

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES – 23-24 MAY 2018

FINANCE PORTFOLIO

QoN No.	Agency	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
1	ASC Pty Ltd	Carr	Offers of Redeployment	<p><b>Senator KIM CARR:</b> How many more offers of redeployment have you—</p> <p><b>Mr Cuthill:</b> At the moment I can't say. We're still working through that process to see if there are additional redeployments.</p> <p><b>Senator KIM CARR:</b> But you've identified 60. At what point was that reached for the 60?</p> <p><b>Mr Whiley:</b> It's an initial 60. That number is evolving.</p> <p><b>Senator KIM CARR:</b> So it could be more?</p> <p><b>Mr Whiley:</b> It could be more.</p> <p><b>Senator KIM CARR:</b> When was the last one offered? What was the date of the last redeployment offer?</p> <p><b>Mr Cuthill:</b> I'm not sure on that. I would have to take that on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 5
2	ASC Pty Ltd	Carr	Voluntary Redundancies	<p><b>Senator KIM CARR:</b> How many voluntary redundancies are you offering?</p> <p><b>Mr Cuthill:</b> We put it out to all of the at-risk trade groups. There's an expression of interest that goes out.</p> <p><b>Senator KIM CARR:</b> So 140?</p> <p><b>Mr Cuthill:</b> Potentially. If we had 140 volunteers. We don't limit the number.</p> <p><b>Senator KIM CARR:</b> When did you offer those?</p> <p><b>Mr Cuthill:</b> I'm not sure of the actual date. I can take that on notice. It is part of the process that we work through.</p> <p><b>Senator KIM CARR:</b> If there were redeployments offered just this week, I take it that the redundancies were offered just this week were they?</p> <p><b>Mr Cuthill:</b> It was not very long ago. We have an actual process that we have to follow that's in the enterprise agreements, and we're following that to the day.</p> <p><b>Senator KIM CARR:</b> How long will they be open for?</p> <p><b>Mr Cuthill:</b> The expressions of interest?</p> <p><b>Senator KIM CARR:</b> Yes.</p> <p><b>Mr Cuthill:</b> I'm not sure on that one. I don't know the details on that.</p> <p><b>Senator KIM CARR:</b> Could you take that on notice?</p> <p><b>Mr Cuthill:</b> I can.</p>	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 6
3	ASC Pty Ltd	Patrick	IP Flow Model	<p><b>Senator PATRICK:</b> Yes, that's all there is on that page. Intellectual property flow has been nominated as a very significant element of the Future Submarines Program. Did you discuss mechanisms with DCNS for the flow of intellectual property on the assumption that you would be (a) a partner or (b) involved in the sustainment of the future submarine?</p> <p><b>Mr Whiley:</b> I'm not aware of any conversations we had regarding this aspect but I wasn't involved in every single conversation. I am not aware of that.</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Mr Whiley:</b> I can take the question on notice.</p> <p><b>Senator PATRICK:</b> Or we might get him to the naval shipbuilding inquiry hearing that's coming up shortly. On notice, could you please provide whether or not you had discussed an IP flow model where you guys were involved heavily as a partner with DCNS in the Future Submarines Program?</p> <p><b>Mr Whiley:</b> I will take that question on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 16, 17
4	ASC Pty Ltd	Patrick	Profile of the Executive Level and Senior Management	<p><b>Senator PATRICK:</b> Can you, on notice, provide a profile of the current numbers of the executive level and senior management level over the last two or three years.</p> <p><b>Mr Cuthill:</b> It changes shape considerably, because obviously we form a fairly major part of the AWD Alliance, so we have operational and functional responsibilities, so it's not quite that simple.</p> <p><b>Senator PATRICK:</b> So you're saying if I got the data, I'd misread it—</p> <p><b>Mr Cuthill:</b> I can pull something together, but, as AWD ramps down, some of those AWD roles disappear and become functional roles, and vice-versa.</p> <p><b>Senator PATRICK:</b> Could you on notice attempt to do that for me?</p> <p><b>Mr Cuthill:</b> Yes.</p> <p><b>Senator PATRICK:</b> Put whatever information is required to make sense of the data.</p> <p><b>Mr Cuthill:</b> Yes, we can do that.</p>	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 19, 20
5	Finance	Carr	Transfers or Withdrawals from the Education Investment Fund and Building Australia Fund	<p>For transfers or withdrawals from the Education Investment Fund (EIF), or Building Australia Fund (BAF) what are the relevant budget rules that apply?</p> <p>[Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&amp;PA Committee, Page 25 <b>Senator KIM CARR:</b> ... If the government wished to withdraw from the building funds, what are the budget rules that apply?</p> <p><b>Mr Neal:</b> That's probably a question for my colleague.</p> <p><b>Dr Helgeby:</b> That's a question really for the department. There is legislation before the parliament to close the EIF and other funds. I might draw</p>	Written

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				<p>your attention to the Department of Finance portfolio budget statements. We are at page 34.  <b>Senator KIM CARR:</b> I've got that. I see that there.  <b>Dr Helgeby:</b> Those numbers reflect the government's intention to close the EIF and also the BAF, which is on the previous page, and to transfer those funds to support the NDIS.                  ...]</p>	
6	Finance	Carr	Education Investment Fund and Building Australia Fund Legislation	<p><b>Senator KIM CARR:</b> The measure has been on the <i>Notice Paper</i> for how many years now?  <b>Senator Cormann:</b> I'll have to take that on notice.  <b>Senator KIM CARR:</b> You'd know that, wouldn't you, Dr Helgeby?  <b>Dr Helgeby:</b> The legislation has been before the parliament for a while. I think it's currently before the Senate.  <b>Senator KIM CARR:</b> When you say 'currently before the Senate', you mean it's on the <i>Notice Paper</i>?  <b>Senator Cormann:</b> That is not unusual. I remember Nicola Roxon as health minister bringing various measures back over a number of years. The Australian people get an opportunity to have their say. Obviously, we will seek to win the trust and confidence of a majority of people in a majority of seats at the next election. Hopefully, they give us a Senate in which more senators support the implementation of the government's agenda.  <b>Senator KIM CARR:</b> Yes. This measure was originally brought before the Senate to fund privatisation of roads and other matters, wasn't it? Asset recycling was the original rationale for the abolition of this fund?  <b>Senator Cormann:</b> If you want me to go through the history of it all, I'm happy to provide that on notice.                  ...  <b>Senator KIM CARR:</b> So it is a measure that has been rejected by the Senate?  <b>Senator Cormann:</b> In a different context and we are pursuing it in this context.  <b>Senator KIM CARR:</b> When was it last rejected by the Senate?  <b>Senator Cormann:</b> That's a matter of public record, but I'm happy to check that for you on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 25
7	Finance	Carr	Offsets - Education Investment Fund and Building Australia Fund	<p>Are offsets required in the budget rules for transfers or withdrawals from the EIF or BAF?</p>	Written
8	Finance	Carr	Education Portfolio Special Account - Expense	<p>On page 34 of the portfolio budget statement there is a line item expending \$2 million listed under <i>Education Portfolio Special Account – Expense</i>. What is this line item for? What are the projects?</p>	Written
9	Future Fund	McAllister	Local Venture Capital Activity Contractual Arrangements	<p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> You talked in October about attempting to foster local industry. Can you talk about the fund's activities in fostering local venture capital activity?                  ...  <b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> What is the contractual basis of that arrangement?  <b>Mr Neal:</b> I'd have to check that for you. I would be guessing about the precise arrangements. I will take that on notice. We will have an allocation. I think the way it works is we have broader allocation to the organisation, which is to go and find good ideas for us globally. We have said to them that we'd like them to specifically look at the Australian marketplace within that context. I don't think it's any more than that.                  ...  <b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> How long have you been working with them?  <b>Mr Neal:</b> I will have to check this if you want a precise answer, but it is either 2008 or 2009.                  ...  <b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> I asked you about the contractual basis of these relationships and you said you would take it on notice, which was possibly appropriately cautious. Do you pay them a set amount monthly? Is it based on their successes? I'm not trying to understand the precise details but more the broad contractual basis on which you engage these partners.</p>	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 33 and 34
10	Finance	McAllister	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land and Sea Future Fund	<p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> The government has introduced some legislation to establish the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land and Sea Future Fund. I'm interested to understand whether that was discussed with you, Mr Neal, prior to the introduction of the legislation.  <b>Mr Neal:</b> We were asked whether that was something that we could do and whether that was a capability that we had, which was a fairly short conversation because, of course, it is. We are able to run portfolios of assets; that's our role. Beyond that, we've not been involved in any of the details other than, I suppose, providing advice to the department on the way that the bill would best work to allow us to do our job—although, I think the bulk of that is really just that it reflects the way that the other funds are run.  <b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> When did those conversations commence with government—or, rather, with the department; is that correct?  <b>Dr Helgeby:</b> Senator, the conversations about the legislation—or, rather, how legislation should work in this environment—I think would have taken place after the government made the announcement.  <b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> I'm sorry, Dr Helgeby. I apologise, could you repeat that last answer?  <b>Dr Helgeby:</b> In terms of a specific time frame, I'd have to take that on notice. But we engage on legislation after decisions are taken. So the</p>	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 35

