

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 1

Program: DFAT

Topic: Ebola - IDC

Question on Notice

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Senator Faulkner

Questions

Senator FAULKNER: *I appreciate that. Thank you, Mr Varghese. Perhaps if Mr Exell could just give us the background as to when that IDC was established. I appreciate the information we have—that it is co-chaired with DFAT and the Department of Health. What other agencies are involved, and effectively how regularly does the IDC meet? What does this mean in terms of departmental resources for your own department?*

Mr Exell: *As the secretary has outlined, I co-chair the IDC with my counterpart in the Department of Health. I would have to take on notice the exact first meeting, but from memory it is at least three or four weeks ago that we started a formal process. Obviously, before then there was quite a lot of contact between a range of departments across government sharing information about the situation.*

Senator WONG: *Sorry, could you tell us the name of the co-chair?*

Mr Exell: *It is Kylie Jonasson, the first assistant secretary in the office of health protection. We meet at least weekly. In the last week we have met more than that. We had a meeting earlier this week. We have meetings as required. A couple of subgroups have also been established to follow through on particular issues that we may need to actually dive in to a bit more deeply or have broader conversations and discussions around. In terms of the membership, as I mentioned, it is the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Department of Health, PM&C, Defence, DMA, immigration, agriculture, Treasury and Finance. I would have to take on notice whether there are other members, but I think that is an indication of the broad membership.*

Answer

A. The first whole of government inter-departmental committee meeting to discuss the on-going Ebola Virus Disease outbreak in West Africa was on 6 August 2014.

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B. The following government departments have been represented at Ebola whole of government inter-departmental committee meetings:

- Department of Health (co-chair)
- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (co-chair)
- Australian Customs and Border Protection Service
- Attorney General's Department
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Defence
- Department of Finance
- Department of Immigration and Border Protection
- Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
- Office of National Assessments
- The Treasury

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Question No 2

Program: DFAT

Topic: Ebola - Requests for assistance

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Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: *Let's talk about that 'close review'. The evidence in Prime Minister and Cabinet, I have to say, was that DFAT was not referenced in the IDC, but it might have just been an oversight or I might not recall it. Who in government handles the interactions in relation to further requests from NGOs?*

Mr Varghese: *Australian NGOs or broader NGOs?*

Senator WONG: *Broader NGOs, so Médecins Sans Frontières—*

Mr Varghese: *We would handle that in the context of the aid program.*

Senator WONG: *Okay. Can someone take me through that? I then want to do nation states and the interaction in relation to the fight against Ebola that we have had on a bilateral basis—in particular, the call from Sierra Leone and Liberia. Shall we start with the NGOs? Can you tell me who is handling those interactions?*

Mr Exell: *There have been, in the last four or five weeks, a range of contacts and, indeed, calls for finance, resources and other forms of assistance through to the department from a range of people both globally and domestically.*

Senator WONG: *Are you able to provide us with a list or perhaps just go through some of them? On notice, you can add to it if you need to for completeness?*

Mr Exell: *To give you a full list, I will have to take it on notice. We have had conversations with Australian NGOs—for example, the Australian Red Cross and Plan. There has also been communication from UN organisations, such as the WHO. Some of those have come to us through the mission in Geneva and some of those have come through the Department of Health, as the secretary mentioned, with the relationship with it that Health has. Some of it has come to us as we have participated in telecons and other meetings around this issue.*

Senator WONG: *On notice, if you can give us a full list...*

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Answer

Requested by	Nature of request
Red Cross	General support for the Red Cross
Plan International	General support for Plan International
Médecins Sans Frontières	Personnel, logistical and material
Save the Children	Personnel, financial, logistical and material
World Health Organisation	Personnel, financial, logistical and material

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Question No 3

Program: DFAT

Topic: Ebola - Requests for assistance

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Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: ...You said in your evidence that there have been calls for both financial and other resources. What other resources have been requested?

Mr Exell: You would be aware that there has been a request for personnel and for equipment.

Senator WONG: Who has included those two components of assistance in their requests?

Mr Exell: I will have to take on notice the specific details of each of those that people have been requesting, but I would say broadly that it is requests for both those aspects from most people.

Senator WONG: From most people?

Mr Exell: Correct.

Answer

Requested by	Nature of request
Red Cross	General support for the Red Cross
Plan International	General support for Plan International
Médecins Sans Frontières	Personnel, logistical and material
Save the Children	Personnel, financial, logistical and material
World Health Organisation	Personnel, financial, logistical and material
United States Government	Personnel, financial, logistical and material
United Kingdom Government	Personnel, financial, logistical and material

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Question No 4

Program: DFAT

Topic: Ebola - NGOs

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Senator Rhiannon

Question

Senator RHIANNON: *To continue there, with Sierra Leone, Liberia, Britain, the United States and also the NGOs that have approached you about managing the Ebola crisis, which ones have asked for teams to be deployed into west Africa?*

Mr Exell: *I will have to take on notice the specific details of which organisation asked for what support. As I was saying before, the overall requests have come in for both financial support and other forms of assistance, such as personnel and material—for example, personal protective equipment.*

Answer

Requested by	Nature of request
Red Cross	General support for the Red Cross
Plan International	General support for Plan International
Médecins Sans Frontières	Personnel, logistical and material
Save the Children	Personnel, financial, logistical and material
World Health Organisation	Personnel, financial, logistical and material
United States Government	Personnel, financial, logistical and material
United Kingdom Government	Personnel, financial, logistical and material

Letters to the Prime Minister from the President of Liberia and the President of Sierra Leone were received by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade on 12 September and 27 September respectively. Details of correspondence to the Prime Minister are a matter for the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 5

Program: DFAT

Topic: Ebola - Personnel from Sierra Leone & Liberia

Question on Notice

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Senator Rhiannon

Question

Senator RHIANNON: *Have Sierra Leone and Liberia requested personnel?*
Mr Exell: *I will have to take that on notice. I don't have a copy of the letter to the Prime Minister.*

Answer

Letters to the Prime Minister from the President of Liberia and the President of Sierra Leone were received by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade on 12 September and 27 September respectively. Details of correspondence to the Prime Minister are a matter for the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 6

Program: DFAT

Topic: Ebola - Requests for assistance

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Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: *Can we just deal first with those two letters? Do you know when they were received?*

Mr Exell: *I would have to take that on notice.*

Senator WONG: *So they were received by the Prime Minister, obviously. When did DFAT receive a copy?*

Mr Varghese: *I assume we would have received a copy pretty much around the same time.*

Senator WONG: *Who would have received it?*

Mr Exell: *It would have come through our parliamentary liaison area, I would think. That is the area that channels correspondence.*

Mr Varghese: *We will have to check on that.*

Answer

Letters to the Prime Minister from the President of Liberia and the President of Sierra Leone were received by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade on 12 September and 27 September respectively. Details of correspondence to the Prime Minister are a matter for the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

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Question No 7

Program: DFAT

Topic: Ebola - Requests for assistance

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Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: *Can we just get some timeframes around this? You said 'more recently'. So the initial request is for a liaison officer and more recently it is for personnel to support their efforts in Liberia. Can you give me the approximate date of the second?*

Mr Exell: *The initial risk quest was towards the end of September. The more detailed request came around 1 October.*

Senator WONG: *So, three weeks ago.*

Mr Exell: *I would just like to check that date of the second request.*

Answer

Ebola has been a subject of a number of communications between Australia, the United States, and a number of other partners. Specific requests from the United States to Australia to 6 November 2014 included:

- a military liaison officer to observe the US military deployment to Liberia, requested during an approach to the Australian Delegation in the margins of the United Nations General Assembly on 23 September;
- further financial contributions to the UN, material, personnel and logistical support, requested through a US 'non-paper' on Ebola from a US Ambassador to the Australian Permanent Mission in New York on 14 October; and
- a telephone call between the Prime Minister and the President.

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Question No 8

Program: DFAT

Topic: ODA - Humanitarian

Question on Notice

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Senator Macdonald

Question

Mr McDonald: *If I could add to that. This year the humanitarian budget has been increased by about 30 per cent overall.*

Senator IAN MACDONALD: *Thirty per cent over what?*

Mr McDonald: *It was basically about \$264 million last year and this year it is \$338 million. So that is roughly a 30 per cent increase in our humanitarian expenditure overall for this financial year.*

Senator IAN MACDONALD: *Sorry, can I just interrupt you. Again, for comparison, what was it the previous year?*

Mr McDonald: *The previous year it was \$264 million and with a 30 per cent increase it is now \$338 million.*

Senator IAN MACDONALD: *But I mean the year before that.*

Mr McDonald: *I would have to take that on notice.*

Senator IAN MACDONALD: *Was it more or less, do you recall?*

Mr McDonald: *I would have to check. I am not 100 per cent. What also changed was what we called our emergency budget, which was previously \$90 million and has now been increased to \$120 million. When we are identifying how to expend funding on humanitarian, we have already spent \$60 million this year on humanitarian expenditure in addition to the Ebola money. They have been spent on things like the Palestinian crisis, for example. They have also been spent in Somalia, for example. In doing that, we have a balance. With the \$120 million for emergency funding over the year, we work on roughly a \$10 million a month allocation. The reason for that is, as you know, that within our region we need to have sufficient funding from now until April-May to be able to respond to immediate cyclones or earthquakes—and this is something we experienced very much last year with the Philippine cyclone and the like. So there is always this balance about how we try to manage that. In addition, in Africa we also have a bilateral program of over \$100 million in place. When you look at the whole of ODA for Africa, it is about \$186 million overall. So it is still a substantial program of activity that is occurring in addition to the humanitarian expenditure we have in countries in Africa as well.*

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Answer

The Humanitarian Budget for 2012/13 was AUD328.2 million.

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Question No 9

Program: DFAT

Topic: Ebola - UN projections

Question on Notice

Page: 20

Senator Di Natale

Question

Senator DI NATALE: *I would also like to put this crisis in perspective. How many recent natural disasters, or indeed infectious disease outbreaks, has the UN indicated may result in 1.4 million people dying?*

Mr Varghese: *I am not in a position to answer that. I do not know if anyone else is, but I suspect it may be a rhetorical question?*

Senator DI NATALE: *No, it is not rhetorical at all. We have just had a discussion about where this outbreak sits next to a whole range of other natural disasters and our international aid effort. I think it is important to reflect on the impact of this outbreak. What I am asking you is, have there been any other natural disasters, or indeed outbreaks, where the UN has projected that, should it not be contained, we are looking at 1.4 million deaths?*

Mr Varghese: *I am not aware of any, but I am happy to take that on notice.*

Answer

No. While the United Nations often makes predictions about the number of people affected by a disaster, it rarely makes predictions about the number of deaths.

In September 2014, the U.S Centre for Disease Control and Prevention reported that "...without additional interventions or changes in community behavior (e.g., notable reductions in unsafe burial practices), the [CDC] estimates that Liberia and Sierra Leone will have approximately 550,000 Ebola cases (1.4 million when corrected for underreporting)" by 20 January 2015. This report was based on modelling undertaken in August 2014. The report predicted possible Ebola cases, not deaths.

