of IT equipment separate or additional to equipment already in the possession of staff?</p> <p>6. To what extent did the Department create change of government transition teams and/or operations?</p> <p>7. Were any change of government transitional arrangements entered into different in any way from the transition plans adopted at previous elections? If so, in what way?</p> <p>8. Did the PM&C 'Digital First' briefing system require the creation of shell email addresses and/or IT user accounts during the caretaker period? Please identify the policy/rule/regulation or legislative provision that is the source of the obligation.</p> <p>9. Did the PM&C 'Digital First' briefing system require the use of the term 'Minister' to describe persons who may have required access after the caretaker period, should they be elected, when they were not at that time sworn in as the Minister? Please identify the policy/rule/regulation or legislative provision that is the source of the obligation.</p> <p>10. Were there any meetings scheduled, 'pencilled in' or entered as placeholders between the Shadow Minister or her staff with departmental officials (including the Secretary) for the week beginning Sunday 19 May? If the answer to that question is yes:</p> <p>a. Please identify the time, date, place, expected attendees and agenda for those planned meetings;</p> <p>b. Please identify how those meetings came to be planned. Who requested them, on what date, at what time, and using what method?</p>		
134	Faruqi	Disability-inclusive Development	<p>1. The Office of Development Effectiveness (ODE) put out a review of the program in late 2018. The review found that less than half of Australian aid investments are assessed as disability inclusive. Is that still the case?</p> <p>a. What is the Department's plan to overcome this issue?</p> <p>b. Would the Department need more funding to overcome this issue?</p> <p>c. Is the Department expecting an increase in the next budget for disability inclusion in overseas aid?</p> <p>2. One of the recommendations of the review was for DFAT to increase the knowledge and understanding of disability-inclusive development within the department. Could you please outline the specific actions that have been taken to implement this recommendation?</p> <p>3. The review also found that sustained effort from DFAT and dedicated funding were necessary to make disability inclusion in our aid programs a reality. What is the Department's view of this finding?</p> <p>4. Is there a specific amount of money set aside in our overseas aid budget to ensure that all humanitarian and development programs are disability inclusive?</p> <p>a. How much is it?</p> <p>i. Is this an increase on last year or a decrease?</p> <p>ii. What was the budget last year?</p> <p>b. In your view, is \$12.9 million per year enough to ensure all humanitarian and development programs are disability-inclusive?</p> <p>c. How is this money being spent? Could you provide some detail on what projects have been undertaken?</p>	Written	N/A
135	Faruqi	Development for All Strategy	<p>1. The Development for All Strategy is a key driver around how this budget is invested. The government is yet to commit to another Development for All strategy beyond 2020. Can you please update us on the progress for a new strategy?</p> <p>2. There is concern that not having a strategy beyond 2020 is a signal that the funding for disability inclusion may be cut in the upcoming budget. Does the Department share these concerns?</p> <p>a. Is the Department aware of any such plans, to cut this funding or redirect it into a different outcome or program?</p> <p>b. Please list all the programs that will be impacted if there is no strategy or there is a funding cut.</p>	Written	N/A
136	Faruqi	Aid Effectiveness	<p>1. The Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade conducted an inquiry into "the strategic effectiveness and outcomes of Australia's aid program in the indo pacific and its role in supporting our regional interests" and put out an interim report at the end of last year. What progress has DFAT made on implement the recommendation that the Australian Government enhance and develop clear local</p>	Written	N/A

			<p>procurement guidelines and reporting mechanisms—that prioritise purchase of goods and/or services within, in or within the region of, recipient countries where possible?</p> <p>a. Has DFAT been tasked with developing clearer local procurement guidelines and what is the progress on this?</p> <p>Notes: Recommendation 10 The Committee recommends that the Australian Government enhance and develop clearer local procurement guidelines and reporting mechanisms—that prioritise purchase of goods and/or services within, in or within the region of, Development Partnerships (aid) recipient countries where possible—for use by entities including the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, other Departments working in the Development Partnerships space, recipients of Development Partnerships funding (including contractors), and businesses, contractors, or individuals employed or engaged by Development Partnerships recipients to assist them in the provision of goods and/or services.</p> <p>2. The committee also recommended that DFAT introduce to their procurement processes, tenders, and contracts, a requirement for recipients/contractors in receipt of Development Partnerships funding to first prioritise procuring locally in the recipient country. Has this been done? And if not, why not?