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				<p>decision comes first, and then—  <b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> Alright, let us put aside the question of the legislation and the drafting. But, in terms of the decision to establish this new entity, was Mr Neal consulted before the decision was taken?</p>	
11	Future Fund	McAllister	Investment in Blackbird	<p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> Can I just come back, Mr Neal, to some of the issues we were talking about earlier around the investment in Blackbird, which is something of a change of direction since we last discussed it. How much was invested in Blackbird?  <b>Mr Neal:</b> I'd have to check for you. If you want a precise number, I'll have to take that on notice. It's of the order of a \$20 or \$30 million commitment to their fund.</p>	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 36
12	CSC	Kitching	Fee Levels	<p><b>Senator KITCHING:</b> What is the level of your fees in relation to—well, let's start with the seven-year—how do you actually determine the level of your fees?  <b>Mr Carrigy-Ryan:</b> The fees are calculated as a total cost. That will be scheme administration. This is in relation to our defined contribution schemes. The fees are investment fees as well as scheme administration fees. They are published on our website. They are published and updated each six months, and at the moment they are—I'll take it on notice, but they are roughly just above the median in terms of the group of MySuper funds which we use as a measure.  <b>Senator KITCHING:</b> Okay. I was going to ask you how that compares, but if you could—  <b>Mr Carrigy-Ryan:</b> I'll give you the details of where we sit vis-a-vis other funds. It's all publicly available information, I just don't have everything here, so I can't give you that information.</p>	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 39
13	CSC	Kitching	Income Protection Product	<p><b>Senator KITCHING:</b> There has been some criticism of the income protection product. Do you think that's fair? Is the criticism fair?  <b>Mr Carrigy-Ryan:</b> What sort of criticism—of our product specifically?  <b>Senator KITCHING:</b> Yes.  <b>Mr Carrigy-Ryan:</b> I'm not specifically aware of that. Could you tell me exactly what the issue is?  <b>Senator KITCHING:</b> Just that the income protection product is poor and there has been some criticism of it from members. I'm happy for you to take that on notice and see.  <b>Mr Carrigy-Ryan:</b> I'll do that and come back to you. I'm happy to do that.</p>	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 39
14	CSC	Kitching	Superannuation Changes - Insurance	<p><b>Senator KITCHING:</b> ...Have you considered the changes to superannuation that were announced in the budget?  ...  <b>Senator KITCHING:</b> How many members have less than the \$6,000 cap, then their insurance is cancelled?  <b>Mr Carrigy-Ryan:</b> I will take that on notice. In PSSap my recollection is that the number is around 6,000.  <b>Senator KITCHING:</b> That's 6,000 members?  <b>Mr Carrigy-Ryan:</b> Yes, but I will take that on notice, if you don't mind, and give you an exact number.</p>	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 40
15	CSC	Kitching	Superannuation Balances	<p><b>Senator KITCHING:</b> What is your average difference in superannuation balance between women and men?  <b>Mr Carrigy-Ryan:</b> That's a very complex question. Do you mean defined benefit schemes or all our funds?  <b>Senator KITCHING:</b> I would like to know across all funds, perhaps on notice, then a percentage figure.  <b>Mr Carrigy-Ryan:</b> I can get that for you for PSSap and for ADF Super, which are both defined contribution schemes. For the defined benefit schemes it is a little more complex in that the primary benefit in those schemes is a government finance indexed pension, so the value of that at any point will be variable. In terms of the members' own contributions, I can give you a break-up, but I would be very careful using averages, because you can also be talking about people who, for example, came and stayed for a short period of time. We have a large number of members in the military, for example, who have six or seven years of service and have a deferred account. In those numbers I gave you, there are almost 250,000 preserved accounts of the 730,000.  <b>Senator KITCHING:</b> Sorry, how many?  <b>Mr Carrigy-Ryan:</b> Approximately 250,000—247,000 to be exact—are preserved. Those people may have had a whole range of different employment experiences and times that they have spent with us. That might have the effect of impacting any averaging of numbers that you may do. I'll have a look and get our people to look at it and give you the best numbers we can get. I would add those caveats to whatever we do.</p>	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 40
16	Finance	McAllister	Parliamentary Expenses Management System – Contingency Reserve Savings	<p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> I wanted to follow up on question on notice 4 from a question that I asked in February. At that time we were discussing the MYEFO measure, which is the Parliamentary Expenses Management System.  ...  <b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> Right. Which decision point sees \$27.2 million placed in the contingency reserve? When was that decision taken?  <b>Senator Cormann:</b> I'd have to take that on notice. As the secretary indicated, it was a decision that was taken in a previous update.  <b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> But we don't know which update.  <b>Senator Cormann:</b> I don't know which. The offsets are for each individual measure in each economic update. I've been involved in five budgets and five half-yearly budget updates, so, no, I don't know for each measure what the specific offset was and when what decision was made, but on notice I'd be quite happy to provide that for you.  <b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> Okay. What savings were found that allowed \$27.2 million to be placed into contingency fund at that time?  <b>Ms Huxtable:</b> There would have been quite specific savings measures. I think that, when we received this question on notice, perhaps we didn't</p>	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 41, 42

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				<p>realise that that was the information you were seeking. We can certainly go back and provide that information. As I recall from the longer transcript of this at the time, we did talk about some of these savings being from property divestments, but we can go back and provide a more fulsome response as to the actual source of the \$27.2 million.</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Ms Huxtable:</b> We'll take that on notice in terms of breaking down 27.2 but, just to be clear: the combination of those three things provide the offset for the PEMS measure.</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> Right. Was it originally earmarked for this particular initiative, or was it just a general response? Were you anticipating general pressures, or was this a particular response that was contemplated?</p> <p><b>Ms Huxtable:</b> My recollection—and I'm happy to take on notice more detail—is that we were certainly aware that we had impending pressure around the Parliamentary Expenses Management System. That was a well-travelled path in terms of the parliamentary entitlements review and the issues that it raised, but there was also our lived experience of managing what from my recollection is seven independent systems that embed inefficiencies in the process of managing claims. So we were certainly well aware of that, but we were still working through at that time the costs of responding to the requirement to update that system.</p>	
17	Finance	McAllister	Energy Supplement	<p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> So, specifically in relation to the proposal to cease the energy supplement, what is the assumption about the revised start date for that measure?</p> <p><b>Ms Huxtable:</b> Mr Bartlett will be able to help you with that.</p> <p><b>Mr Bartlett:</b> At the moment, it has an assumed start date of 20 September 2018.</p> <p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> How does that flow through into the savings over the current forward estimates from that measure?</p> <p><b>Ms Huxtable:</b> We might have to take that on notice. It's quite complicated because a number of factors are coming together at that point. As you'd appreciate, in these demand-driven programs there's another process that also occurs—I know we've talked about this before—at each estimate update where there is work that occurs with the agency to ensure that the estimates are as accurate as possible. That's occurring at the same time as there are also then decisions around a start date for a particular thing. So those two things may well intersect, and it's quite hard to pull the pieces apart. But we can certainly take it on notice and look to see how we can assist you in that regard. Is that fair, David?</p> <p><b>Mr Fredericks:</b> Yes, if we could take it on notice we will be able to provide you with the quantum of the measure as it's been amended because of the variation that we've done to it consequent on the delayed starting date. I don't have that number here.</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> I'm really not trying to quantify anything specific about the delay. I'm just really trying to understand what saving will be obtained if the measure is proceeded with. I don't need it to be disaggregated to understand whether the drivers for the save come from a delay or anything else. I just want the numbers across the forward estimates.</p> <p><b>Mr Fredericks:</b> We can take that on notice.</p> <p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> It would be good if I could get them for the impact on both the fiscal balance and the cash balance.</p>	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 43
18	Finance	McAllister	Pension Supplement Start Date	<p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> Sorry, I'm talking about the pension supplement when overseas.</p> <p><b>Senator Cormann:</b> Sorry.</p> <p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> That start date was originally July 2018. Is that still the assumption in the budget?</p> <p><b>Ms Huxtable:</b> I'll just get Mr Bartlett to check that.</p> <p><b>Mr Bartlett:</b> The current start date is 1 July 2018.</p> <p><b>Mr Fredericks:</b> The original start date was 1 July 2017, and the current start date is now 1 July 2018.</p> <p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> Is this the first budget on which that update has been applied? It must have been applied at MYEFO.</p> <p><b>Mr Fredericks:</b> I don't know the answer to that. I'll have to take that on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 44
19	Finance	McAllister	Fiscal and Cash Impacts of Savings Measures	<p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> And what is the assumed start date for the proposal to increase the pension age to 70 in the medium-term projections?</p> <p><b>Mr Bartlett:</b> It's 1 July 2025.</p> <p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> So you maintain the existing expectation.</p> <p><b>Mr Fredericks:</b> That hasn't been changed.</p> <p><b>Senator Cormann:</b> And that has no bearing on the forward estimates, because, of course, the next increase in the pension age is the increase that was legislated by the Labor Party when in government, and that measure won't be fully implemented until 2035.</p> <p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> You took on notice my request for information about the fiscal and cash impacts of these savings measures for the energy supplement. Can I ask the same question for each of the measures that we just walked through?</p> <p><b>Senator Cormann:</b> We'll take that on notice for each of those.</p> <p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> I'm just looking for the impact over the forwards.</p> <p><b>Senator Cormann:</b> Yes.</p>	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 44
20	Finance	McAllister	Unlegislated Savings Measures	<p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> Can you provide a list of all the unlegislated savings measures that were announced before this budget and the associated financial impacts?</p> <p><b>Ms Huxtable:</b> Yes, we can take that on notice. I think we've taken that on notice before and we've quite recently responded to that.</p> <p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> You have.</p>	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 44, 45