More broadly, the UN reports on the number of deaths caused by preventable infectious diseases, including: an estimated 1.5 million deaths from tuberculosis in 2013 (from an estimated 9 million cases); an estimated 1.5 million deaths from HIV/AIDS (from an estimated 35 million cases in 2013); and an estimated 584,000 malaria deaths (from an estimated 198 million cases in 2013).

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Question No 10

Program: DFAT

Topic: Ebola - Requests for assistance

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Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: *I will try and be reasonably quick. Mr Varghese, we have spoken about the various requests that have been received basically over the time frame of late September to early October. Would that be reasonable?*

Mr Varghese: *Yes. We could probably give you the dates of those letters.*

Senator WONG: *Yes, if you could perhaps give us those that would be useful.*

Answer

Letters to the Prime Minister from the President of Liberia and the President of Sierra Leone were received by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade on 12 September and 27 September respectively. Details of correspondence to the Prime Minister are a matter for the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

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Question No 11

Program: DFAT

Topic: Ebola - Briefings

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Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: ... Can I ask my questions and then maybe at the end you could do that. You have made reference to these having been worked through and the general process and then the matter being considered by cabinet or a cabinet committee. I want to understand that general process. I want to understand how these requests have been considered at officer level and then at ministerial level.

Mr Varghese: Colleagues may wish to add to this. We have a process which occurs within the portfolio and we have a process that occurs across government. Within the portfolio, we examine what are the options that the foreign minister may wish to consider in relation to what Australia can do in response to the Ebola crisis. Those go to options in relation to financial contributions and options in other areas, whether it is providing logistics support, or healthcare support, or wherever the spectrum takes you.

Senator WONG: Are you able to—not now because you will have to consider it—give me the date on which the foreign minister was first briefed in those terms?

Mr Varghese: It is a dynamic process.

Senator WONG: No, a formal brief; a written brief. When was the first written brief to the foreign minister in those terms?

Mr Varghese: We can try and get you an answer quickly on that. Then you have the whole-of-government process. As Mr Exell has explained, an important part of that is the interdepartmental committee that is co-chaired by us and the Department of Health. That obviously looks at a broader range of issues, including issues that go beyond our portfolio in relation to how we would deal with an outbreak of Ebola domestically, what we might do in the event of a problem in the region and so on. Some of that IDC process would be reflected in information that is put to the National Security Committee of Cabinet. Some of it obviously would also find its way to ministers through briefings prepared by their own departments. That is broadly the way the system works.

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Answer

The first formal advice sent to the Minister on Australia's Ebola response was on 14 August. Verbal briefings took place during August 2014.

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Program: DFAT

Topic: Ebola - Briefing

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Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: *With respect, that is not a response to my question. DFAT has been engaging in discussions and the secretary has had a long discussion with the committee about the nature of those. I just want to know when the minister was first briefed about the nature of these discussions.*

Mr Varghese: *Can I take the date on notice and get back to you?*

Senator WONG: *Sure, that is fine.*

Mr Varghese: *As I say, we meet with the minister regularly. We try to meet every week with her and the senior executive. An issue like Ebola would come up regularly at those weekly meetings.*

Senator WONG: *Yes, but we are not talking about briefings. We talking about diplomatic approaches. There is a distinction between the regular briefings a Foreign Minister or any minister might receive from their department, such as you being asked to make overtures or to have dialogue with other countries about the provision of medical assistance to Australian volunteers and so forth. That is what I am trying to understand. I appreciate that you have taken it on notice, but I do find it extraordinary that no-one can actually tell me when the government first asked you to go and do that.*

CHAIR: *Is that the question you have taken on notice?*

Senator WONG: *Okay, fine. In your introduction or in an earlier question, Mr Varghese, when you were asked about additional assistance by another senator, you made the point that any additional assistance—this is what I thought you said; I want to go back to it—would be provided from within the existing DFAT resources. Did I hear correctly you on that?*

Mr Varghese: *That is what I said.*

Answer

The Department was engaging in dialogue with partner countries on the Ebola situation in West Africa, and possible responses from August 2014.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 13

Program: DFAT

Topic: MH370 - Briefing

Question on Notice

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Senator Milne

Question

Senator MILNE: *I can appreciate that, but I have asked the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet who provided the briefing to the Prime Minister in relation to the details of MH370 and they said that they did not. Somebody obviously did and I am trying to establish whether DFAT provided the briefing to the Prime Minister on the details of MH370 on the basis of which he then briefed President Xi Jinping.*

Mr Varghese: *I am happy to take on notice whether or not DFAT provided a separate briefing to the Prime Minister for that meeting on MH370.*

Senator MILNE: *Thank you—please establish for me whether it was DFAT who briefed the Prime Minister on the details. Would you be able to indicate whether that briefing was prepared in consultation with the chair or members of the joint coordinating group here in Australia, which was headed up by Angus Houston? I would like to know if he was consulted in the briefing. Also, I would like to know what critical detailed analysis of the information was conducted before the Prime Minister told the President of China, 'We've narrowed the search area and we're very confident the signals are from the black box.' Can anyone shed any light on how the Prime Minister came to make that statement in China?*

Senator Brandis: *Perhaps I can be of assistance. First of all, most of what you have asked is, as Mr Varghese has pointed out, best asked of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet to the extent to which it is a proper question. Secondly, much of the information that you have identified in your question would appear to me to go to the content of advice to ministers, in this case the Prime Minister, and, as you ought to know, is not allowable. We will take the question on notice and we will respond to that much of it as is (a) relevant and (b) permissible.*

Senator MILNE: *Surely, Minister, in China, a country where about 154 of the people who died in MH370 were citizens, the Prime Minister ought to have had a substantial reason for telling the Chinese President, 'We're confident the signals are from the black box.' I am trying to establish who provided the Prime Minister with that briefing and whether the joint task force had been consulted before he made that statement.*

Senator Brandis: *Your state of mind and the reasons you are asking the questions you are asking or making the statements you are making are really of no interest to me. I have told you we will take the question on notice and we will respond to that part of it that is (a) relevant to this committee and (b) permissible.*

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Answer

In accordance with normal practice, DFAT provided inputs to the briefing prepared by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet for the Prime Minister's visit to China in April 2014. DFAT did not provide separate briefing to the Prime Minister for his meeting with President Xi Jinping.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 14

Program: DFAT

Topic: Terrorism - Meetings with officials

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Senator Milne

Question

Senator MILNE: *In relation to the issue of the ISIL terrorism that is going on in the Middle East, has the government met with officials from Kuwait or Qatar in relation to implementing strong anti-money-laundering or counterterrorism financing regimes? Have we actually met with officials from either of those countries in relation to that matter?*

Mr Varghese: *I do not know whether our ambassador for counterterrorism is in the room. If he is not, I will take the question on notice. We regularly discuss counterterrorism issues with governments across the world, including in the Middle East. As to whether we have had detailed discussions in relation specifically to the question you raise, I will see whether Mr Armitage is in a position to respond to that.*

Mr Armitage: *As the secretary said, we have had discussions with the countries in the region. In terms of the precise details in relation to Kuwait and Qatar, I would need to take that on notice. But our general representations to the countries in the region have obviously covered the question of support to ISIL in all its various forms. In implementing the UN resolutions, particularly 2170 and 2178, which impose obligations on member states to disrupt and prevent sources of funding to ISIL, we have obviously raised that with the countries in the region.*

Senator MILNE: *I can assume from your answer we have raised it with both Kuwait and Qatar?*

Mr Armitage: *I will need to check on both those countries.*

Answer

Yes. The former Ambassador for Counter-Terrorism, Mr Bill Fisher, and the Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates (with accreditation to Qatar), Mr Pablo Kang, visited Qatar from 24-25 March 2014. They met senior Qatari officials including the Chairman of the Qatar Central Bank and the Chairman of the National Anti-Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Committee and discussed combatting money laundering and terrorist financing. Ambassador Kang has made representations to the Qatari Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs, HE Mohammed bin Abdullah bin Muttib Al Rumaihi, regarding the importance of global efforts to counter terrorist financing, including most recently on 22 September 2014.

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Also in his role as Ambassador for Counter-Terrorism, Mr Bill Fisher visited Kuwait from 15-17 April 2013. He and the Ambassador to Kuwait, Mr Bob Tyson, met senior Kuwaiti officials, including the Vice President of the National Security Bureau and the Chief of Staff of the Kuwait Armed Forces, and discussed efforts to stem the flow of money to terrorist groups, particularly to Syria.

Ambassador Bob Tyson has since discussed the issue of terrorist funding with a number of Kuwaiti officials, most recently the Acting Undersecretary of the Foreign Ministry on 23 September 2014 and the Director of the National Security Bureau on 4 November 2014.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 15

Program: DFAT

Topic: Terrorism - Sanctions

Question on Notice

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Senator Milne

Question

Senator MILNE: *Okay. Given that the United States has now sanctioned a number of Qatari and Kuwaiti nationals and NGOs in recent months for their role in providing cash and arms to terror groups associated with ISIL, has the Australian government done the same? Have we actually sanctioned any Qatari or Kuwaiti nationals or NGOs in relation to that? Are there any sanctions currently in place?*

Mr Varghese: *I think we would have to take that on notice. Obviously, if any of those are listed under the sanctions committee of the Security Council, we would, as we are obliged to, impose sanctions. Whether we have done so and if we have gone further than that I would have to take on notice.*

Senator MILNE: *Yes, if you would not mind. Also, can you tell me if it is under active consideration, or are you saying that it is a matter of course? It is just a matter of identifying them?*

Mr Varghese: *If it is a decision of the sanctions committee, we would do it as a matter of course. We would execute that position, as we are obliged to. We do have a capacity to impose additional sanctions, and that would depend on the evidentiary basis for it.*

Senator MILNE: *I guess what I am asking is: is there any active consideration of that? Is there any investigation into that?*

Mr Varghese: *I will have to take that on notice.*

Answer

Australia fully implements the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) resolution 1267/1989 Al-Qaida sanctions regime. Designations of persons and entities by the UNSC or the UNSC Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee have automatic and immediate effect in Australia. As at 23 October 2014, the following Kuwaiti and Qatari citizens had been designated by the UNSC or the UNSC Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee expressly for their association with ISIL:

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- . Hamid Hamad Hamid Al-‘Ali (Kuwaiti citizen, listed 15 August 2014)
A Kuwait-based financier, recruiter and facilitator for Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant and Jabhat al-Nusrah.
- . ‘Abd al-Rahman Khalaf ‘Ubayd Juday’ al-‘Anizi (Kuwaiti citizen, listed 23 September 2014)
Provides support to Al-Qaida and Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant, in Syria and Iraq.

The one entity that was recorded as having a presence in Kuwait at the time of its listing for UNSC Al-Qaida sanctions, the Wafa Humanitarian Organization (listed 6 October 2001), was designated on the basis of its association with Al-Qaida rather than an association with ISIL. No entity designated for UNSC Al-Qaida sanctions is recorded as having a presence in Qatar.