</p> <p>a. Will you be taking it on sometime this year? If not, when</p> <p>i. Is there a plan or a timeline for this?</p> <p>Notes: Recommendation 11 The Committee recommends that the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade introduce to their procurement processes, tenders, and contracts, a requirement for recipients/contractors in receipt of Development Partnerships funding to first prioritise procuring locally in the recipient country, where possible (where the goods or services can be provided locally, can be provided at a sufficient quality standard locally, are not excessively more expensive than via procurement elsewhere and/or can be provided within the required project timeframes locally).</p> <p>3. The committee also recommended that the Australian Government stop tying its aid in any form, including informal tying, where the conditions are that some or all purchases are made from, or from entities from Australia. Is there any work being done on this, for example, any briefings you may have prepared for the Minister on this?</p> <p>a. Is there any plan to implement this?</p> <p>Notes: Recommendation 12 The Committee recommends that the Australian Government eliminate any remaining forms of tied aid, and informal aid tying, where there are conditions that some or all purchases are made from, or from entities from, the donor country (Australia). Goods or services supplied to and/or in recipient countries should only be supplied from Australia or non-regional entities where the goods or services cannot be provided locally, cannot be provided at a sufficient quality standard locally, are being offered at an excessive cost locally to what can be procured elsewhere and/or cannot be provided within the required project timeframes locally.</p> <p>Recommendation 13 The Committee recommends that the Australian Government use recipient country procurement systems as the default option, where possible, and invest Development Partnerships funding to support recipient countries to improve their procurement systems and accountability safeguards.</p>		
137	Faruqi	Meetings with NGOs	<p>Questions to Foreign Minister Marise Payne</p> <p>1. How many requests has the Minister or Minister’s office received to meet with international and domestic NGOs in the Minister’s role so far?</p> <p>a. How many international and domestic NGOs has the Minister met in her role so far?</p> <p>2. How many requests has the Minister or Minister’s office received from Defence contractors and how many has the Minister met?</p> <p>3. Since Minister Payne also has portfolio responsibilities as the Minister for Women, how many domestic and international NGOs has the Minister met with that work on gender issues?</p>	Written	N/A
138	Faruqi	Climate Change Strategy	<p>1. Can you give us an update on the Climate change action strategy?</p> <p>a. What has happened to the draft the Department provided to the Minister in February this year?</p> <p>2. Has the Department received any direction from the Minister or the Minister’s office regarding the strategy since that draft was provided to the Minister?</p> <p>a. Has the Minister or the Minister’s office requested any changes?</p> <p>i. If yes, what are these changes?</p> <p>3. Has the Climate Change Action strategy been delayed or shelved?</p> <p>a. If so, why?</p> <p>b. Has the thrust of the strategy changed?</p>	Written	N/A

			<p>c. What is the plan now – when will it be released?</p> <p>4. Will there be a Climate Change Action Strategy at all for our foreign aid program?</p> <p>5. The Government’s own evaluation of climate change in the aid program found that effectiveness of our aid programs on climate change was lacking. The evaluation found “The climate change strategy, under development, provides a good opportunity to add greater clarity and direction across the portfolio”. What is the Department’s view of this, given that there is no climate change action strategy at the moment?</p> <p>6. When will the Climate Action strategy come out? Is there a date?</p> <p>7. Could the Minister give us an update of where the strategy is at and provide a date of release for strategy?</p>		
139	Gallagher	Protected Security Policy Framework	<p>Overall compliance and reporting</p> <p>1. Is the Department compliant with the core requirements in the Protected Security Policy Framework, INFOSEC 10: Safeguarding information from cyber threats policy?</p> <p>2. Under the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013, all non-corporate Commonwealth entities are required to report annually to the Attorney-General on the implementation of the Protected Security Policy Framework (PSPF). Has the Department provided an annual report to the Attorney general in 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 on compliance with the INFOSEC 10 core requirements?</p>	Written	N/A
140	Gallagher	Protected Security Policy Framework	<p>Mandatory 4 implementation</p> <p>1. Has the Department implemented Protected Security Policy Framework INFOSEC 10, requirement 1: application whitelisting?</p> <p>a. According to the Essential Eight Maturity Model what is the maturity of application whitelisting implementation?</p> <p>2. Has the Department implemented Protected Security Policy Framework INFOSEC 10, requirement 2: patching applications?</p> <p>a. According to the Essential Eight Maturity Model, what is the maturity of patching applications implementation?</p> <p>3. Has the Department implemented Protected Security Policy Framework INFOSEC 10, requirement 3: restriction of administrative privileges?</p> <p>a. According to the Essential Eight Maturity Model, what is the maturity of ‘restrict administrative privileges’ implementation?</p> <p>4. Has the Department implemented Protected Security Policy Framework INFOSEC 10, requirement 4: patching operating systems?</p> <p>a. According to the Essential Eight Maturity Model, what is the maturity of ‘Patching operating systems’ implementation?</p>	Written	N/A