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				<p><b>Senator Cormann:</b> We will provide you with an updated response, if you want it.  <b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> Great. I would appreciate it.</p>	
21	Finance	McAllister	Great Barrier Reef Foundation - Consideration	<p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> I might pick up on some of those issues around the payment to the Great Barrier Reef Foundation. When was Finance first consulted on the proposal?  <b>Senator Cormann:</b> This is a proposal that is part of the budget process. I'm quite happy to take on notice consideration of the date as to when this was first considered. But you would, of course, appreciate that, consistent with convention, I'm not going to be at liberty to reveal the content of cabinet deliberations or deliberations of cabinet subcommittees.  <b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> Would it first have been brought to the Department of Finance's attention before Christmas, as part of the portfolio budget submission?  <b>Senator Cormann:</b> I've taken it on notice. It's part of the deliberative process of government and part of the budget process. In the course of the budget process, this came forward as a proposal, and it was dealt with in the usual way through the deliberative processes of the cabinet.</p>	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 50
22	Finance	Rice	Information for Staff – Implementation of the Government's Guidelines on the Recognition of Sex and Gender	<p><b>Senator RICE:</b> ... I'd like to ask some questions about the department's implementation of the government's guidelines on the recognition of sex and gender...  <b>Ms Jones:</b> ...we went through a process in 2016 to update our policies and procedures so that by 1 July 2016 we were compliant with the guidelines.  ...  <b>Senator RICE:</b> And you've now got some clear and accessible information for people who want to change their gender on their personal records within the department as well?  <b>Ms Jones:</b> Sorry, I missed the very first part of that sentence.  <b>Senator RICE:</b> It was whether you have clear and accessible information for people within the department who wish to change the information that's on the record that the department keeps.  <b>Ms Jones:</b> I'd need to check where we provide that information on our intranet. I'd need to take that one on notice for you.</p>	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 58
23	Finance	Rice	Policies and Training – Implementation of the Government's Guidelines on the Recognition of Sex and Gender	<p><b>Senator RICE:</b> ... Do you have policies relating to how staff should manage relationships within the organisation and how the organisation relates externally with intersex, transgender and gender diverse people?  <b>Ms Jones:</b> Is that in terms of specific policies around how people should engage?  <b>Senator RICE:</b> Yes, that's right—the terminology of engaging with people of diverse gender and with intersex people.  <b>Ms Jones:</b> Again, I'd need to take that on notice. I'm not sure that we currently have any specific guidance on giving advice about how to engage, but I may be able to—sorry, it's just been brought to my attention that we have training available called 'Pride in Diversity', which provides training to staff and managers. Part of that includes awareness of sex and gender diversity issues. That's available in our suite of training packages.  <b>Senator RICE:</b> Do you know how many people have accessed that training? Is it compulsory?  <b>Ms Jones:</b> It's not compulsory, but we could take that on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 58, 59
24	Finance	Rice	Portfolio Agencies – Implementation of the Government's Guidelines on the Recognition of Sex and Gender	<p><b>Senator RICE:</b> Are there agencies that fall within the department that would also have had to implement the guidelines?  <b>Ms Jones:</b> Is that in terms of portfolio agencies?  <b>Senator RICE:</b> Yes.  <b>Ms Jones:</b> I think they're applicable across-the-board, but we would have to take it on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 59
25	Finance	Rice	External Bodies – Implementation of the Government's Guidelines on the Recognition of Sex and Gender	<p><b>Senator RICE:</b> From the questions I've asked of the A-G's, it's very clear that, although they were meant to be fully implemented by July 2016, that hasn't been the case and there has not been enough monitoring to see which agencies have and haven't implemented them in that time. Do you have activities where you are engaging with the public in terms of keeping information public and not just for your internal HR records?  <b>Ms Huxtable:</b> We're not generally an external facing organisation in the same way as the Department of Health or Department of Social Services. To be honest, the main external facing responsibilities we have are probably in administering the ministerial and parliamentary expenses arrangements, unless I'm forgetting something. Nothing immediately springs to mind where we're doing a lot of work with other external bodies.  <b>Senator RICE:</b> Maybe you could take on notice if there's anything else and whether those interactions are also compliant with the guidelines.  <b>Ms Huxtable:</b> Sure.</p>	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 59
26	Finance	Lines	Enterprise Bargaining	<p><b>Senator LINES:</b> Ms Jones, when Senator McAllister was asking about the bargaining process you said you intended to include staff and ask for their ideas. Can you detail for the committee—I'm happy for you to take it on notice—what comments staff gave in the last round and which of those comments were picked up and we can see reflected in the current enterprise agreement?  <b>Ms Jones:</b> I'd have to take that on notice. It's before my time in the organisation, but I'm happy to look into that.</p>	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 65
27	Finance	McAllister	Welfare Payment Infrastructure Transformation	<p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> Okay, back to the welfare payment infrastructure transformation, rather than philosophies about plain English communication, which I share. There is an announcement of an additional \$316 million for tranche 3 of the Welfare Payment Infrastructure Transformation Program. I don't know if that tells you very much. How many more tranches are there for the project? Is tranche 3 the final</p>	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 66

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				<p>tranche?  <b>Mr Bartlett:</b> No. There's another tranche to come, tranche 4.  <b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> When is it expected to commence?  <b>Mr Bartlett:</b> I think we've got to take that on notice. I have a sense it's 18 months away, but I'd really like to check that, so we'll take that on notice if that's okay.  <b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> Has the project realised the efficiencies that were expected under tranche 1 and 2?  <b>Mr Bartlett:</b> It has. I'd be suggesting that, in terms of getting detail about what it's recognised and where, the Department of Human Services is obviously best positioned to tell you about what they've delivered.  <b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> I'm more interested in the financials around it. I have talked to them about its functions and performance. From a digital perspective, much of the digital investment has been premised on savings, and I'm interested to understand whether the savings have been realised in tranche 1 and tranche 2.  <b>Mr Bartlett:</b> Again, I'll take it on notice and come back to you with specific details, but the Department of Human Services has realised more savings than they expected and returned some funding in part of getting funding for tranche 3 as a result of savings realised from earlier tranches.</p>	
28	Finance	McAllister	Payment Variations	<p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> I'm back on page 3-21: statement 3, page 21. I'm looking at the line where there is a discussion about the effect of parameter and other variations on receipts and payments, and I'm particularly looking at the payments.  ...  <b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> There is a whole range of ups and downs, and that's really what I'm trying to understand. So in 2021-22 you see this reasonably dramatic downward push on payments.  <b>Senator Cormann:</b> Hang on, when you say 'dramatic'—  <b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> You get a big drop in that single year of 6.8 billion. It drops off as a result of parameter variations. That is quite big, and I'm trying to understand what it is that's driving it in that year that sees it change so much.  <b>Senator Cormann:</b> If you want to get specific details and if you want us to disaggregate individual years to that level of detail, I will have to take that on notice. I don't necessarily agree with your characterisation. A beneficial trajectory does compound as it moves forward over a four-year period, and so if you look at where you start, you go from a positive three billion in 2018-19 to payment reductions of 1.4 billion in 2020-21. That is also quite a turnaround that is projected, and it goes further by another 5.5 billion between 2020-21 and 2021-22. But if you want us to disaggregate the specific factors in that, we'll have to take that on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 71
29	Finance	McAllister	More Choices for a Longer Life – measures	<p><b>Senator KITCHING:</b> Can I go to page 117 of budget paper 2, which is More Choices for a Longer Life, healthy ageing and high quality care. That includes quite a lot of different measures. Is this the full list? In the financial box, is that everything? Is anything missing from that box?  <b>Ms Huxtable:</b> Not in respect of this package of measures. That reflects the financials associated with this package of measures.  <b>Senator BARTLETT:</b> When we say 'the measures attached to the package', this is the full lot for ageing and high quality care.  ...  <b>Senator KITCHING:</b> Can we go through a breakdown? As you say, Ms Huxtable, there are a lot of different agencies in this area. So can we go to a breakdown of this measure?  <b>Ms Huxtable:</b> We could take that on notice. We don't have that available at that level of detail.  <b>Senator KITCHING:</b> I think you have done this for a range of other measures previously.  <b>Senator Cormann:</b> No. I have taken a similar question on notice before when I was asked for a breakdown on, for example, the Captain Cook measure. If you want to ask us questions that are not on our portfolio then we're happy to assist but will have to do that on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 72, 73
30	Finance	McAllister	MYEFO and Budget Decisions Taken But Not Yet Announced	<p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> In question on notice F016, you provided a list of the MYEFO measures that were decisions taken but not yet announced that had since been announced.  <b>Senator Cormann:</b> Yes.  <b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> Can we get an update on that?  <b>Senator Cormann:</b> I'll have to take that on notice. I'm happy to provide you an update, but I'll have to take that on notice.  <b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> I think it would be good first to update the MYEFO one and also to get a list of any budget decisions taken that have since been announced.  <b>Senator Cormann:</b> Sorry, can you say that again?  <b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> Also a list of items that were included in the budget as decisions taken but have since been announced.  <b>Senator Cormann:</b> Done.</p>	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 81
31	Finance	McAllister	Indigenous Rangers – 2017-18 Budget Measure	<p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> ... On this question of the announcement around Indigenous rangers—I have the media release that I can circulate.  <b>Senator Cormann:</b> ...I am initially advised that you are looking at a 2017-18 budget measure—  <b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> It is 27 April 2018.  ...  <b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> Why isn't there an update provided in a subsequent paper, like MYEFO or this budget, with a zero financial impact?  <b>Senator Cormann:</b> If you want me to take on notice—  <b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> I do.  <b>Senator Cormann:</b> Where this is reflected in terms of updates provided, I'm happy to do that. But, in terms of the detail, the funding profiles and</p>	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 83, 84, 85