Given the fluid nature of the allegiances of persons and entities associated with Al-Qaida, it is possible that other designated persons or entities may have developed an association with ISIL since their listing, which will not be reflected in the original reasons for their listing.

The Australian Government does not comment on whether or not designations of additional persons or entities are under consideration, given the risk of asset flight as a result of tipping them off.

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Question No 16

Program: DFAT

Topic: Terrorism - Sanctions

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Senator Milne

Question

Senator MILNE: *Okay. In relation to the same question, one of the other things that various countries are trying to do is choke off oil sales and sales of refined petroleum, because obviously that is where a lot of the money to those groups is coming from. Has Australia done anything in that regard—maybe notifying Australian businesses or importers of the need to take particular care to follow the source of these products and where they are coming from?*

Mr Varghese: *Again, we will have to take that on notice.*

Answer

Purchasing oil, directly or indirectly, from ISIL or any other person or entity designated for the UN Security Council 1267/1989 sanctions regime contravenes Australian sanction laws and is serious criminal offence.

DFAT uses a range of mechanisms to ensure Australian businesses and members of the public are aware of Australian sanction laws, including Australia's implementation of targeted financial sanctions against ISIL under the Al-Qaida sanctions regime. These mechanisms include:

- . publishing details of Australian sanction laws are on the DFAT website
- . regularly notifying Australian businesses and members of the public of updates to Australian sanction laws through a subscription e-mail service
- . conducting regular outreach in major Australian cities on Australian sanction laws, including delivering general seminars for businesses, and tailored seminars for universities and financial institutions
- . maintaining the Online Sanctions Administration Service web portal, through which Australian businesses and other members of the public may contact DFAT for guidance about specific proposed transactions or activities.

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Question No 17

Program: DFAT

Topic: Terrorism - Passports

Question on Notice

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Senator McGrath

Question

Senator McGRATH: *How many passports have been cancelled or been refused to have been issued?*

Ms Cooper: *I do not have that figure with me, but I am happy to take it on notice.*

Answer

In the period 26 May 2014 until 20 November 2014, 35 passports have been refused or were cancelled by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade pursuant to a competent authority request under Section 14 (reasons relating to potential harmful conduct that might prejudice the security of Australia or a foreign country) of the *Australian Passports Act 2005*.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 18

Program: DFAT

Topic: Terrorism - Terrorist organisations

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Senator McGrath

Question

Senator McGRATH: *My follow-up question was going to be: how many new individuals or entities known to be associated with ISIL or other al-Qaeda linked terrorist organisations were listed by the committee in September?*

Ms Cooper: *I think I would be better off taking that on notice so that I can make sure that I get you accurate information.*

Senator McGRATH: *Okay.*

Senator IAN MACDONALD: *Do you have a feel? Is it a lot, a few, or do you have no feel at all?*

Ms Cooper: *I would rather take it on notice.*

Answer

The UN Security Council Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee designated 14 persons and two entities in September 2014, of which three persons were expressly listed for association with ISIL:

- . 'Abd al-Rahman Khalaf 'Ubayd Juday' al-'Anizi;
- . 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Mustafa al-Qaduli; and
- . Emilie Konig.

Australia fully implements the UN Security Council resolution 1267/1989 Al-Qaida sanctions regime. Designations of persons and entities by the UNSC or the UNSC Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee have automatic and immediate effect in Australia. As a result, the persons and entities referred to above are subject to targeted financial sanctions (including an asset freeze) and an arms embargo under Australian law. The designated persons are also subject to a travel ban.

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Question No 19

Program: DFAT

Topic: Terrorism - Terrorist listings (UNSC)

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Senator McGrath

Question

Senator McGRATH: *I suspect I know the answer to this one, but how many terrorist listings has the government renewed in accordance with the United Nations Security Council resolutions on combating terrorism?*

Ms Cooper: *In total? Are you talking about the whole range of sanctions, or just in relation to ISIL?*

Senator McGRATH: *The whole range.*

Ms Cooper: *It is a large number. I have a summary table here. Again, it might be better if I answer that on notice. I am not trying to avoid the question, but it is quite a complex summary of different sanctions—which ones are autonomous, which are UN sanctions and how we have implemented them. So I would like to give you an accurate breakdown.*

Answer

There are two United Nations Security Council sanctions regimes related specifically to terrorism: the UNSC resolution 1373 counter-terrorism sanctions regime and the UNSC resolution 1267/1989 Al-Qaida sanctions regime.

Part 4 of *Charter of the United Nations Act 1945* was amended in November 2010 to provide that listings under Australia's UNSC resolution 1373 counter-terrorism sanctions regime would expire after three years unless the Minister for Foreign Affairs declared them to continue to have effect. This requirement was introduced in response to recommendations by the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security's Report, *Review of Security and Counter-Terrorism Legislation*, tabled in Parliament in December 2006.

As at 23 October 2014, there had been one review of listings under Part 4 of the *Charter of the United Nations Act*. In November 2013, the Minister for Foreign

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Affairs declared 83 listings would continue to have effect until November 2016, and four listings were allowed to expire.

Designations of persons or entities for the UNSC Al-Qaida sanctions regime are done by the UNSC or the UNSC Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee. It is an international obligation for all UN Member States, including Australia, to implement targeted financial sanctions and an arms embargo against designated persons and entities, and travel bans against designated persons, until they are de-listed by the UNSC or the UNSC Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee. Review of such designations is the responsibility of the UNSC or the UNSC Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 20

Program: DFAT

Topic: Terrorism - Maldives

Question on Notice

Page: 35

Senator McGrath

Question

Senator McGRATH: *I was reading in relation to the Maldives, a country I have a bit of a connection with, that 12 Maldivans, I think, have been caught up with ISIL or such. Are we doing anything in relation to cooperating with the Maldives on those issues?*

Senator IAN MACDONALD: *Should you declare an interest, Senator?*

Senator McGRATH: *Yes, I should declare an interest. I used to work for the opposition there.*

Mr Armitage: *I would need to take the question on notice, but I do not believe we are doing anything or have done anything bilaterally. It could well be that the Maldives has been a participant in some of the regional and multilateral activities that we support.*

Answer

Yes.

The Australian Federal Police (AFP) cooperates with the Maldives Police Service (MPS) under a bilateral Memorandum of Understanding on combating transnational crime and developing police cooperation. Both services recognise the increasing threat of complex transnational crime, including terrorism, terrorist financing and money laundering, requires international cooperation. In September 2014, the AFP held a criminal assets confiscation and financial investigations symposium at the Maldives Institute for Security and Law enforcement Studies, for members of the MPS, other government agencies and a bank.

Australia supports effective governance in the Maldives through support to the UNDP-led Integrated Governance Program. The programme aims to strengthen the transparency and accountability of public institutions, promote equitable access to justice and respect for human rights, and strengthen the voice of civil society organisations. Australia has provided a total of \$850,000 to date, including \$300,000 in 12/13; and \$550,000 in 13/14.

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In 2013 DFAT provided \$11,764 for a police training course for the MPS on terrorism, counter-terrorism, national security, government and business-related security issues. It was delivered by Macquarie University's Centre for Policing, Intelligence and Counter-Terrorism (PICT) at the Maldives Institute for Security and Law Enforcement Studies (ISLES) between 23 June and 4 July 2013.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 21

Program: DFAT

Topic: Iraq - US request for assistance

Question on Notice

Page: 36

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: *And I asked about the aspects of the letter to be released—I think that has been taken on notice. If you are able to answer, did that go to specific requests about what was being sought? Or was it a general request?*

Mr Varghese: *I would have to check the details, but I think it was more a general request than a specific request.*

Senator WONG: *When was DFAT advised about the receipt of the letter?*

Mr Varghese: *We would have seen the letter on receipt.*

Senator WONG: *There is that 'would' again!*

Mr Varghese: *I saw the letter as received—at the time when it was received.*

Senator WONG: *And there is a subsequent conversation with the President; is that correct—after the receipt of the letter, or prior to the receipt of the letter?*

Mr Varghese: *I would have to get the time lines clear in my head, but I think there was a subsequent conversation with the President. I am just trying to work out when that was. I do not have the details.*

Senator WONG: *The statement says. 'In recent days, I have discussed the situation with President Obama' et cetera, et cetera. Were you present for that discussion, or was a DFAT officer present?*

Mr Varghese: *No, and normally there would not be a DFAT officer present for that discussion.*

Senator WONG: *But you have seen a file note of that discussion?*

Mr Varghese: *I would have to check to confirm, but I think highly likely.*

Answer

The phone call between the Prime Minister and US President Obama took place on 9 September (AEST). The Secretary of DFAT received a record of that conversation on 10 September. This was prior to the letter from US Secretary of Defense Hagel to Defence Minister Johnston dated 12 September.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 22

Program: DFAT

Topic: Iraq - US request for assistance

Question on Notice

Page: 36

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: *Do you know which officers from which department, if any, were present to record, to take notes for, that discussion?*

Mr Varghese: *The normal practice with prime ministerial phone calls—and obviously some of these take place when the PM's travelling arrangements are a bit different—is that if there is time to do it there is a note taker from the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.*

Senator WONG: *Did that occur on this occasion?*

Mr Varghese: *I would need to check*

Senator WONG: *Yes, if you could.*

Mr Varghese: *I think it is a question better directed to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.*

Senator WONG: *And I certainly can do that as well, but if you are able to cast any light, that would be useful. Ms McCarthy was not present.*

Answer

The record does not indicate which officers were present for the phone call between the Prime Minister and US President Obama on 9 September. We have no record that a DFAT officer sat in on the phone call. We refer you to the Department of The Prime Minister and Cabinet for details of any other officers who may have been present.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 23

Program: DFAT

Topic: Iraq - Discussion between Prime Ministers

Question on Notice

Page: 36

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: *To not have the national security adviser present? Anyway. And you are going to check dates on that for me. Let us go to a discussion—and these may be out of sequence, but they are referenced in this order in the Prime Minister's statement—with the new Prime Minister of Iraq, Prime Minister al-Abadi. Do you know when that occurred?*

Mr Varghese: *12 September was the date that the Prime Minister spoke with the new Prime Minister of Iraq.*

Senator WONG: *And presumably, as per what you describe as normal practice, there was not a DFAT officer involved in that conversation or taking notes for that?*

Mr Varghese: *No.*

Senator WONG: *Do you know when you received information about that phone call?*

Mr Varghese: *Again, I would have to check the details, but my expectation was probably the next day.*

Answer

Prime Minister Abbott called Iraqi Prime Minister Al-Abadi late on 12 September 2014 (AEST). The Secretary of DFAT received a readout of the phone call on 12 September (AEST).

