



Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2024-25
Monday, 24 February 2025
Daily summary

The committee met from 9.00am until 11.06pm.

The committee called the Department of the Senate, Parliamentary Budget Office, Department of Parliamentary Services, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet portfolio and the Department of Finance portfolio, discussing the following topics:

Department of the Senate

- Expenditure and appropriations for furniture and appliance purchases;
- Legislative drafting resources; and
- Requesting access data to parliamentarian suites.

Parliamentary Budget Office

- Proposals and demand for costings; and
- Requesting costings relating to proposals made by other parliamentarians.

Department of Parliamentary Services

- Concluded employment and leave entitlements of the former DPS secretary;
- National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC) and Roughley investigations into the former DPS Deputy Secretary's incentive to retire;
- Furniture orders made by former DPS Deputy Secretary;
- SES cohort and broader trends in employment arrangements;
- Cyber security advice to parliamentarians and an alleged instance of a compromised device;
- Current sponsored pass holders and recent security incidents; and
- Expenditure relating to the Magna Carta display and other furniture purchases.

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

- Security concerns surrounding a caravan in Dural and the timing of the Prime Minister's briefing;
- Future Made in Australia and Net Zero legislation;
- Proposed environmental legislation and conversations with salmon industry stakeholders;
- National Capital Investment Framework;
- Consideration by National Cabinet of the establishment of a national hate crimes database;
- Support for Rex Airlines Pty Ltd; and
- Requests from Ukraine for aid and the prioritisation of fulfilling requests.

Net Zero Economy Authority

- Expenditure on outreach and advertising.

Office of National Intelligence

- Chinese Navy operations in the Tasman Sea; and
- Overview of the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

Australian National Audit Office

- Audit report on the management of conflict of interest matters in Aboriginal Hostels Limited, Aboriginal Investment NT, and Outback Stores Pty Ltd; and
- Future audits and upcoming work program.

Department of Finance (Outcome 3)

- Parliamentary Expenses Management System and reporting process;
- Online forms for new staff members of parliamentarians.

Australian Electoral Commission

- Preparations for the 2025 Federal election including logistics and voter enrolment;
- Recruitment in preparation for the Federal election;
- Donation disclosures and Election Integrity Taskforce; and
- Northern Territory electorate redistribution.

Parliamentary Workplace Support Service

- The confidentiality status of support services .

The committee released the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (except for their CEO) from the hearing.

The committee will resume with the Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General at 9:00am on Tuesday, 25 February 2025.

Please contact the secretariat on (02) 6277 5780 or fpa.sen@aph.gov.au if you have any questions.