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				all of these sorts of matters, there is one minister—that is, the minister who is responsible for this.	
32	Finance	Kitching	Decisions Taken But Not Yet Announced – ABC	<p><b>Senator KITCHING:</b> Could I go to BP2, page 79. It's: 'Funding for Australian Film and Television Content and the National Broadcasters'—down in the second paragraph that starts with, 'The Australian Broadcasting Corporation,' it says that: This will result in savings to the Budget of \$83.7 million over three years from 2019-20 to 2021-22.</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> ...I want to come back to your response, Minister, about the need to direct these questions to Minister Fifield. Can I conclude from that that Minister Fifield was aware of the decision taken but not yet announced in relation to the ABC?</p> <p><b>Senator Cormann:</b> Well, he was aware of the budget measure.</p> <p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> At the time it was included as a decision taken but not yet announced?</p> <p><b>Senator Cormann:</b> You're now going through the deliberative processes of government and the cabinet process. I described it in a general sense. In a general sense, the portfolio minister of course is part of the decision-making process. I will take it on notice to see whether I can add in any way to the answer in the context of this specific circumstance. All decisions are made through the usual deliberative process of cabinet. Through the ERC, the general practice is that portfolio ministers submit various proposals and suggestions to the ERC and the ERC ministers probe, scrutinise and ask questions and, ultimately, decisions are made which then go to cabinet and cabinet ticks off on them if cabinet is satisfied that those decisions are appropriate.</p> <p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> I appreciate the approach you've taken, given some of the constraints, but the ordinary practice is that, if an important decision was to be made about a minister's portfolio, they would be involved in the budget processes associated with that.</p> <p><b>Senator Cormann:</b> The ordinary practice is that the portfolio minister is involved in the consideration of potential budget measures—that is right. I will take it on notice to see whether there's anything else I can add to that, given that this is part of the confidential deliberative processes of the cabinet.</p>	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 88, 89, 91
33	Finance	Kitching	Dividends	<p><b>Senator KITCHING:</b> Maybe I'll ask a more general question about dividends. What changes were there to dividends in 2018-19? Were there any significant drops in comparison to other years?</p> <p><b>Senator Cormann:</b> We'll have to take that on notice.</p> <p><b>Senator KITCHING:</b> Okay. Is it possible to provide a breakdown of dividends by agency?</p> <p><b>Senator Cormann:</b> On notice we can.</p> <p><b>Senator KITCHING:</b> Yes, by payee or, in the case of the Future Fund, the aggregate over the forward estimates. Does that make sense?</p> <p><b>Ms Huxtable:</b> Yes, we'll collate it.</p> <p><b>Senator KITCHING:</b> Other non-taxation receipts also sort of jump around—there's some variation in 2020-21. What's driving that?</p> <p><b>Ms Huxtable:</b> Have you got a table that you're referring to? That would help a lot.</p> <p><b>Senator KITCHING:</b> I'm trying to find what I was reading, but it'll be—</p> <p><b>Ms Huxtable:</b> If we respond to the question you've just asked, will that respond to this question?</p> <p><b>Senator KITCHING:</b> Yes, it will.</p> <p><b>Ms Huxtable:</b> I was getting a bit confused. We started talking about loans and now we're talking a dividends, and they're two different things.</p> <p><b>Senator KITCHING:</b> Yes.</p> <p><b>Ms Huxtable:</b> The NBN loan—that's repayments. They were interest payments.</p> <p><b>Senator KITCHING:</b> I'm interested in variation in interest received and I was trying to use the NBN loan, but I don't have the MYEFO from 2016-17. But I'm also interested in variations in dividend.</p> <p><b>Ms Huxtable:</b> There is a table in the budget, in statement 7, which breaks out some of this detail and lists some individual elements. Given the time, we can take it on notice and present it back to you.</p> <p><b>Senator KITCHING:</b> That would be great.</p> <p><b>Ms Huxtable:</b> We'll go through the <i>Hansard</i> to make sure we get the various elements of that correct, if that's okay.</p> <p><b>Senator</b></p>	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 91, 92
34	Finance	Kitching	Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility Loan	<p><b>Senator KITCHING:</b> ... Can I ask very quickly, Chair, about the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility loan?</p> <p><b>CHAIR:</b> You may.</p> <p><b>Senator KITCHING:</b> I did have a reference. In the MYEFO—</p> <p><b>Ms Huxtable:</b> Which one?</p> <p><b>Senator KITCHING:</b> I think it might have appeared in the statement of risks in the last MYEFO. Maybe you can take it on notice, given the chair is going to—</p> <p><b>CHAIR:</b> Let's put the question on notice.</p> <p><b>Senator KITCHING:</b> Is this a particular loan—is it an estimate? On the NAIF loans, I want to know if they're estimates. There was a five per cent and a 30-year estimate, so I'm wondering how they were arrived at, and, also, 30 years is quite a long time frame.</p> <p><b>Ms Huxtable:</b> We can take that on notice.</p> <p><b>Senator KITCHING:</b> Is a 30-year time-frame being used because it's going to take some time for them to be paid back?</p> <p><b>Ms Huxtable:</b> I note that the table says that's the estimated time frame, but we'll provide more information on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 92
35	Finance	Kitching	Ratio of Public	<p><b>Senator KITCHING:</b> Perhaps we can sort of cut this another way. Are you able to say how much full-time public servant numbers have decreased</p>	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee,

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			Servants to Contractors and Consultants	or increased in proportion to the number of consultants or contractors? <b>Senator Cormann:</b> The overall cost of government administration as a proportion of overall government expenditure is reducing. And I will take on notice to see whether we can add to that answer in the context of the question that you've asked.	Page 103, 104
36	Finance	Kitching	GBE Remuneration	<b>Senator KITCHING:</b> ...I will move to GBE remuneration. Should taxpayers have the right to know how much executives at Commonwealth entities are paid? ... <b>Senator KITCHING:</b> How do you ensure that the loophole that allowed Mr Fahour's salary at Australia Post not to be transparent is closed? How do we ensure that that lack of transparency isn't repeated? I know you've said it's in the guidelines but are you able to give me the relevant part of the guidelines? <b>Ms Huxtable:</b> If we haven't got it, we can take it on notice and provide it for you. <b>Senator KITCHING:</b> Thank you. <b>Ms Huxtable:</b> I think the long and the short of the response is that the arrangements have changed. They changed last year, commencing with a letter from the minister to the GBEs, and have since been incorporated into the GBE guidelines. We can come back on notice with the actual detail.	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 104
37	Finance	Kitching	Australia Post Appointment	<b>Senator KITCHING:</b> I might go to Australia Post. There's been a recent appointment to the Australia Post board. Senator Cormann, you issued a media release—I do like to look at your media portal, which you very helpfully— <b>Senator Cormann:</b> Are you talking about the media release of 23 February 2017? <b>Senator KITCHING:</b> No. I was talking about the media release of 9 March— <b>Senator Cormann:</b> Oh, this year. <b>Senator KITCHING:</b> About Tony Nutt. He's been appointed as a non-executive director to Australia Post for three years. ... <b>Senator KITCHING:</b> Is there a reason the release was issued on a Friday afternoon before the long weekend? <b>Senator Cormann:</b> If you want me to investigate the circumstances of the release, given that was now two-and-a-bit months ago, I'll check what my diary arrangements were at the time and get back to you if I can provide any insight as to whether my movements may have had a bearing on the timing of the statement.	Hansard Proof, 23 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 105
38	Finance	McAllister	International Delegations	<b>Ms Huxtable:</b> Just adding to that: I think Dr Helgeby's already mentioned it, but we do host many delegations during the year. Normally they would be with us for a day probably, and in that time we have presentations but also engagement and shared learning opportunities around, for example, our budget process, our financial framework and rules. There's quite an effort that goes into that on our part, and I think that's very much valued. There are a wide range of countries from the broader region, the Asian region also, who come and participate in those—and Treasury will also often provide input into those sessions. I recall that we actually report somewhere the number of delegations we've received, but, if you're interested, we can provide that information to you. <b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> Yes, that would be really useful in fact.	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 10, 11
39	Finance	McAllister	Plutus	<b>Senator KITCHING:</b> Do you know of any entitlements for contractors working for the Commonwealth that were not paid by Plutus? Does the Commonwealth have any exposure for those people or their entitlements? What is the current whole-of-government exposure to Plutus? Do you have a breakdown by department, including for Finance? Has the AFP provided any indication of the length it will take to complete their investigation into Plutus? Has this situation prompted Finance to review the Commonwealth procurement guidelines? By the way, if that's yes or no, maybe some explanation about that position would be good. So not just a yes or no but why or why not. Is there more due diligence on contractors used, and should there be? <b>Senator Cormann:</b> Happy to take those questions on notice.	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 13
40	Finance	McAllister	NBN Equity Agreement	<b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> But those liabilities to Optus and Telstra are listed separately. What is the liability associated with the equity agreement—or is that just my misunderstanding? Are these two subheadings of equity agreement? They're listed as three discrete and separate risks. ... <b>Ms Huxtable:</b> We can take the detail on notice, but I think you'll find that in addition there will be other liabilities where NBN has entered contracts. In the event that there is termination, there will be liabilities under those contracts. But we can take it on notice and give you the details. <b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> Can you particularly look at this question? I may have it all wrong, but I wonder if the first header—'equity agreement'—speaks to the fact that the Commonwealth has a significant equity stake in this company and, if the rollout was terminated for any reason, the value of that equity stake could collapse. That is what I am asking. I specifically wish to know whether that first risk refers to that significant but remote contingency. ... <b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> In doing so, can you also answer this question. Are these liabilities in addition to the risk that the value of our equity investment would be diminished in the event of termination? You understand? <b>Ms Huxtable:</b> Yes. I get what you're saying..	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 21, 22