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 24

Program: DFAT

Topic: Submarines - German Ambassador

Question on Notice

Page: 43

Senator Dastyari

Question

Senator DASTYARI: *You are saying you are not aware—and you can take the question on notice; that is fine—whether there has been a formal approach to the department for the foreign minister regarding this matter from the German ambassador?*

Mr Varghese: *I am not aware, but I am happy to take that on notice.*

Answer

A. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (First Assistant Secretary, International Security Division) met with representatives from the German Embassy (Deputy Head of Mission and First Secretary) regarding Germany's interest in Australia's Future Submarine Program on 20 August 2014. German Federal Foreign Office representatives also met with staff from the Australian Embassy in Berlin on this issue in July 2014.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 25

Program: DFAT

Topic: Submarines - Visit to Japan

Question on Notice

Page: 45

Senator Dastyari

Question

Senator DASTYARI: *There have been, that we are aware of, three occasions this year where the head of DMO—this is from the head of DMO's own evidence—visited Japan with the purpose of having discussions regarding the possible purchase of submarines. Were they ever accompanied by someone from the department of foreign affairs?*

Mr Varghese: *I would have to double-check but I doubt that they would have been accompanied. I stand to be corrected but it is unlikely.*

Answer

No.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 26

Program: DFAT

Topic: Surrogacy - Passports

Question on Notice

Page: 47 - 48

Senator Wright

Question

Senator WRIGHT: *How many children born through surrogacy arrangements have been brought back to Australia from South-East Asia in the past 12 months?*

Mr Varghese: *Unless my colleagues have an answer, we will take it on notice.*

...

Senator WRIGHT: *You have taken on notice the question I asked about the number of children brought back from South-East Asia. Could I also ask you to take on notice a similar question regarding passports issued for children born through surrogacy in South, Central and West Asia. In terms of answering those questions on notice, could I ask for a country-by-country breakdown for both of those questions.*

Mr Varghese: *Could I clarify: you want South-East Asia, South Asia, Central Asia—*

Senator WRIGHT: *And West Asia.*

Mr Varghese: *By which you mean the Middle East?*

Senator WRIGHT: *It is a good question, isn't it? Perhaps not, then—perhaps we will just say South-East, South and Central Asia, thank you.*

Mr Varghese: *Okay.*

Senator WRIGHT: *Do you have available for me today the number of Australian passports issued for children born through surrogacy in India in the last 12 months?*

Mr Varghese: *I do not. Maybe we could take that on notice, as well.*

Answer

The passport issuance system does not have the functionality to track the number of passports issued to children born through surrogacy. As a result, the department is unable to provide statistics on the number of passports issued for children born through surrogacy in South-East, South and Central Asia.

Similarly, the department does not have statistics on the number of Australian passports issued for children born through surrogacy in India in the last 12 months. However, the Department of Immigration and Border Protection in New Delhi has confirmed that Australian citizenship was granted to 112 children born through surrogacy arrangements in the 2013-14 financial year. A further 30

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children have been granted citizenship from 1 July 2014. All of these children would have been eligible for an Australian passport once they obtained citizenship.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 27

Program: DFAT

Topic: Surrogacy - India

Question on Notice

Page: 50

Senator Wright

Question

Senator WRIGHT: *I am just interested that, when I asked what involvement the department had, you did not mention that particular aspect of it, whereas in fact that is involvement, isn't it? If there was some kind of negotiation going on to encourage the parents to take both children—which I personally would think is probably laudable, but that is only my opinion—that is involvement.*

Mr Hutchesson: *There were certainly DFAT officials in Delhi that were involved in this matter. Whether there was any discussion to seek to determine the course of action that the commissioning parents might wish to take, I am really not sure.*

Senator WRIGHT: *Can you find that out? That is really what I am asking about. There is a report from the Chief Justice of the Family Court saying that she was told that the high commission had delayed granting the 'visa'—the word that is used there—while they tried to persuade the parents to take both children. I am sure you can ascertain yes or no to that.*

Mr Hutchesson: *I would have to take that on notice.*

Answer

DFAT and DIBP officers at Post met with the commissioning parents to discuss the process and requirements associated with applying for citizenship and passports for both children. Any other comment on the discussions held or decisions taken cannot be reported because of privacy requirements.

In general, a child is eligible for citizenship by descent if a parent/child relationship is established with an Australian commissioning parent, and if a parent lodges a citizenship application for the child.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 28

Program: DFAT

Topic: Surrogacy - India

Question on Notice

Page: 51

Senator Wright

Question

Senator WRIGHT: *That may be the case. I am not asking whether the high commission staff had contact with someone. I am asking whether there was advocacy with the department—and I will use that term generally, whether it is the high commission or the department of foreign affairs—and whether there was advocacy by a senior federal politician on behalf of the Australian parents.*

Mr Hutchesson: *I do not believe so. I am not aware of any such advocacy.*

Senator WRIGHT: *Could you make inquiries then?*

Mr Hutchesson: *I will make inquiries. I do not believe that there was any such advocacy.*

Answer

DFAT and the Australian High Commission in New Delhi have no record of any such advocacy.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 29

Program: DFAT

Topic: Surrogacy - Passports

Question on Notice

Page: 51

Senator Wright

Question

Senator WRIGHT: *When was the child's passport actually issued—the male child who was brought home?*

Mr Varghese: *I think we might have to take that on notice. My notes do not have a date, or not one that I can readily see anyway.*

Answer

For privacy reasons, the department cannot reveal details relating to an individual's passport.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 30

Program: DFAT

Topic: Inauguration of the Indonesian President - Australian attendees

Question on Notice

Page: 52 - 53

Senator McEwen

Question

Senator McEWEN: *Are you able to find out whether the ambassador was present, and/or which other Australia officials were in attendance, if there were any?*

Mr Varghese: *We already discussed earlier today that normal practice is not to reveal all the attendees at meetings. But I will take on notice your question about whether the ambassador was present.*

Senator McEWEN: *And any other Australian officials?*

Mr Varghese: *Subject to the observation that our normal practice is not to reveal all of the participants.*

Answer

- A. Australia's Ambassador to Indonesia plus another DFAT officer from the Embassy was present.
- B. The Department's normal practice is not to reveal all of the attendees at meetings of ministers from other portfolios. Such questions should normally be addressed to the relevant portfolio department.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 31

Program: DFAT

Topic: Child Abuse - Indonesia

Question on Notice

Page: 55

Senator Heffernan

Question

Senator HEFFERNAN: *No, but the AFP people who searched the person's house—were they sent from Australia?*

Mr Varghese: *I would have to take that on notice.*

Senator HEFFERNAN: *Could you take it on notice?*

Mr Varghese: *Yes.*

Answer

This is an operational question which should be directed to the Australian Federal Police.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 32

Program: DFAT

Topic: Child Abuse - Indonesia

Question on Notice

Page: 55

Senator Heffernan

Question

Senator HEFFERNAN: *I would like to know what arrangements were made with the Indonesian authorities prior to the search of the house over in Jakarta; for the purposes of search—you can take these on notice if you like—was the attache's house deemed to be on Australian or Indonesian territory, and, if so, who gave the advice; and did the Indonesians agree with the assessment that was made before the place was searched? My understanding was that the DPP had to drop all child sex charges against this particular person earlier this year after the AFP admitted it had misled his wife and searched their embassy residence—or their embassy associated residence, not necessarily within the embassy grounds—without a search warrant. You know nothing about that? I do not expect you to.*

Mr Varghese: *No, Senator, and—*

Senator HEFFERNAN: *Would there be an officer in the room that would?*

Mr Varghese: *No, I do not think so—*

Senator HEFFERNAN: *But are you aware of the case?*

Mr Varghese: *I am aware of the case only in very broad terms and, to the extent that your questions go to the investigation and the twists and turns, if I can put it that way, of the investigation, I think it would be more appropriately addressed to the Australian Federal Police. But, to the extent that it raises questions that are squarely the responsibility of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, I am very happy to take those on notice.*

Answer

This is an operational question which should be directed to the Australian Federal Police.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 33

Program: DFAT

Topic: Child Abuse - Indonesia

Question on Notice

Page: 56

Senator Heffernan

Question

Senator HEFFERNAN: *If you could take it on notice. I have been at this a long time—*

CHAIR: *Do you have another question, Senator Heffernan? The secretary has taken your question on notice.*

Senator HEFFERNAN: *Given the circumstances, where the evidence base was against him, the AFP have made a flawed searched because of no warrant, allegedly, and the charges have been dropped—that does not alter the behaviour of the person. Where is the person now? Is he still attached to an embassy somewhere, free to go about his business? Do we know where this character is now?*

Mr Varghese: *Let me take that on notice. If he is in a position that DFAT has some responsibility for, then we will be able to respond.*

Answer

The person in question is not a DFAT Officer. This is an operational question which should be directed to the Department of Defence and the Australian Federal Police.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 34

Program: DFAT

Topic: Child Abuse - DFAT cases

Question on Notice

Page: 56

Senator Heffernan

Question

Senator HEFFERNAN: *Under the same code, since the 1997 inquiry on paedophilia in DFAT how many cases of sexual abuse have arisen in DFAT? You can take that on notice.*

Mr Varghese: *I will take that on notice.*

Senator HEFFERNAN: *Also on notice, how many were overseas, how many involved child sexual abuse, how many were reported to the AFP, and what results followed?*

Mr Varghese: *Okay.*

Senator HEFFERNAN: *What action did DFAT take against each accused staffer involved? How many were charged under the Criminal Code or the public service code, and how many were convicted? And how many remain in DFAT today?*

Answer

The department maintains a zero tolerance stance in relation to sexual abuse.

Since 1997 there have been eleven cases of alleged sexual abuse connected to DFAT staff (Australian and locally engaged). Nine cases were overseas and five cases involved minors. Of the eleven alleged cases investigated, one individual faced charges under the criminal code but was not convicted and two were investigated under the APS code of conduct. Two cases were reported to the AFP but no criminal charges pursued.

Three officers remain in the department. In all three cases, investigated allegations of sexual abuse were found to be unsubstantiated.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 35

Program: DFAT

Topic: Child Abuse - Cancellation of passports

Question on Notice

Page: 57

Senator Heffernan

Question

Senator HEFFERNAN: *I guess with modern communications and transport—it is a very difficult problem. Has the minister cancelled the Australian passports of recently convicted paedophiles Robert Hughes and Rolf Harris?*

Mr Varghese: *I am not in a position to answer that. I do not know if anyone in the room is, but can I take that on notice?*

Senator HEFFERNAN: *You can. Likewise can the minister confirm that the Australian passport of convicted paedophile and former Australian diplomat Robert Scoble is still cancelled? If not, when was it reissued? Where and under which foreign minister? Has Mr Scoble travelled overseas with it, and since when and where to?*

Mr Varghese: *I will take those on notice.*

Senator HEFFERNAN: *Has the foreign minister recommended to her colleague Mr Morrison that he place convicted paedophiles Scoble, Hughes and Harris on the MAL prohibited travel list, and that their Australian citizenship and honours be revoked after their child sex convictions?*

Mr Varghese: *Again I will take that on notice.*

Answer

A. For privacy reasons we are not able to comment on the status of an individual's passport.

B. For privacy reasons we are not able to comment on the department's actions in relation to individual cases.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 36

Program: DFAT

Topic: World Bank study - Follow on study

Question on Notice

Page: 58

Senator Fawcett

Question

Senator FAWCETT: *So is there a longitudinal follow-on study that will look at mapping the benefits that will flow in the next year, two years or 10 years?*

Mr McDonald: *We might take that on notice but I think there was discussion about being able to see what had actually changed over a period of time.*

Answer

A follow on study is not currently planned but will be considered as part of the monitoring and evaluation of the DFAT-Carnival Australia partnership.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 37

Program: DFAT

Topic: Samoa - UN conference

Question on Notice

Page: 58

Senator Fawcett

Question

Senator FAWCETT: *You mentioned a large contingent. How many nations from around the world would have participated in that?*

Mr McDonald: *That is a good question; I will have to take that on notice unless Ms Rawson has a brief on that—but it was a large number. One of the issues with it was accommodation. A ship was brought to Samoa for accommodation support from New Zealand and Australia provided financial support to the conference as well. We can take that on notice and provide that to you as well.*

Answer

- A. Australia supported the 2014 UN Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS2014) through a \$250,000 contribution to a UN travel fund; \$990,000 to Samoa for conference security requirements from existing funding; and \$1.18 million through the ongoing Samoa-Australia Police Partnership. DFAT also provided support to the Private Sector Partnerships Forum that immediately preceded the Conference, this included a financial contribution of \$50,000 towards travel costs for representatives from small and medium sized enterprises in small island developing states to attend the Forum.
- B. According to the SIDS2014 website¹, delegations from 115 Member States, and six delegations of Associate Members of Regional Commissions, attended the Conference.