141	Gallagher	Protected Security Policy Framework	<p>Essential 8 implementation</p> <p>1. Has the Department implemented Protected Security Policy Framework INFOSEC 10, C.4, 27 (a): configuring Microsoft Office macro settings?</p> <p>a. According to the Essential Eight Maturity Model what is the maturity of ‘configuring Microsoft Office macro settings’ implementation?</p> <p>2. Has the Department implemented Protected Security Policy Framework INFOSEC 10, C.4, 27 (b): user application hardening?</p> <p>a. According to the Essential Eight Maturity Model what is the maturity of ‘configuring Microsoft Office macro settings’ implementation?</p> <p>3. Has the Department implemented Protected Security Policy Framework INFOSEC 10, C.4, 27 (c): multi-factor authentication?</p> <p>a. According to the Essential Eight Maturity Model what is the maturity of ‘multi-factor authentication’ implementation?</p> <p>4. Has the Department implemented Protected Security Policy Framework INFOSEC 10, C.4, 27 (d): daily backups?</p> <p>a. According to the Essential Eight Maturity Model what is the maturity of ‘daily backups’ implementation?</p>	Written	N/A
142	Gallagher	Protected Security Policy Framework	<p>Accountability and funding</p> <p>1. How many times has the Department conducted a self assessment of its compliance with the Protected Security Policy Framework Essential Eight mitigation strategies and cyber resilience since 1 July 2013?</p> <p>2. How many independent assessments of its cyber resilience has the Department conducted since 1 July 2013?</p> <p>3. Has the Minister responsible been briefed on cyber security vulnerabilities in the Department networks since 1 July 2013?</p> <p>4. Has an Australian Signals Directorate cyber security sprint team been deployed to the Department since 1 July 2013?</p> <p>5. How much funding has the Department allocated to cyber security each year during 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019?</p> <p>6. How many times has there been a physical or cyber intrusion attempt made on the Department’s networks that were considered serious enough to warrant an operational response in 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019?</p>	Written	N/A
143	Abetz	Bangladesh	<p>CHAIR: In recent times, as in 3 October, I received correspondence, as Chair of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee, from the Bangladesh Community Council Incorporated. The committee agreed that I should ask the odd question about this. There was concern about the struggle for democracy and human rights in Bangladesh. Without giving me a full history lesson, which I undoubtedly need, and given the time constraints, do we accept that it is not a democracy and that there are human rights issues in Bangladesh?</p> <p>Dr Strahan: Without going into the full historical background, I would say that Bangladesh has had a very troubled and complex political history in</p>	Hansard	46-47

			<p>recent decades.</p> <p>CHAIR: Currently, how would you describe it?</p> <p>Dr Strahan: That has led to what I would say is a democracy with flaws and restrictions.</p> <p>CHAIR: They're all with flaws and restrictions, even our great democracy. So can we use some stronger language or not?</p> <p>Dr Strahan: What we have done is raise with the Bangladesh government the fact that the restrictions on the opposition, on the press and on human rights defenders are excessive. We have done this in the Human Rights Council in some of our formal comments. I myself have discussed these issues in Dhaka with senior government officials, including in the Prime Minister's office. Our point has been to urge Bangladesh to do everything it can to make sure that democracy can function as freely as possible.</p> <p>CHAIR: As most people would understand democracy, yes.</p> <p>Dr Strahan: I have said that some of the restrictions go beyond the bounds of what would be in line with our expectations of a democracy, including in the behaviour at times of the security forces, who can be quite heavy-handed.</p> <p>CHAIR: In re-reading the Hansard, should you wish to add anything else to that very helpful answer, I would be appreciative. I will then be able to respond to this organisation. Thank you very much.</p> <p>Dr Strahan: We also reach out to these groups and talk to them. We make ourselves available here and in Dhaka.</p>		
144	Farrell	India Economic Strategy	<p>Has the committee of ministerial champions met?</p> <p>a. If not, why not? When is the first meeting schedule?</p> <p>b. If the meeting has been held, what were the outcomes of the meeting?</p>	Written	N/A
145	Wong	Prime Minister's Chicago Speech	<p>With reference to the Prime Minister's statement in Chicago on 23 September 2019 that: "China's economic growth is welcomed by Australia and we recognise the economic maturity that it has now realised as a newly developed economy", was the Minister for Trade and the Minister for Foreign Affairs consulted on the Prime Minister's Chicago speech? If so, on what date/s?</p>	Written	N/A
146	Wong	Peace at the Crease	<p>Peace at the Crease</p> <p>What is the status of the invitations issued to Commonwealth leaders to visit Adelaide?</p>	Written	N/A