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41	Finance	McAllister	Western Sydney Airport Equity Profile	<p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> Is there a point in time or a point in the project work plan when it will be possible to publicly release the details of the equity profile?</p> <p><b>Mr Jaggers:</b> I'll probably have to take that on notice, Senator.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 22
42	Finance	McAllister	Western Sydney Airport Board	<p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> Is the board meeting monthly?</p> <p><b>Ms Huxtable:</b> I'm not actually aware of that. I don't know if the team knows how often the board meets. We'll probably take that on notice and let you know.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 23
43	Finance	Lines	Western Sydney Airport Equity Funding	<p><b>Ms Huxtable:</b> There's an equity funding agreement, which is part of the agreement. That provides the equity funding profile.</p> <p><b>Senator LINES:</b> Sure, but is there a time line for drawdown? You said drawdown had commenced.</p> <p><b>Ms Huxtable:</b> That is in the equity funding. The agreement includes the time line.</p> <p><b>Senator LINES:</b> What percentage has been drawn down already?</p> <p><b>Ms Huxtable:</b> We might have to take that on notice, but it's in its early stages, so it's not a significant amount at this point. We'll take it on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 23
44	Finance	McAllister	Composition of GBE Steering Committees	<p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> Ms Huxtable, can I ask you to take on notice the composition of those steering committees across the projects that we have discussed this morning, particularly Snowy Hydro, the NBN, Western Sydney Airport and Inland Rail. I ask that because I'd assumed in our discussion that those groups comprised only the shareholder ministers, but it sounds like other agencies are involved.</p> <p><b>Ms Huxtable:</b> Yes, the shareholder ministers, the entity and the representatives of the GBE. In some instances, other agencies will be involved where that's appropriate.</p> <p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> A list of those would be helpful just so that we can see how it's working.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 25
45	Finance	McAllister	Remote Contingencies	<p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> On page 6 of statement 9 it indicates that the risks associated with litigation cases have been modified. How have they been modified?</p> <p><b>Ms Huxtable:</b> I was going to say the modification is in relation to the numbers, but I expect that's a point to be made in respect to the next one, the remote-contingencies item.</p> <p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> Yes, I can see that remote contingencies is—it describes those as being restricted in nature and details are not given, for reasons of commercial-in-confidence or national security, so I understand your inability to speak in any detail about that. But, in terms of the litigation cases, what is it that has been modified?</p> <p><b>Ms Huxtable:</b> I have to say, as I compare this year's budget with last year's, nothing leaps out at me in terms of modification, but we can take it on notice.</p> <p><b>Senator Cormann:</b> We'll take it on notice and make sure that—</p> <p><b>Ms Huxtable:</b> I expect there are some minor wording changes that are not immediately obvious to me as I look at it here.</p> <p><b>Senator Cormann:</b> We'll provide that information on notice. It doesn't look like there is anything material.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 26
46	Finance	McAllister	Campaign and Non-Campaign Advertising Expenditure	<p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> Are you able to take on notice a request to provide an update since the publication?</p> <p><b>Ms Powell:</b> Could you just repeat that, sorry.</p> <p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> Are you able to take on notice a request to provide an update on expenditure, and also the breakdown of campaign and non-campaign expenditure?</p> <p><b>Ms Powell:</b> We will take it on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 36
47	Finance	McAllister	Quality Schools, Quality Futures Campaign	<p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> Specifically I am looking for when the schools funding advertising campaign first came to the attention of the ICC, and the process by which that occurred. I would like to understand the sequence of events, the occasions on which the Department of Finance contacted the Department of Education and Training to alert them of how to approach the ICC process, and the relationship of the timing of that to the funding approval for the campaign. I would like to know the date on which contact was first made between the Department of Finance and the Department of Education and Training in relation to the need to go through the ICC process. I would like to know whether the Department of Education and Training provided a formal submission to the ICC seeking approval for the campaign, and the date that submission was provided. I would like to know the dates, if relevant, that the Department of Finance met with the Department of Education and Training to discuss the schools funding advertising, and the information Education and Training provided to Finance. If it is possible to table the information provided by the Department of Education and Training to Finance and to the ICC, I would like that to be tabled.</p> <p><b>Ms Powell:</b> Certainly.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 36
48	Finance	Patrick	Whole of Government Air Travel Policy – Best Fare of the Day	<p><b>Senator PATRICK:</b> ... You may disagree with this, but I would have thought you would have some oversight role, having defined the policy.</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Mr Hunt:</b> I will have to take on notice what sort of oversight we do of the policy.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 39
49	Finance	Patrick	Finance Travel Data 2017-18	<p><b>Senator PATRICK:</b> ... Now I go specifically to Finance</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Senator PATRICK:</b> ... it might be helpful if you provided me with 2017-18 to date, and maybe you can look at those policy codes and the</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 39, 40

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				<p>numbers. That might help articulate why there is a difference.  <b>Ms Huxtable:</b> We can certainly look at the data that we hold and seek to provide clarification.  <b>Senator PATRICK:</b> Thank you very much. Can I ask you to break out SES travel separately.  <b>Mr Hunt:</b> I don't think we can do that.  <b>Ms Huxtable:</b> We'll see what we can do.  <b>Senator PATRICK:</b> Thank you. That would be helpful.</p>	
50	Finance	Patrick	Chairman's Lounge	<p><b>Senator PATRICK:</b> Then I might ask another question. I don't necessarily want the answer now. I'll start off by saying that I am a member of the Qantas Chairman's Lounge and I'm also a member of Virgin's The Club, and that is declared on my register of interests. There are very good uses for those lounges—free meeting rooms and in some senses privacy in discussions—so I have no objection to people who have been invited to join one of those two clubs. On notice, could you please provide me with the number of people in your organisation who have been invited and have accepted membership of those clubs, de-identified. I don't need to know who they are. I don't think that's necessary. I would like to know only in circumstances where the invitation came because they were a public official of a certain status.  <b>Ms Huxtable:</b> As opposed to someone like the partner of a public official or unofficially?  <b>Senator PATRICK:</b> Yes, exactly. If someone has it for other reasons, good luck to them. And then, in the circumstances where you do identify or at least number those people, in circumstances where they are only members of one of those clubs, could I please have the ratio of their travel, Qantas versus Virgin.  ...  <b>Ms Huxtable:</b> ... I'm just thinking through the complexity, but leave it with us. The only thing I'd say is that there will be information about individuals that we don't necessarily hold in terms of individual membership of various clubs.  <b>Senator PATRICK:</b> Sure, but I'm not talking about Qantas Frequent Flyer membership or Virgin membership—  ...  <b>Senator PATRICK:</b> I am only talking about invited members to The Club and to the Chairman's Lounge. I would have thought that most likely only within your senior management group. It wouldn't take long to muster up a count of how many you have. And then, if in the circumstances there's someone who's got one but not the other, I'd like to see their travel records—and I don't want them to be named.  <b>Ms Huxtable:</b> Okay, just where someone's got one and not the other—sorry, my misunderstanding.  ...  <b>Ms Huxtable:</b> I think the other way into this, which may be where you're heading, is that I believe the airlines themselves have policies in respect of their invitation practices. I expect that that will provide a guide as to the members of our organisation who are members of one or both of those. But leave it with me, and I will go through the <i>Hansard</i> carefully and make sure we've captured it correctly.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 40
51	Finance	Farrell	Government Staff Paid Above the Band	<p><b>Senator FARRELL:</b> Okay. Can you tell us the number of government staff that are currently paid above the published band ranges?  <b>Senator Cormann:</b> I'll have to take that on notice.  <b>Senator FARRELL:</b> And can you tell us which offices?  <b>Senator Cormann:</b> On notice, yes.  <b>Senator FARRELL:</b> We've previously been advised that the total quantum of that above-band-range amount is \$761,004 per annum. Can you tell me whether that's still correct?  <b>Senator Cormann:</b> Can you say that again?  <b>Senator FARRELL:</b> In the past, the last figure that we received as the total amount of salary that's paid to staff above range was \$761,004 per annum. My question is: is that still the correct figure?  <b>Ms Huxtable:</b> Senator, we've taken it on notice, coming back. I've got the response from the last estimates where we included that information, so when we come back we would have to include that information again. I don't know if it's exactly the same. Basically, this question that we took on notice—  <b>Senator Cormann:</b> We'll take it on notice so—  <b>Ms Huxtable:</b> question 33, we will basically take on notice again and provide you with updated information.  <b>Senator FARRELL:</b> We had a question on notice in February 2017—  <b>Ms Huxtable:</b> February 2018, do you mean?  <b>Senator FARRELL:</b> no, February 2017—and you provided the answer on 16 April.  <b>Senator Cormann:</b> In all likelihood it's still current, but, given that you're asking it again a month later, and in order to ensure that I'm not inadvertently misleading you or that the officers are not inadvertently misleading you, given that you want an update of information that was current as at 16 April, I'd rather take it on notice to make sure it is 100 per cent accurate.  <b>Senator FARRELL:</b> Thank you, I appreciate that. Without naming the individual staff, are you able to provide the individual amounts each staff member is paid above their established salary band?  <b>Senator Cormann:</b> To the extent that there is that situation, then yes</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 41
52	Finance	Farrell	MoP(S) Act Employees – Follow Up Inquiries	<p><b>Senator FARRELL:</b> ...Given that the department can clearly measure response times in order to report these figures, can you provide a figure on how often an inquiry is followed up by a parliamentarian or staff member in order to receive a final answer?  <b>Ms Jones:</b> We'd have to take that on notice for you. We're happy to do that.  <b>Senator FARRELL:</b> Can you identify for us how often inquiries by parliamentarians or staff are left unanswered?</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 46