¹ SIDS2014. 2014. *Successful Conclusion of the SIDS Conference*. Available at: <http://www.sids2014.org/index.php?menu=1599>. [Accessed 19 November 14].

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 38

Program: DFAT

Topic: West Bank - Proposed meeting with FM

Question on Notice

Page: 65

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Senator RHIANNON: *The Ambassador of the General Delegation of Palestine to Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific, Izzat Abdulhadi, has strongly condemned Australia's refusal to acknowledge the occupation of the West Bank. He has stated in the media that he is seeking a meeting with the foreign minister, Julie Bishop, to discuss the matter. Has the meeting being granted?*

Senator Brandis: *I have nothing to add to what has already been said on this subject.*

Senator RHIANNON: *Can you inform the committee what has already been said on this subject?*

Senator Brandis: *No, because it is recorded in the Hansard and I am not going to waste the time of colleagues by reading to you what you can read for yourself in the Hansard.*

Senator RHIANNON: *This is simply about a request for a meeting. Surely, you can inform the committee of that.*

Senator Brandis: *I will take that question on notice.*

Answer

On 19 June, Foreign Minister Bishop met representatives of Arab and Islamic countries accredited to Canberra, including the Head of the General Palestinian Delegation, Mr Izzat Abdulhadi. The Government re-affirmed to Arab and Islamic countries that there had been no change in the Australian Government's position on East Jerusalem.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 39

Program: DFAT

Topic: Israel-Palestine conflict - Australian Government representations

Question on Notice

Page: 66

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Senator RHIANNON: *Mr Varghese, was the Australian foreign minister or the Prime Minister in contact with the Israeli foreign minister or Prime Minister and the Palestinian leaders during the period of the war?*

Mr Varghese: *I would have to take that on notice as to what the nature of the contact at that level was. I think there was contact between foreign ministers, but I would have to take it on notice.*

Senator RHIANNON: *Please provide advice about contact with both Israel and Palestine.*

Mr Varghese: *I can recall contact with the Israeli foreign minister. I would have to check on Palestine.*

Senator RHIANNON: *Thank you.*

Answer

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, The Hon Julie Bishop MP, spoke with Israel's Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Avigdor Lieberman, on 8 July 2014. Questions relating to possible prime ministerial contact should be referred to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 40

Program: DFAT

Topic: Corporate - Financial Delegations

Question on Notice

Page: 67

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: *How many delegations are there? How many people have a delegation that enables a change to committed expenditure?*

Mr Wood: *Delegations are provided in the department for levels of positions. Those delegations have monetary values. We could on notice provide you with that information. An SES Band 1 officer will have a higher monetary delegation than an EL2 officer.*

Senator WONG: *I know that they are done by monetary value but do we have a number of people who have a delegation, pursuant to the PGPA Act, to change committed expenditure in the aid budget?*

Mr Wood: *We would have to take that on notice. As I said, it is based on levels.*

Answer

DFAT officials occupying Senior Executive Service, Executive Level 1 and Level 2 positions that are responsible for elements of the aid budget are delegated under Section 23(3) of the PGPA Act to approve proposed commitments.

Delegates can approve variations to aid commitments that are within the limits of their delegations.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 41

Program: DFAT

Topic: Indonesia - Attendees at meeting

Question on Notice

Page: 68

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: *That is very useful, and I may have some follow-ups once I see your data. Shall we do that? Minister, as a matter of courtesy, I do have more aid questions but I do want to re-traverse an issue that occurred when Senator McEwen was asking questions in relation to the bilateral with President Widodo. I would press again attendance at that meeting. For members' information, I have taken advice from the clerk and I have also had a look at the statement that the chair reads out at the beginning of a hearing. I do not believe there are any grounds to refuse to disclose to the Senate people who are being paid by the taxpayer who attended a meeting between the Prime Minister and the President of Indonesia.*

Senator Brandis: *My recollection of the evidence of the secretary was that he was unaware of who attended, but that in any event it was not the practice of this department to name the identity of staff or officials who attend meetings of that kind. That was the secretary's evidence. What I think we will do for you, Senator, is take the question on notice and I will ask the official to have a conversation with his minister to consider that practice, its application on this occasion, and in light of the Senate's standing orders and the rulings and practices of this committee.*

Senator WONG: *I would appreciate that, Minister, and thank you for agreeing to do that.*

Senator Brandis: *I am not, by the way, acknowledging that the answer will not be that we do not disclose this material. But, in view of the point you take, I think the reasonable course of action is to proceed as I have indicated.*

Senator WONG: *Right. Thank you, Senator Brandis, I appreciate that. A few points that might be of use: we have had a look back through evidence of various estimates and, very interestingly, this may not have been a bilateral, but Senator Faulkner even got details of who attended a meeting, which included Mrs Howard. The Prime Minister's personal secretary, Mr Varghese, when he was head of ONA, provided details of DFAT officers attending meetings. Just on a very quick search of Hansard, there is a question from Senator Edwards regarding who was involved in accompanying Senator Carr on trips and meetings, and that information was provided. Also, because I think this is something that the opposition will press in the chamber, if there is a refusal to answer, we would ask you to outline a public interest immunity claim as per the standing orders.*

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Senator Brandis: *It may not be a public interest immunity claim, but in any event the device of taking the question on notice will give us the opportunity to look at it and to reflect carefully upon it.*

Answer

Please refer to the answer to Question 30.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 42

Program: DFAT

Topic: Indonesia - Attendees at meeting

Question on Notice

Page: 68

Senator Faulkner

Question

Senator FAULKNER: *I rarely disagree with Mr Varghese, but I am not aware of the precedent that he has mentioned previously—if that is a fair reflection of it. I was not here when Senator McEwen asked her question. Can I ask a different question, which I think may have been answered, just to clarify it for the record. I ask the secretary, through the minister, if there were officials of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade present or not? I am not asking their names, I am merely asking if there were officials—*

Senator Brandis: *Mr Varghese's answer, as I recall, was that he did not know who was present at the meeting, but he would have expected—in the ordinary course of events of a meeting of that kind—there would likely have been.*

Senator FAULKNER: *I appreciate that. Thank you, minister. In the intervening time since that question was asked, have you been able to shed any light on that at this stage?*

Mr Varghese: *I do not have any further information on attendance.*

Senator FAULKNER: *You expect that it is likely that DFAT officials were there.*

Mr Varghese: *I expect it is likely that the ambassador was there.*

Senator FAULKNER: *Yes.*

Answer

Yes, Australia's Ambassador to Indonesia was present. Another DFAT officer from the Embassy was also present as note-taker/interpreter.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 43

Program: DFAT

Topic: Indonesia - Cables

Question on Notice

Page: 69

Senator Faulkner

Question

Senator FAULKNER: *Was a cable sent or were cables sent in relation to this meeting?*

Mr Varghese: *In relation to the visit or just the specific meeting?*

Senator FAULKNER: *In relation to the visit, first of all.*

Mr Varghese: *I would have to take that on notice.*

Senator FAULKNER: *Yes, of course he would. I was just asking for more definitive advice, if it is possible. It does not appear that it is, but let me just check: can anyone confirm in relation to the Prime Minister's very recent visit to the inauguration of the new Indonesian president whether there was a cable or cables sent about that visit? Can anyone assist me with that?*

Mr Cox: *As I said, I have not seen a cable at this stage. The visit only happened on Monday.*

Senator FAULKNER: *You have not seen a cable.*

Mr Cox: *No.*

Senator FAULKNER: *That means that there might be a cable that you have not seen or there has not yet been a cable sent.*

Mr Cox: *It happened on Monday.*

Senator FAULKNER: *It is Thursday today, isn't it?*

Mr Varghese: *Can we take on notice whether a cable has been sent?*

Answer

A cable providing details of the Prime Minister's program as completed was sent by the Australian Embassy in Jakarta on 21 October. Records of formal meetings held during the visit were sent by the Embassy to the Prime Minister's Office and the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 44

Program: DFAT

Topic: Indonesia - Attendees at meeting

Question on Notice

Page: 70

Senator Faulkner

Question

Senator FAULKNER: *So at this stage we do not know whether there is a cable, we do not know whether there is a record of conversation and we do not know whether any DFAT staff attended, but possibly the ambassador did and you would expect they did. We do not know a lot this stage, on the Thursday after the meeting took place. Do we know whether any DFAT staff—Canberra based or otherwise—were invited to attend the meeting between the President and the Prime Minister? Can you assist me with that?*

Mr Varghese: *Since I do not know who attended the meeting, I cannot—*

Senator FAULKNER: *I did not ask that. Let us be very clear—I was trying to be precise, but, of course, I am so often imprecise I probably got it wrong—I was asking about invitations, not attendance.*

Mr Varghese: *I am not aware of—*

Senator FAULKNER: *You do not know about invitations either. Would there be anyone else at the table—*

Senator Brandis: *We will take that on notice.*

Answer

Australia's Ambassador to Indonesia was invited to attend. Another DFAT officer from the Embassy was asked to attend in order to provide assistance with interpreting and note-taking.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 45

Program: DFAT

Topic: Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)

Question on Notice

Page: 77

Senator Fawcett

Question

Senator FAWCETT: *Is that particularly around the training of individuals? Or is it infrastructure? Communications systems equipment? What is the nature of that?*

Mr Hutchesson: *I would need to take that on notice. I am not sure that the detail of precisely how it is going to be applied in building capacity has been determined yet. I think there is still some design work that needs to take place there.*

Answer

At the Indian Rim Association Council of Ministers Meeting on 9 October 2014, the Hon Julie Bishop MP, Minister for Foreign Affairs, announced a new initiative under the Government Partnerships for Development scheme. Under the initiative 'Improving the capability of three national search and rescue services in the Indian Ocean region', the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) will be funded to assist Mauritius, Maldives and Sri Lanka strengthen their national Search and Rescue (SAR) services to enable more effective response to maritime and aviation distress situations in their SAR regions.

Subject to a thorough 'gap analysis' of partner countries' SAR capabilities, AMSA's work may include: development of an electronic broadcasting systems to more effectively respond to SAR incidents; the development of standard operating procedures so that national SAR agencies can more closely align with internationally recognized protocols; in-country training of SAR personnel to ensure they can use upgraded systems; and joint SAR exercises and workshops between Australian and partner SAR authorities to test and practice communication systems and protocols that occur during a live SAR incident.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 46

Program: DFAT

Topic: India - Four-eyes meeting

Question on Notice

Page: 79

Senator Gallacher

Question

Senator GALLACHER: *Was there a four-eyes meeting?*

Mr Varghese: *I would need to check. There may have been.*

Answer

During the Prime Minister Abbott's visit to India in September, there was a private meeting between Prime Minister Abbott and Prime Minister Modi at which Patrick Suckling, Australian High Commissioner to India, was also present.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 47

Program: DFAT

Topic: Gaza - Consular assistance

Question on Notice

Page: 80

Senator McGrath

Question

Senator McGRATH: *Maybe we can come back to that. Can you outline the steps taken by the government to assist foreign nationals to leave Gaza during the crisis? Are we aware of how many Australians left Gaza during the recent period?*

Mr Brown: *I will deal first with the issue of the travel advice. I think you asked explicitly about Gaza.*

Senator McGRATH: *Gaza and the state of Israel.*

Mr Brown: *For Israel overall, the current rating is 'exercise high degree of caution'. For Gaza, it is 'do not travel', which is our highest alert. For the sake of completeness, the West Bank has a rating of 'reconsider your need to travel'. For areas within a five-kilometre radius of the border with Gaza, it is also 'reconsider your need to travel'. We did assist a number of Australians to depart Gaza. I may, however, have to take on notice the question about the specific numbers.*

Senator McGRATH: *Could you, please.*

Mr Brown: *I am happy to.*

Answer

The Australian Embassies in Tel Aviv and Amman, and the Australian Representative Office in Ramallah, facilitated the departure of 28 Australian citizens and permanent residents from Gaza to Jordan (through the Erez crossing) in July and August 2014. The departures were coordinated by the United Nations' Access Coordination Unit and took place on 13 July, 20 July and 7 August.

The Australian Government assisted with the departure and entry requirements of Israel and Jordan respectively, accompanied the UN convoy to the Jordanian border, provided ground transport from the Jordanian border to Amman and helped evacuees to make onward travel arrangements once in Jordan.

In addition to those departing through the Erez crossing, we are also aware of a further six Australians who departed Gaza through the Rafah crossing into Egypt. These departures were not facilitated by the Australian Government.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 48

Program: DFAT

Topic: Bilateral meetings - India, Japan, Canada

Question on Notice

Page: 82

Senator Gallacher

Question

ACTING CHAIR: *Just before I go to Senator Dastyari for a couple of minutes, can I just revisit some ground. We do know that there were meetings with Prime Minister Modi, Prime Minister Abe and Prime Minister Harper. Could I just ask for confirmation of who attended those meetings, particularly DFAT attendees, high commissioner or ambassador, PMO or others?*

Mr Varghese: *I think, Acting Chair, that that goes to the question that the Attorney indicated we would take on notice, which is whether we would depart from past practice in the provision of that sort of detail.*

Answer

During his visit to India on 4-5 September 2014, Prime Minister Abbott had two bilateral meetings with Prime Minister Modi. These were a private meeting between the two Prime Ministers and a formal bilateral meeting. During the private meeting, the Australian High Commissioner to India was present. During the formal bilateral meeting, the Minister for Trade and Investment attended, plus the Australian High Commissioner to India; the Deputy High Commissioner, New Delhi; First Secretary (Economic), New Delhi; and other members of the Prime Minister's delegation.

During his visit to Japan on 5-8 April 2014, Prime Minister Abbott had two bilateral meetings with Prime Minister Abe. These were an informal dinner between the two Prime Ministers and a formal bilateral meeting. During the informal dinner the Australian Ambassador to Japan was present. During the formal bilateral meeting, DFAT officers present were the Australian Ambassador to Japan and the Head of the Embassy's Political and Strategic Section.

During his visit to Ottawa on 8-9 June 2014, Prime Minister Abbott had four bilateral meetings with Prime Minister Harper. These were an informal breakfast meeting, a bilateral meeting, a working lunch and an official dinner. During the working lunch DFAT officers present were the High Commissioner, First Assistant

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Secretary (Americas Division) and the DFAT officer on exchange with the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development. The High Commissioner and the First Assistant Secretary (Americas Division) attended the official dinner.

The Department's normal practice is not to reveal all of the attendees at meetings of ministers from other portfolios. Such questions should normally be addressed to the relevant portfolio department.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 49

Program: DFAT

Topic: Corporate - Staff Survey

Question on Notice

Page: 85

Senator McEwen

Question

Senator McEWEN: *Have there been any further staff morale surveys since budget estimates?*

Mr Varghese: *I think the last relevant staff survey would have been part of the broader APS staff survey. I will try to get the details for you.*

Senator McEWEN: *That is all right. You can take that on notice, Mr Varghese.*

Answer

Yes. Staff participated in the APS Employee Census from 12 May to 13 June 2014.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 50

Program: DFAT

Topic: Sri Lanka - Prevention of Terrorism Act

Question on Notice

Page: 87

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Senator RHIANNON: *But, again, the question was specifically about that act. Is it correct to say (1) that you have not taken up the Prevention of Terrorism Act with the government and (2) that is because you do not see that it allows violations of human rights?*

Mr Hutchesson: *On the first question, whether as part of our broader human rights engagements with Sri Lanka we may or may not have pursued the Prevention of Terrorism Act, that is something that I would like to take on notice. The second point, as I understand it, is that the Prevention of Terrorism Act allows torture. Again, I do not believe that is the case. It certainly would not allow it explicitly. But, again, I am happy to—*

Senator RHIANNON: *Can you take that on notice?*

Mr Hutchesson: *Yes, I am happy to do so.*

Answer

The Australian High Commissioner to Sri Lanka has raised specific cases of arrests made under the Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA), including representations in March 2014 calling for the release of prominent Sri Lankan human rights defenders Father Praveen and Ruki Fernando, who had been detained under the PTA.

We continue to urge the Sri Lankan Government to progress as a priority full implementation of its national reconciliation agenda, particularly the National Plan of Action (NPOA) to implement recommendations of the Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission process. The NPOA includes a recommendation for the Sri Lankan Government to appoint an Independent Advisory Committee charged with monitoring and examining detention and arrest of persons taken into custody under any regulations made under Sri Lanka's Public Security Ordinance or the PTA.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 51

Program: DFAT

Topic: Sri Lanka - Human rights

Question on Notice

Page: 87

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Senator RHIANNON: *Thank you. And thank you for explaining that there is regular and ongoing dialogue with Sri Lankan authorities on human rights issues. Considering that acts of gender based violence committed by Sri Lankan state forces, including rape and other forms of sexual violence, have been documented extensively both during and after the conflict in Sri Lanka, is the Australian government working with the Sri Lankan government to eradicate the systemic sexual and gender based violence that the Sri Lankan military have engaged in?*

Mr Hutchesson: *I will take that question on notice.*

Answer

The Australian Government continues to urge relevant Sri Lankan authorities to ensure that the human rights of all Sri Lankans are protected. The Australian High Commissioner to Sri Lanka has raised issues related to women's vulnerability, including to sexual and gender-based violence, with senior government figures. The Australian High Commission takes regular opportunities to advocate publicly and privately for the empowerment of women through local media and public diplomacy events. We also continue to urge the Sri Lankan Government to demilitarise the north and east of Sri Lanka.

In 2013, Australia's aid program in Sri Lanka helped to increase the incomes of over 2900 poor women through a range of activities, particularly in the conflict-affected north and east, including through small-scale investments in the sectors of fishing and aquaculture, and rice, fruit and vegetable cultivation.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 52

Program: DFAT

Topic: Sri Lanka - UNHCR arrangements

Question on Notice

Page: 88

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Senator RHIANNON: *I understood that DFAT had previously said UNHCR would handle the monitoring in Sri Lanka of returnees. Was that not the case previously?*

Mr Hutchesson: *I am not quite sure that 'monitoring' is the right term but UNHCR does 'track' to some extent the experience of some returnees. But these are not, to my knowledge, specifically returnees from Australia. These are Tamils returning to the north and east of Sri Lanka, having been away from the country. So I am not aware that that necessarily goes to the cohort that may have been returned from Australia.*

Senator RHIANNON: *Is it an arrangement that DFAT previously had, or may still have, with UNHCR or are you talking about something that is quite separate?*

Mr Hutchesson: *I am not aware of a current or previous formal arrangement, but I am happy to take that on notice.*

Senator RHIANNON: *Could you also take on notice the process that returnees to Sri Lanka who feel they are at risk should go through in order to seek protection or to notify Australian authorities of their situation once they have been returned? Could you explain that process, please? Will you take that on notice?*

Mr Hutchesson: *I will take that on notice.*

Answer

UNHCR facilitates the voluntary return of Sri Lankan refugees and assists them during the reintegration process, including through post-return monitoring. UNHCR also conducts refugee status determination of asylum seekers. UNHCR's work in Sri Lanka is conducted independently of the Australian Government. There is no formal arrangement between the Australian Government and UNHCR relating to monitoring of asylum seekers the Australian Government has returned to Sri Lanka.

Australia does not return people to Sri Lanka who engage Australia's international non-refoulement obligations. We are aware of a small number of allegations of mistreatment raised by asylum seekers the Australian Government has returned to Sri Lanka. Such allegations are taken seriously and followed up where

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appropriate. To date, none of these claims have been substantiated. Verifying these allegations is complicated by the fact that most have been made anonymously, or by third parties. Australian Government agencies have no authority to conduct investigations in Sri Lanka.