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				<b>Ms Jones:</b> We'll take that on notice. I'm anticipating that it would be almost not at all.	
53	Finance	Farrell	MoP(S) Act Employees – Client Survey	<p><b>Senator FARRELL:</b> Just on that point specifically: have you done a client survey about satisfaction with the system at any stage?</p> <p><b>Mr Ford:</b> Not for several years.</p> <p><b>Senator FARRELL:</b> What happened the last time you did it?</p> <p><b>Ms Jones:</b> We'll take that on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 46
54	Finance	Farrell	Parliamentarians with Large Electorates	<p><b>Senator FARRELL:</b> ... The item provides \$2.2 million to reimburse parliamentarians with electorates over 25,000 square metres for the lease costs of running a private office. Are you aware which parliamentarians would benefit from this provision?</p> <p><b>Senator Cormann:</b> Not off the top of my head; I would have to take that on notice. Obviously, it is members with large electorates, which, I suspect, is a matter of public record.</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Senator FARRELL:</b> Was this measure requested by the National Party?</p> <p><b>Senator Cormann:</b> The measure was one of the budget measures which is a government measure; it's a government endorsed measure. It was considered through the budget process, which I have made very clear.</p> <p><b>Senator FARRELL:</b> That's not my question. My question was: was it requested by the National Party? The idea must have come from somewhere.</p> <p><b>Senator Cormann:</b> This is a measure that is a government budget measure; it went through the budget process. To be frank, I couldn't actually tell you off the top of my head who came forward with the proposition initially, but if you want me to check on notice I am happy to consider that.</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Senator FARRELL:</b> While you are taking that on notice, could you advise us whether any National Party MPs were consulted about the proposal?</p> <p><b>Senator Cormann:</b> I will take that on notice. But, as you well know, Senator Farrell, I go out of my way to consult the people who have relevant interests in a particular matter, as a matter of course.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 48, 49
55	Finance	Paterson	Members of Parliament Found Ineligible by the High Court	<p><b>CHAIR:</b> ...I would like to ask some questions about the members of parliament who recently resigned or were found to be ineligible by the High Court to sit in the parliament. I'm particularly interested in their office expenses. I use the word 'office' expenses in the broadest understanding of the word, as in any work expenses that they are entitled, including their commutations allowance, their flights and all the public resources that they have access to. I am interested in a breakdown of the spending of these parliamentarians, and I will list them for clarity: Senator Katy Gallagher; the member for Longman, Ms Lamb; the member for Braddon, Ms Keay; and the member for Fremantle, Mr Wilson. I am interested in two periods of expenditure for them. The first period I am interested in is between Friday, 27 October 2017 and up to 10 am on 9 May 2018. For relevance, the period that that refers to is between the Canavan decision and the Gallagher decision.</p> <p>...</p> <p>I don't expect you to have those numbers here. I neglected to mention Ms Sharkey, the member for Mayo; please include her in my question. The second period I'm interested in is the period between 10am on 9 May 2018, which was when the High Court announced its decision in the Gallagher case, and when those MPs subsequently resigned. I should just clarify.</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Senator Cormann:</b>... I will take on notice the question that you've asked. Let me just say, though, that I will be scrupulously consistent in the way I approach the provision of the sort of information that you are seeking with the way this is applied to federal members and senators from all parties.</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>CHAIR:</b> Thank you. I should clarify. The second period of time, which was within the first period of time, is from 22 October 2017 to 9 May 2018. I'm also interested in whether there was any expenditure after the High Court handed down its decision at 10am on 9 May. For example, those MPs were in Canberra when that decision was handed down. Did they return to their homes?</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>CHAIR:</b> Was it on a flight that was booked and paid for by the Commonwealth? Were they picked up by a COMCAR here from Parliament House and taken to the airport? Were they picked up by a COMCAR at their home airport and taken to their homes? I should stress I am not interested in where the COMCAR took them. I absolutely appreciate the need to protect their privacy about where they live.</p> <p><b>Senator Cormann:</b> The general comment is that the arrangements are consistent with the arrangements that apply to all members of any party affiliation in these circumstances. We might be able to assist you on notice in the broad as to what happens in these circumstances from a procedural point of view and from the point of view of how work expense arrangements are handled in these circumstances. I'm not proposing to go into the specific circumstances of individual members of parliament, as we haven't done in relation to any of the previous members of parliament who found themselves in a similar circumstance.</p> <p><b>CHAIR:</b> Thank you. The only other thing I'd ask you to take into consideration when preparing your answer is that we are talking about the expenditure of taxpayer funds by people who were found to be ineligible to sit in the parliament. I think there's a very strong public interest and that the community would like to know whether any public funds were spent by MPs who were not eligible to be there in the first place, when they knew that they were not eligible to be there.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 49, 50
56	Finance	Watt	Personal Staff in	<b>Senator WATT:</b> You might remember—and feel free to take this on notice—that there was a bit more to my question. I don't want to get people's	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2018, F&PA Committee,

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			Minister Keenan's Office	names, but I was seeking the date that each of those staff members ended their employment as MOP(S) officers and the position that each of those staff members held. <b>Senator Cormann:</b> I think I had already taken that on notice. I'm not sure that I was able to get that information. <b>Senator WATT:</b> If you could take those extra details on notice, please. <b>Senator Cormann:</b> Yes.	Page 102
57	IPEA	Farrell	Meetings with Members of Parliament	<b>Senator FARRELL:</b> ... Can you provide us with an update on those meetings and an assessment as to how they've gone. <b>Ms Godwin:</b> I have continued that range of meetings. I've now met with 19 parliamentarians. I've also met with both of the chamber departments in a formal capacity... My third group of people to meet—just so you know where I'm going forward—is to then come back to this committee and follow through on other people who are interested parties to this committee who regularly appear. I can break that down by alignment, if you like, but that's the process that I'm going through. <b>Senator FARRELL:</b> Yes. That would handy. <b>Ms Godwin:</b> I'll take that on notice.	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 54
58	IPEA	Farrell	Staffing Profile of the Agency	<b>Senator FARRELL:</b> Good. Your predecessor, Ms McGregor, provided on notice the number of staff transferring from the Department of Finance to the newly established IPEA. Is it possible to be provided with the staffing profile of the agency, including classifications as it stands today? <b>Ms Godwin:</b> I'll provide that information to the committee. I don't have that information in front of me at the moment. <b>Senator FARRELL:</b> On notice is fine. <b>Ms Godwin:</b> Thank you. <b>Senator FARRELL:</b> In providing that advice, how many of your staff are assigned to the help desk or to respond to inquiries? <b>Ms Godwin:</b> I will provide that as part of that update to you.	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 55
59	IPEA	Farrell	Monthly Breakdown on Number of Inquiries Received	<b>Senator FARRELL:</b> ...Can the committee be provided with a monthly breakdown on the number of inquiries received and the answers throughout this year? <b>Ms Godwin:</b> I can certainly provide you with the monthly breakdown as a question on notice.	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 55
60	IPEA	Farrell	Training	I refer to the training the Authority has provided to parliamentarians and MOPS employees since the commencement of the new Parliamentary Business Resources Framework.  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How many training sessions were commenced before the commencement on 1 January 2018 to prepare and inform parliamentarians and employees of the new framework?</li> <li>2. Where were these sessions conducted?</li> <li>3. How many training sessions have been offered and conducted since 1 January 2018?</li> <li>4. Where were those sessions conducted?</li> <li>5. How many offices have contacted the Authority to request and arrange an individual training session, as attendance at one of the scheduled sessions was not, or couldn't be, achieved?</li> <li>6. What plans does the Authority have to provide ongoing and regularly training sessions with respect to the Parliamentary Business Resources Framework to ensure that new parliamentarians and employees have the opportunity to participate, and also for existing parliamentarians and staff to attend for a refresher session?</li> <li>7. Further to this, what plans does the Authority have with respect to future training delivery in terms of location (locations other than the CPO and Parl House) and method of delivery to ensure that the training is available to as many parliamentarians and employees as possible?</li> <li>8. When can a schedule of regular training sessions be expected?</li> </ol>	Written
61	Finance	Farrell	Finance Role - Statement of Standards for Ministerial Staff	Response to Question on Notice 37 provided by the Prime Minister and Cabinet portfolio from the last round of estimates stated:  <i>"Implementation of the Ministerial Staff Statement of Standards is the responsibility of the Prime Minister's Office and the Government Staffing Committee."</i>  What role does the Department of Finance have in advising on issues relating to the Ministerial Staff Statement of Standards?	Written
62	AEC	Wong	Advice provided to the Clerk of the House of Representatives	<b>Senator WONG:</b> So, just to confirm: no advice in writing was provided to the Speaker prior to the New England, Bennelong or Batman elections. <b>Mr Rogers:</b> I'm just going to correct that evidence. I think we did provide advice before. <b>Mr Pirani:</b> It's a matter of routine. I provide advice to the Clerk of the House of Representatives on possible polling dates and election time frames before every single by-election and every single general election. <b>Senator WONG:</b> Can you provide me with a copy of that?	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 65, 68