Asylum seekers who volunteer to depart may be provided with reintegration assistance by the International Organization for Migration to assist with their sustainable return. The Australian Government has no role in the reintegration of returnees.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 53

Program: DFAT

Topic: Sri Lanka - Australian High Commissioner

Question on Notice

Page: 88

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Senator RHIANNON: *Thank you very much. When I travelled to Sri Lanka in 2012 I visited in the north the office of the newspaper Uthayan and they showed me some bullet holes in the walls and where the printing press had been burnt and other things. I heard that the Australian High Commissioner has reported to DFAT on these attacks.*

Mr Hutchesson: *That is correct.*

Senator RHIANNON: *Was that as a result of a visit to the premises?*

Mr Hutchesson: *I would have to take on notice whether the High Commissioner had actually visited the premises but certainly the incident involving that particular media facility has been reported through diplomatic means.*

Answer

The Australian High Commissioner to Sri Lanka did not visit the office of the Uthayan newspaper following these attacks. Our High Commissioner was approached by the newspaper's owner, the Tamil National Alliance MP, E. Saravanapavan, for a meeting in April 2013 to discuss issues his newspaper was facing, but this meeting request was subsequently cancelled by Mr Saravanapavan. Australian High Commission staff have been in contact with Uthayan staff since the attacks and continue to monitor issues relating to media freedom in Sri Lanka.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 54

Program: DFAT

Topic: Corporate - Consultancies

Question on Notice

Page: 88

Senator McEwen

Question

Senator McEWEN: *Senator Rhiannon, just while we are finding someone to answer those questions for you, the mysterious \$800,000 was in DFAT's answer to QON 409. It was the amount that had been spent on consultancies for IT integration to date. So perhaps you could take on notice, Mr Varghese, whether that amount is still the same or whether or not it has increased.*

Mr Varghese: *I am happy to do that.*

Answer

The amount expended on consultancies towards integration is as reported in QON 409 and has not increased. Support arrangements were completed on 15 August 2014 and the account settled on 19 September 2014.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 55

Program: DFAT

Topic: ODA - Funding to GAVI

Question on Notice

Page: 88 - 89

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Senator RHIANNON: *Can you provide any details, particularly on the increases to previous commitments?*

Ms Walsh: *Not specifically, but I can take it on notice and check whether we have confirmed announcements from ministers or appropriate representatives of government.*

Senator RHIANNON: *If you have them you are able to provide them?*

Ms Walsh: *If the government in question has made that publicly available I am happy to pass that on.*

Answer

Norway is the only country to have formally announced its pledge for Gavi's next replenishment. It will increase its pledge from USD776 million to USD1 billion.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 56

Program: DFAT

Topic: ODA - Land ownership survey (Pacific)

Question on Notice

Page: 89

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Senator RHIANNON: *I will move on to the Pacific now. How much Australian funding has been contributed to the survey and registration of land for individual land ownership or title in the Pacific?*

Mr McDonald: *I think we will need to take that on notice.*

Ms Rawson: *I do not have that level of detail with me so I will take it on notice.*

Answer

The Australian Government provides funding to the Vanuatu Land Program. This is a five year joint Australia (AUD8 million) and New Zealand (AUD3.6 million) commitment to support Vanuatu's land reform agenda. New Zealand's contribution was completed in 2013. The program is scheduled to end in December 2015.

The Australian Government supports the Project of Technical Assistance to the Ministry of Lands Housing and Survey in the Solomon Islands. Australia's contribution is AUD907,895 over three financial years (2013-14 to 2015-16). The Project is supporting the survey of crown land in selected informal settlements in Honiara so that lots may be tendered as fixed-term estates (long-term leases). The Project is managed by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community and activities are undertaken in partnership with the Solomon Islands Ministry of Lands Housing and Survey.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 57

Program: DFAT

Topic: ODA - Funding and Programs (Pacific)

Question on Notice

Page: 89

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Senator RHIANNON: *I appreciate that you will have to take this on notice but, so I can understand how this is working, is the funding that we are putting in then linked with funding from the World Bank or with any bilateral or multilateral programs?*

Ms Rawson: *I am really not sure which actual activity you are referring to so I cannot provide any detail about whether it is linked to broader programs. Often in working on activities, the lands systems or elsewhere, we will be linked up with other multilateral or bilateral donor parties. In this case I just cannot provide that information but I will take it on notice.*

Senator RHIANNON: *If you could also take on notice: do we have just one project? If so, what is the name of it? Are there many projects? Who are the partners? What are our funding commitments? What funding commitments are coming from other countries?*

Answer

The Australia Government does not fund land titles projects in the Pacific with the World Bank or any other multilateral organisation.

Please also refer to the response to Question on Notice 56.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 58

Program: DFAT

Topic: ODA - Bougainville Census

Question on Notice

Page: 89

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Senator RHIANNON: *Will the Australian government be providing assistance or funding to support an updated population census in Bougainville? You can take that on notice.*

Ms Rawson: *I am not familiar with work on the census so I will take that on notice.*

Answer

The last nation-wide census conducted in Papua New Guinea (PNG) was completed in 2011 and includes statistical information on Bougainville. The Department is not aware of any proposed population census specific to Bougainville.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 59

Program: DFAT

Topic: Overseas Property - Jakarta Embassy

Question on Notice

Page: 90

Senator Gallacher

Question

ACTING CHAIR: *The market value of Jakarta—what is it compared against? Is it compared against the investment in the building, and that drives the contribution?*

Mr Nixon: *No, we are not basing the rent that the attached agencies pay on the basis of an economic return that is required to be generated. There is an independent evaluation that is done by Savills, an international property firm of valuers. They undertake a market assessment and they issue a rent certificate. So there is the transparency for each attached agency to recognise that they are paying a market value rent.*

ACTING CHAIR: *Thank you for that. I would like to know, perhaps on notice, the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade component of rent, for want of a better word, for the new Jakarta facility so that we know how much has been paid.*

Mr Varghese: *We will take that on notice.*

Answer

Rent for agencies that occupy space within government properties is determined in accordance with the Rent Setting Methodology mandated through a Joint DFAT/Finance Review of the Overseas Property Office in February 2011.

Agencies utilising the estate as tenants are charged a market-based rent to encourage efficient and effective use of Commonwealth property. This methodology is transparent and is consistently applied to tenant agencies.

Rental amounts for the new Jakarta Embassy will be determined by independent valuation reflecting local market conditions as at 31 December 2015, prior to occupation expected during the first quarter 2016. Indicative per annum lease costs for requested agencies are:

DFAT: AUD 3,801,382

Defence: AUD 254,721

Austrade: AUD 232,750

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 60

Program: DFAT

Topic: FTAs - KAFTA

Question on Notice

Page: 91

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: *That should be fine. Can I go first to the Korean free trade agreement. I do not intend to ask much on it. I am just asking about the ratification process in Korea. First, I understand that the Korean Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy has completed an economic impact study. Does the department have an English translation of that, or can it be provided on notice?*

Ms Adams: *I do not know whether we have a translation of the economic impact analysis. I will have to take it on notice.*

Senator WONG: *Do you want to just check that?*

Ms Adams: *Certainly.*

Answer

See the answer to question 99(1).

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 61

Program: DFAT

Topic: FTAs - China

Question on Notice

Page: 93

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: *Can you briefly tell me what the treaty implementation process is in China?*

Ms Adams: *I must admit we are focused on the content of the negotiation at this point.*

Senator WONG: *Okay. Maybe you could take that on notice or someone could come back to me.*

Ms Adams: *Sure.*

Answer

See the answer to question 101(5).

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 62

Program: DFAT

Topic: FTAs - China (article in The Australian)

Question on Notice

Page: 96 - 97

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: *That is fine. On notice, I ask anyone whether the Minister for Trade and Investment, or anyone from the minister's office, had any conversations with Mr Sid Maher and Mr Scott Murdoch, resulting in the article of 22 October 2014? And, if so, what was the nature of those conversations? Further, were any documents provided to The Australian and, if so, could they be provided? I do not see why Senate estimates should be given less information, with all due respect to The Australian, than a couple of selected journos to get out a story because you had a bad story in the Financial Review.*

Senator Cormann: *I am very happy to take that question on notice, and to the extent that Minister Robb is able to assist the committee I am sure he will.*

Answer

This is a matter for the Office of the Minister for Trade and Investment.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 63

Program: DFAT

Topic: FTAs - China's public position on ISDS provisions

Question on Notice

Page: 99

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: *Does China have a publicly stated position in relation to ISDS provisions?*

Ms Adams: *I will have to take on notice whether they have a general policy statement. I am not aware of that.*

Answer

We are not aware of any publicly stated position in relation to ISDS by China.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 64

Program: DFAT

Topic: Trade in Services Agreement

Question on Notice

Page: 100

Senator Whish-Wilson

Question

Senator WHISH-WILSON: *Were there conflicting interests around financial regulation?*

Ms Bowes: *I am not aware that that was a significant issue in the breakdown of the Doha round, but I could take that on notice. I am really not aware that it was.*

Answer

Financial services was one of a number of services sectors which were the subject of market access negotiations in the Doha Round. Financial regulation was not, of itself, under negotiation.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 65

Program: DFAT

Topic: Trade Negotiations - Suppression of documents

Question on Notice

Page: 102

Senator Whish-Wilson

Question

Senator WHISH-WILSON: *Could you take on notice whether your records would be suppressed for five years or not? That is what I have been given. I would be interested to know if that is the case or whether they will be publicly available with the final text that we as parliamentarians get to see.*

Ms Bowes: *Sure.*

Answer

DFAT does not typically publish records of negotiation. It is diplomatic practice that the text of a treaty is treated and handled as being confidential between the parties while it is being negotiated up until the point at which the treaty is signed. In order to release text of the agreement or details of the agreement before signature, the consent of the other party or parties is required. Once signature has occurred, DFAT publishes treaty texts in the Australian Treaties Library (available on the website).

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 66

Program: DFAT

Topic: FTAs - Negotiating parameters (labour movement)

Question on Notice

Page: 104

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: *No, I am actually not. I would like to know what you understand your negotiating parameters are. If the Prime Minister is indicating that your negotiating parameters are that you retain that existing domestic regulatory framework, that is one thing. If you understand the position to be as discussed, or as given effect to in the Korean FTA, that is another.*

Senator Cormann: *We will take that question on notice and I will consult with Minister Robb to make sure we get you the most accurate answer possible.*

Senator WONG: *Perhaps I will try it this way—*

Senator Cormann: *I have taken the question on notice.*

Senator WONG: *I am asking a different question. Ms Adams, in the Korean free trade agreement we had lengthy discussions about this issue. Do you understand your negotiating parameters have changed since the Korean FTA?*

Ms Adams: *I am not really able to describe the negotiating mandate.*

Senator WONG: *I did not ask you to describe it. I just asked if it had changed.*

Ms Adams: *Well, effectively it is.*

Senator WONG: *No I did not. I asked if it had changed in that regard. Whatever your negotiating mandate was in relation to the—*

Senator Cormann: *Senator, I have taken that question on notice and you are asking the same question in a different way.*

Senator WONG: *Chair, he keeps interrupting me. I would like to finish my question please. You cannot interrupt—*

ACTING CHAIR: *It would be appropriate if we did allow each other the courtesy of finishing whatever we are saying before we answer.*

Senator WONG: *I am simply asking, Ms Adams, have your negotiating parameters in relation to labour movement changed between the Korean FTA and the Chinese FTA?*

Senator Cormann: *That is the same question. I have taken the question on notice and I will consult with Minister Robb and I will get back to the committee when I have been able to consult with Minister Robb.*

Answer

Australia's negotiating parameters may vary as typically no two negotiations are the same.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 67

Program: DFAT

Topic: FTAs - China

Question on Notice

Page: 104

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: *I will ask a few more questions. If you want to hide from it and take questions on notice, that would be great. Can we take it from this assurance that the Prime Minister has indicated that Australia will retain policy space in relation to labour market testing in the China free trade agreement.*