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				<p><b>Mr Pirani:</b> I'd have to take that on notice.</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Senator WONG:</b> When someone resigns or when there is an event which triggers the need for a by-election, does the Clerk ask you for it or do you simply say, 'Here are the dates'?</p> <p><b>Mr Pirani:</b> The normal process is: we get a request from a person in the Table Office, on behalf of the Clerk, for possible dates to be included in a writ. We would respond with one or two scenarios, depending on the particular facts that exist at the time, outlining any particular issues that the AEC is aware of that might impact on voter turnout, the exercise of franchise or our ability to deliver—matters of that ilk.</p> <p><b>Senator WONG:</b> Did you get such a request from the Table Office for this—what I will describe fairly on the basis of the evidence as routine advice—in respect of these five seats?</p> <p><b>Mr Pirani:</b> Yes, I did.</p> <p><b>Senator WONG:</b> Did you provide advice?</p> <p><b>Mr Pirani:</b> I provided initial advice, yes.</p> <p><b>Senator WONG:</b> Do you have a copy of that?</p> <p><b>Mr Pirani:</b> Not here.</p> <p><b>Senator WONG:</b> I seek that that be tabled.</p> <p><b>Mr Pirani:</b> I'll take that on notice.</p>	
63	AEC	Wong	Conversations between the Electoral Commissioner and the Speaker	<p><b>Senator WONG:</b> Okay. Can we come back now to: normal process, table office, Mr Pirani does his thing providing dates. He's conceded, or he's agreed, 28 July was not on the routine advice—that's what I'm calling it and I think he's accepted that. At which point do you get a request for advice from the Speaker, Mr Rogers, and how is that transmitted or expressed?</p> <p><b>Mr Rogers:</b> I would have to check the exact time and date but I would suspect that might have been a phone call</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Senator WONG:</b> Okay. On how many occasions have you spoken with the Speaker about these matters? I'm not going to ask you about content—</p> <p><b>Mr Rogers:</b> I'll take that on notice.</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Senator WONG:</b> Did you go and see him?</p> <p><b>Mr Rogers:</b> I have seen the Speaker, yes.</p> <p><b>Senator WONG:</b> About these issues?</p> <p><b>Mr Rogers:</b> Yes.</p> <p><b>Senator WONG:</b> On how many occasions?</p> <p><b>Mr Rogers:</b> I'm going to say twice but I will confirm that with you to make sure that I am not misleading you.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 69,70
64	AEC	Patrick	Flights	<p><b>Senator PATRICK:</b> The finance department has provided some information in response to a question on notice, which reveals a massive disparity in government officials' use of Qantas and Virgin. Here's a general picture for you: \$201 million of travel spent in 2016-17 on Qantas versus \$61 million on Virgin. And, in general, just using the numbers that have been provided by Finance, across all the numbers the average Qantas flight cost \$377 and Virgin cost \$261. In the context of a cheapest available fare policy—and I accept that these numbers may in fact be incorrect, but I'm not anticipating grossly incorrect—the Australian Electoral Commission spends \$676,000 on Qantas, or they did in 2016-17, and \$157,000 on Virgin in the same year. So that's quite a big difference. I'm wondering if you could explain that difference to me.</p> <p><b>Mr Rogers:</b> My figures don't exactly match that, but the ratio is about the same, so let's just accept it as that. There are a range of factors that are considered when selecting a flight. A cost is a prime one, but there are other factors, including availability of flights at times people wish to travel. There is another factor—and, before I say that, I might just point out that we get excellent service from both Virgin and Qantas. They both do a great job. We have a national network, including a number of isolated divisional officers, and I think it's generally accepted that Qantas's regional network, particularly QantasLink, provides a greater number of services to some of those regional areas where we have staff. That might explain why part of that spend is the case. I'd have to take on notice the detail of that...</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 86
65	AEC	Watt	By-Election Date	<p><b>Senator WATT:</b> Senator Cormann, when did you first know that the by-elections were going to be called on 28 July?</p> <p><b>Senator Cormann:</b> When it was announced.</p> <p><b>Senator WATT:</b> You didn't know before? You heard about it when you were watching the House of Representatives?</p> <p><b>Senator Cormann:</b> I wasn't watching the House of Representatives. There was obviously a level of speculation. What specific advice my office might have received at any particular time, I'll have to take on notice. But I did not know what decision the Speaker would make until the Speaker made the announcement in the House of Representatives.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 87
66	AEC	Farrell	Objections to Redistributions	<p><b>Senator FARRELL:</b> You might read from the document, and I quote from it: 'To allow you to easily object to this radical boundary shift, I've set up a website that will forward your objections to the commission.' She provides the link: boothby.good.do/helpsaveboothby. At the end of the consultation period for the new draft boundaries, I understand there were 321 objections—is that correct?</p> <p><b>Mr Rogers:</b> That's probably correct. I don't have the detail in front of me, but let's take that as correct.</p> <p><b>Senator FARRELL:</b> Of all the objections, how many were made with respect to changes in the electorate of Boothby?</p> <p><b>Mr Rogers:</b> Again, I'll take that on notice if that's okay. I'm trying to think whether that information is yet public. I'm not sure if Mr Pirani will know that either, but I'll take that on notice.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 93

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				<p>...</p> <p><b>Senator FARRELL:</b> How many examples have been there been of members of parliament creating an online portal to encourage objection to boundaries?</p> <p><b>Mr Rogers:</b> Again I may have to take that on notice</p>	
67	AEC	Watt	Appeal – Donation Thresholds	<p><b>Senator WATT:</b> Minister, are you aware of the Commonwealth joining that appeal?</p> <p><b>Senator Cormann:</b> I'm aware in general of the decision but not beyond that. I'm not aware of any consideration or decision to join an appeal. It sounds to me like that's something that would be in the province of the Attorney-General—</p> <p><b>Senator WATT:</b> I was debating which one. It sort of felt to me that it was a bit of both.</p> <p><b>Senator Cormann:</b> I'm happy to take it on notice to verify absolutely beyond doubt, but, to the best of my knowledge, I have not had any involvement in any consideration to that effect.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 101
68	AEC	Rhiannon	Investigations Into Disclosure Status of Organisations	<p><b>Senator RHIANNON:</b> You confirmed, when we spoke about this last time, that no other organisation has been the subject of three investigations. Could you tell us which organisations have been investigated twice?</p> <p><b>Mr Rogers:</b> I think I'd have to take that on notice.</p> <p><b>Senator RHIANNON:</b> Nobody here would know?</p> <p><b>Mr Pirani:</b> Normally we report them on our website. I'm not aware of any other one that we've done an investigation—a formal investigation, where we've reported the outcome—twice.</p> <p><b>Mr Rogers:</b> But we will confirm that, to make sure we're being accurate, for you.</p>	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 103
69	AEC	Farrell	Victorian Redistribution	<p>The boundaries for the next federal election will be set by determination on 13 July.</p> <p>As such, current members of parliament continue to represent the electors within existing boundaries until the next election.</p> <p>The draft redistribution proposed that the suburb of Carrum Downs be transferred from Isaacs to Dunkley.</p> <p>The current member for Dunkley has said on Facebook and in community meetings that if the 13 July AEC determination adopts the draft boundaries, as of August 2018 he will be the new member representing the electors of Carrum Downs.</p> <p>Can I confirm:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The new boundaries take effect for the conduct of the next election, not as of August.</li> <li>2. The member for Isaacs will continue to represent the electors of Carrum Downs until the election is called.</li> <li>3. Any statements made by the member for Dunkley indicating he would represent electors under the draft boundaries before the next election would be misleading?</li> </ol>	Written
70	AEC	Keneally	Disclosure Threshold	<p>Can you confirm that the disclosure threshold for third parties is \$13,500 for this current financial year?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. What was the threshold in the previous financial year?</li> <li>b. What types of groups would be considered third parties?</li> <li>c. What types of expenditure are included in this figure?</li> <li>d. Would this include expenditure associated with employing staff, website hosting, video production, and social media management, if they were part of a campaign that publically expressed views on an issue during an election?</li> </ol>	Written
71	AEC	Keneally	Business Council of Australia – Disclosure	<p>Did the Business Council of Australia make a disclosure to the AEC as a third party in the previous financial year?</p> <p>If so, what amount was disclosed?</p>	Written
72	AEC	Keneally	Centre Ground Pty Ltd – Disclosure	<p>Did Centre Ground Pty Ltd make a disclosure to the AEC as a third party in the previous financial year?</p> <p>If so, what amount was disclosed?</p>	Written

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73	AEC	Keneally	Breach of Australian Electoral Law	If an organisation campaigned in an election – whether state or federal - without a formal disclosure of their expenditure, could this constitute a breach of Australian electoral law?  Would an allegation of this sort typically be grounds for an investigation?	Written
74	AEC	Keneally	Penalties for Breaching Australian Electoral Law	What are the potential penalties for breaching Australian electoral law?	Written
75	AEC	Keneally	South Australian Disclosure Obligations	Would the AEC agree that South Australian disclosure obligations are stricter than federal obligations, with shorter reporting timeframes and lower expenditure thresholds for disclosure?	Written
76	AEC	Keneally	Business Council of Australia/Centre Ground Limited – Campaign	The Business Council of Australia announced on 27 March that it ran a campaign during the 2018 South Australian state election in support of changing local trading laws. It was subsequently revealed that this campaign was actually coordinated by the BCA’s political front group, Centre Ground Limited, who operated a website and social media page under the name of ‘For the Common Good’. Although the BCA did not publically declare their involvement in the campaign until March 27, they were in fact operating as early as 5 March, and specifically targeting South Australians with their content. Are you aware of this campaign?  Would the AEC agree that the BCA or Centre Ground might potentially have a duty to report their political expenditure and returns as a result of their campaigning during the South Australian state election?	Written
77	AEC	Keneally	Associated Entities	Can you please give me an example of an ‘associated entity’?  a. Is it correct that the AEC can declare an organisation as an associated entity if it is acting “wholly or to a significant extent for the benefit of one or more parties”, is that correct?  b. Does the AEC make that determination themselves, or do you require external parties to submit that a particular organisation should be considered an associated entity?  c. How often does the AEC reconsider the status of associated entities?	Written
78	AEC	Keneally	Associated Entities Declaring Political Expenditure	Are associated entities required to declare their political expenditure?  Can you confirm that under the <i>Commonwealth Electoral Act of 1918</i> that political expenditure includes any funds spent on the “public expression of views on an issue in an election by any means”?	Written
79	AEC	Keneally	Definition of an Associated Entity	If a third party publically aligns itself with the policies of a major party in its associated campaigns, appoints former party directors from that major party as advisors and board members, and creates a front group headed up by one of that parties’ former federal directors to run its campaigns, could they possibly fit the definition of an associated entity?	Written
80	Finance	Kitching	Decentralisation	<b>Senator KITCHING:</b> Are there any other departments that are exempt? <b>Senator Cormann:</b> I’ll take that on notice.	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 29
81	Finance	Kitching	Decentralisation – Policy Consideration	<b>Senator KITCHING:</b> So when was the last time cabinet considered this policy? <b>Senator Cormann:</b> I’d have to take that on notice in terms of the date.	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 31
82	Finance	Farrell	MOP(S) Act Employment - Mr Whiteley	<b>Senator FARRELL:</b> ... My first question is: when was Mr Whiteley first employed under the MOP(S) Act? Which offices was Mr Whiteley employed in? Was he employed in more offices than that of the Prime Minister, Mr Wyatt and Assistant Minister Taylor? Is there any reason Mr Whiteley left employment of the Prime Minister to work in Minister Wyatt’s office? When did Mr Whiteley transfer offices? When did Mr Whiteley officially resign from his employment with Minister Wyatt? Was this as a result of him being terminated, lodging a resignation, or a ministerial reshuffle? What classification was Mr Whiteley employed at in each of the offices he worked in? Did Mr Whiteley receive a redundancy package when he left his employment with Mr Wyatt? <b>Senator Cormann:</b> I’m happy to take them on notice, but I flag with you now that the answer will be consistent with the approach taken by governments of both political persuasions not to comment on matters related to individual staff.	Hansard Proof, 24 May 2018, F&PA Committee, Page 44

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83	AEC	Siewert	Disclosure of Political Expenditure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. If a business argues publicly for tax cuts will it have to report as political expenditure costs associated with this?</li> <li>2. How is an organisation supposed to assess what is political advocacy (political expenditure) in terms of what is before an election?</li> <li>3. How is the threshold calculated, is staff time included? How much of staff time should be allocated? Is it from the point of decision making on a particular issue?</li> <li>4. What is the cost of administering these measures? Has the AEC been allocated more resources to administer the changes?</li> <li>5. What modelling has been done of the additional number of organisations required to report? What modelling has been done on the additional time and cost of reporting by an organisation? Please provide the details of the modelling and assumptions of the modelling.</li> <li>6. Given this comment in the Guidelines: “The above guidance should not be used as a substitute for specific legal advice on what does or does not constitute political expenditure for the purpose of the Electoral Act. Users of this guide are urged to seek their own independent advice where necessary.” Are organisations expected to get legal advice every time they intend to make a public comment?</li> <li>7. Please consider and respond to the scenario outlined below: Scenario – organisation advocated a policy position in one financial year to which there is no response from any political party. In the following financial year there is an election and one of the parties adopts the policy – how does the organisation report this? The advocacy happened in the previous year and it was not before an election and not reported – would they be in breach because they didn’t report it?</li> </ol>	Written
84	Finance	McAllister	2017-18 WoG Travel	<p>Since the start of the 2017-18 financial year, detail all travel for Department travel across all Australian Government departments, agencies and offices. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals).</p> <p>Does anyone centrally track travel allowances across government?</p>	Written
85	Finance	McAllister	2017 Whole of Government Travel	<p>For the 2017 calendar year, detail all travel for Department travel across all Australian Government departments, agencies and offices. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals).</p>	Written
86	Finance	McAllister	2018 Whole of Government Travel	<p>For the 2018 calendar year to date, detail all travel for Department travel across all Australian Government departments, agencies and offices. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals).</p>	Written
87	Finance	McAllister	Car Fleet	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. What are the policies for procurement for the Government fleet and executive vehicles? - The APSC sets out that executive vehicles must be sourced from the arrangements managed by the Department of Finance.</li> <li>b. What are the restrictions?</li> <li>c. Has the Government set out any policy goals?</li> <li>d. What are the available vehicle options?</li> <li>e. In detail how much does the Commonwealth spend on its fleet by agency and leased and purchased?</li> <li>f. What is the distribution of vehicles – makes and models?</li> <li>g. Is there a policy on electric vehicles?</li> <li>h. Are there any electric vehicles on the possible list?</li> <li>i. Are agencies installing recharge stations for electric vehicles?</li> </ol>	Written
88	Future Fund	McAllister	MRFF Management Fees	<p>How do the MRFF’s management fees compare to the Future Fund and other investment funds managed by the Future Fund? If they are higher why is that?</p>	Written
89	Future Fund	Patrick	Travel Expenditure	<p>For FY 16/17:</p>	Written



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**FINANCE PORTFOLIO**

				<p>1. Please provide details of the Qantas/Virgin split for official travel in terms of:</p> <p>a. Total number of tickets</p> <p>b. Total value spent for official travel?</p> <p>2. In the event there is a disparity of greater than 65/35 in the split (either way), please provide a detailed reasons for the split in the context of a lowest practical fare policy.</p> <p>3. How many people in your organisation have been invited to (on the basis of their official position), and accepted, memberships from only the Qantas Chairman’s Lounge?</p> <p>a. Could you please provide a breakdown of the travel for each of those individuals between Qantas and Virgin?</p> <p>4. How many people in your organisation have been invited to (on the basis of their official position), and accepted, memberships from only Virgin’s The Club?</p> <p>a. Could you please provide a breakdown of the travel for each of those individuals between Qantas and Virgin?</p> <p>How many people in your organisation have been invited to (on the basis of their official position), and accepted, memberships from both the Qantas Chairman’s Lounge and Virgin’s The Club?</p>	
90	AEC	Rhiannon	Disclosure Status – Business Council of Australia / Queensland Resources Council	<p>1. In response to a question on notice on 27 February 2018 the AEC stated that it had “not formally considered the disclosure status of the Business Council of Australia or the Queensland Resources Council”.</p> <p>a. Has the AEC now considered if either of these bodies are associated entities?</p> <p>b. If not, why not?</p> <p>If the AEC has not considered if either of these bodies are associated entities why is that the case in light of AEC’s decision to investigate three times if GetUp is an associated entity?</p>	Written
91	Finance	Rhiannon	Office Fit Out – MP for Gilmore	<p>In 2016 there were reports that nearly \$360,000 was spent on an office fit-out for Ms Ann Sudmalis, MP for Gilmore, and there were further reports in the SMH on 5 September 2016 that Ms Sudmalis “got the price down a little by insisting on local tradies”.</p> <p>a. Is it correct that Ms Sudmalis was able to get “the price down a little by insisting on local tradies”?</p> <p>b. If so how much did the price come down by?</p> <p>c. What was the estimated cost of the fit-out before the local tradies were brought in and what was the final cost of the fit-out once the whole fit-out was finished?</p> <p>d. Who were the local tradies that were employed on the office fit-out for Ms Sudmalis? Please supply their name and the location of their business.</p> <p>e. How many local tradies were employed on the fit-out?</p> <p>f. How many contractors were employed on the fit-out?</p> <p>g. How many non-local tradies were employed on the fit out?</p>	Written
92	Finance	Patrick	Project Contingency	In relation to departmental and agency projects, what policies are in place in respect of determining project contingency? Please provide a copy of any such policies.	Written
93	AEC	Rhiannon	Drafting Advice - Electoral Legislation Amendment (Electoral Funding and Disclosure Reform) Bill 2017	Did the AEC advise the government on the drafting of 287H(5) of the Electoral Legislation Amendment (Electoral Funding and Disclosure Reform) Bill 2017? If so what was that advice?	Written
94	AEC	Rhiannon	Electoral Rolls	Regarding consistency between federal and state electoral rolls: has any consideration been given to shifting to one roll, covering the entire country for all levels of government?	Written
95	Finance	Farrell	Statement of	Paragraph 6 of the Statement of Standards for Ministerial Staff requires that staff:	Written

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES – 23-24 MAY 2018

FINANCE PORTFOLIO

			Standards for Ministerial Staff	<p><i>Have no involvement in outside employment or in the daily work of any business, or retain a directorship of a company, without the written agreement of their Minister and the Special Minister of State.</i></p> <p>Without identifying any individual staff, can you advise whether any staff have sought approval under this section, if so how many, and whether this was granted?</p>	
96	Finance	Kitching	MOP(S) Act Staff Employed by the Hon Greg Hunt MP	<p>1. What is the total number of MOP(S) Act staff who have been employed by the Hon Greg Hunt MP since 18 September 2013?</p> <p>2. How many of those staff have had their employment terminated since 18 September 2013?</p> <p>3. What is the total value of severance benefits paid to those employees?</p>	Written
97	Finance	Carr	Paper Procurement	<p>1. For each Australian Government Department and/or government agency, can the Department of Finance please provide a breakdown of the percentage of Australian made copy paper purchased by the Department/agency in the 2017-18 financial year to date, as well as the total percentage of Australian made copy paper purchased by the Australian Government in the 2017-18 financial year to date. In the Department's response, please include information on volumes, a breakdown by country of origin, the supplier and the percentage of recycled content.</p> <p>2. Please advise whether any Australian Government Departments and/or government agencies have recently changed their paper procurement policies to only purchase Australian made paper.</p> <p>3. Has any of the paper purchased through the current Whole of Australian Government Stationary and Office Supplies arrangement ever been subject to anti-dumping measures or investigations by the Anti-Dumping Commission?</p>	Written
98	Finance	Farrell	Statement of Standards for Ministerial Staff - investigations	<p>During the last estimates hearing Senator Cormann took on notice the following question from Senator McAllister:</p> <p><b>Senator McALLISTER:</b> Since the last election, has any member of staff been investigated or had their behaviour otherwise reviewed by the chief of staff? <b>Senator Cormann:</b> I'll have to take that on notice.</p> <p>The answer provided reads:</p> <p><i>"The Statement of Standards for Ministerial Staff remains largely the same as existed under Labor, except for the addition of statements relating to social media."</i></p> <p>Since the last election (2016), has any member of staff been investigated or had their behaviour otherwise reviewed by the chief of staff?</p>	Written