Senator Cormann: *I am happy to take that on notice.*

Answer

The China FTA labour outcomes are consistent with those in all FTAs concluded by the Australian Government since Australia joined the WTO in 1995.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 68

Program: DFAT

Topic: FTAs - Labor market testing (457 visas)

Question on Notice

Page: 105

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: *Is it the government's position or not that labour market testing will remain for 457 visas? Take it on notice if you want.*

Senator Cormann: *I have taken it on notice.*

Senator WONG: *Thank you.*

Answer

This question falls under the responsibility of the Department of Immigration and Border Protection.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 69

Program: DFAT

Topic: GATS

Question on Notice

Page: 106 - 107

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: *That is what I have just asked her about. Ms Adams is a very experienced official and where she doesn't think she can answer she tells me. I have been very polite and not badgered her. Now I am asking about a 1995 agreement. I am not clear about this: were there any particular conditions associated with any of the categories under the GATS, like a sort of bound-level equivalent.*

Ms Adams: *Yes, effectively different countries have made specific commitments in the GATS on that issue, yes.*

Senator WONG: *Okay, so what has China made and what have we made?*

Ms Adams: *It gets very technical very fast, and I am not in a position to answer the questions on China right now. I will have to take that on notice.*

Senator WONG: *What about us?*

Ms Adams: *Australia under the GATS has committed to no labour market testing with respect to intra-corporate transferees, some specialist and independent executives.*

Answer

For Australia: Australia's Schedule of Specific Commitments Supplement 2, GATS/SC/6/Suppl.2 (July 28, 1995), available at:

http://www.dfat.gov.au/trade/topics/Documents/movement_of_natural_persons.pdf

For China: The People's Republic of China Schedule of Specific Commitments, GATS/SC/135 (Feb. 14, 2002), available at

https://docs.wto.org/dol2fe/Pages/FE_Search/FE_S_S006.aspx?MetaCollection=WTO&SymbolList=GATS/SC/135&Serial=&IssuingDateFrom=&IssuingDateTo=&CATTITLE=&ConcernedCountryList=&OtherCountryList=&SubjectList=&TypeList=&AutoSummary=&FullText=&FullTextForm=&ProductList=&BodyList=&Organization

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Question No 70

Program: DFAT

Topic: FTAs - Pharmaceutical patents

Question on Notice

Page: 111

Senator Wong

Question

Senator WONG: *Is there a IDC auspicing that analysis that DFAT is involved in or similar?*

Ms Adams: *No, it is Department of Health.*

Senator WHISH-WILSON: *Have you been briefed on that, Minister Cormann, or has the minister?*

Senator Cormann: *I am not involved in that. The short answer is no. I have personally not been briefed. To what extent Minister Robb has been briefed, if you want me to, I will take that on notice.*

Answer

The Minister for Trade and Investment has been briefed.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 71

Program: DFAT

Topic: Palestine

Question in Writing

Senator Xenophon

Question

- 1. *Has Australia's Ambassador to Israel, Dave Sharma, had any further meetings with the Israeli housing minister or officials?*¹**
- 2. *Is it the Government's view that the Fourth Geneva Convention applies in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, including East Jerusalem?***

Answer

- (1) No.
- (2) The issue raised by this question has been the subject of legal advice provided by the Department to the Government. That advice is subject to legal professional privilege and is therefore confidential.

¹ Haaretz, an Israeli newspaper, reported that Australia's Ambassador to Israel, Dave Sharma, met with the Israeli housing minister in East Jerusalem on 14 May 2014 (P.A. complains to Australia after envoy meets Israeli official in East Jerusalem, 15 May 2014). The report quotes a letter of protest issued by the Palestinian Authority which states that: "Australia is under a clear obligation to respect and ensure respect for the Fourth Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Person in Time of War and that a State which knowingly assists another State in the commission of an internationally wrongful act bears responsibility for the violation."

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 72

Program: DFAT

Topic: East Timor

Question in Writing

Senator Xenophon

Question

- 1. Please explain the status of the dispute between Australia and the Democratic Republic of East Timor.**
- 2. How many East Timorese students have undertaken part-time or full-time studies in Australia from 2012-2014? What is the cost?**
- 3. What policies are in place to ensure that all scholarship recipients return to East Timor to contribute to their country's development once they have completed their studies? How does the Government monitor and enforce these policies?**
- 4. What projects in receipt of Australian aid operate in Papua and West Papua provinces?**
 - a. How many Australian officials or persons employed by the Australian Embassy have visited Papua and West Papua provinces?**
- 5. What conditions are placed on Australian military equipment and weaponry provided to Indonesia to ensure such equipment is not used in West Papua?**

Answer

1. Australia and Timor-Leste are engaged in consultations in accordance with the terms of an agreement to adjourn the case before the International Court of Justice and the arbitration relating to the 2006 Treaty on Certain Maritime Arrangements in the Timor Sea.
2. The table below shows the number of scholarship recipients from Timor-Leste from 2012 to 2014.

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Timor-Leste	2012	2013	2014*
Long-term Awards	34	22	35
Short-term Awards	31	22	10
Total	65	44	45

*Projected final allocation for 2014

The cost of scholarships for Timor-Leste is as follows:

- 2011/12 - \$5,520,614.77
- 2012/13 - \$5,580,345.04
- 2013/14 - \$6,789,756.78

3. Australia Awards scholarship recipients are subject to conditions to ensure that they direct the knowledge and expertise acquired during their scholarship to capacity building in their home country.

A condition of the scholarship and student visa granted to awardees is that they do not remain in Australia, or apply to return to Australia, for anything other than short-term visits, for a minimum period of two years following completion or termination of the scholarship, unless DFAT supports the return. The calculation of the two-year exclusion period is cumulative and any time spent in Australia during the two-year period will be added to the exclusion period.

Additionally, awardees will incur a debt to the Commonwealth if they apply for a visa to remain in Australia after the end of their scholarship and within the two-year exclusion period. The amount of the debt will be the accrued costs of the Scholarship at the time any such visa application is made.

4. Please see the attached list of Australian aid activities in the Papuan provinces.
- a. The number of official visits is as follows:
- 2012: 30
 - 2013: 25
 - 2014: 22 to date

5. This question should be directed to the Department of Defence.

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Attachment – Australian aid activities in the Papuan provinces 2013/14

Sector	Activity	Description <i>Services provided</i>	Service delivery	Cost <i>Project duration</i>	Cost <i>FY13/14</i>	Beneficiaries
HIV	HIV Cooperation Program for Indonesia (HCPI)	Strengthens Indonesia's capacity to manage an HIV response and supports the development of effective advocacy and behaviour change strategies. Also supports people living with HIV.	Works with the Ministry of Health; National AIDS Commission; Ministry of Law and Justice, and Provincial AIDS Commissions. Implemented by faith based organisations, churches, media and non-government organisations.	\$9,600,392 (2008-2016)	\$2,979,730	Men and women in 22 districts across Papua and West Papua. Since 2008, 450,000 people have been reached with face-to-face behaviour change and sexual health interventions.
HIV	Rapidly Expanding Access to Care for HIV (REACH) in Papua and West Papua	Improves the quality of HIV-related care and treatment in Papua and West Papua, and increases the number of people receiving this care.	Delivered by Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI)	\$18,500,000 (2012-2016)	\$7,676,687	HIV caregivers and patients in 24 districts across Papua and West Papua.

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Education	Analytical and Capacity Development Partnership (ACDP)	The ACDP is a nation-wide program to support the Government of Indonesia to improve education policy making through research and analysis. The ACDP has been working with the Papua and West Papua Provincial Education Departments and has supported the development of a strategic plan for rural and remote education.	Research facility funded through ADB and based in the Ministry of Education and Culture.	US\$1.1 million (2012-2015)	US\$100,000	Teachers and students in rural and remote areas of Papua and West Papua.
Education	Australia Awards Scholarships and Australia Awards Fellowships	Provides post graduate education opportunities.	Implemented in partnership with Bureau for Foreign Technical Cooperation, State Secretariat (ADS and ALA), Bappenas (APS)	N/A	\$2,033,273	Post graduate students from Papua and West Papua.
Poverty reduction	National Program of Community Empowerment (PNPM) RESPEK	Provides technical support to farmers to improve quality of their agricultural products. Supports grants for communities to identify their development needs in food and nutrition; basic education; health care; livelihoods; and village infrastructure.	World Bank and the International Fund for Agricultural Development, in partnership with the Ministry of Home Affairs and provincial governments.	\$13,700,00 (2007-2016)	\$0	Farmers and agricultural communities, as well as local government institutions responsible for implementation.
Poverty reduction	Barefoot Engineers Training	Trains high school graduates to become technical facilitators under PNPM-RESPEK. These facilitators support communities to develop designs for village infrastructure and assure the quality of infrastructure implemented under PNPM-RESPEK.	Delivered by Cendrawasih University and Bakti Foundation	\$5,700,000 (2008-2014)	\$0	More than 400 'barefoot engineers' will be created from all districts. Beneficiaries of the PNPM poverty reduction programs.

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Water and sanitation	Third Water Supply and Sanitation for Low income Communities (PAMSIMAS)	Increases the number of low-income rural and peri-urban populations accessing improved water and sanitation facilities and practicing better hygiene.	Delivered by the World Bank and Ministry of Public Works	\$224,330 (2008-2014)	\$78,050	Across 27 villages in West Papua, 1135 people have been provided with access to safe water and 813 people increased access to basic sanitation. Australia has invested 15.5% of the total value of this project.
Water and sanitation	Water and Sanitation Hibah Phase 2	Increases investment by local government in water and/or sanitation utilities to raise the number of low-income households with access to piped water and sewerage.	Papua City Government using loans provided by Indonesian Infrastructure Ministry	\$400,000 (2013-2015)	\$107,400	Low-income households in Papua province without access to piped water/ sewerage.
Decentralisation	Australia Indonesia Partnership for Decentralisation	Builds the quality of public financial management at the provincial and district levels and helps civil society to monitor the use of public resources and also village government capacity. This encourages business development and economic growth and improves service delivery at the frontline.	Delivered by Cendrawasih University; Bakti and local NGO PATTIRO	\$5,634,646 (2011-2015)	\$3,487,894	Local government partners in the two Papuan provinces with a total of eight districts and village governments in selected districts.
Disaster risk reduction	Strengthened Coordination and Response Preparedness (Eastern Indonesia)	Improves the capacity of local Red Cross branches and local district governments through joint training, exercises and planning with the local district disaster management agencies.	Red Cross	\$344,048 (2011-2014)	\$144,110	This project has supported Red Cross chapters in West Papua.
Disaster risk reduction	Building and Deepening Resilience in Eastern Indonesia	Works with district governments to improve planning and budgeting for disaster management activities.	Oxfam	\$726,188 (2012-2014)	\$370,202	Local governments, civil society groups and local communities in the provincial capitals Jayapura and Manokwari, and six villages in

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						West Papua.
Disaster risk reduction	Disaster Mitigation and Preparedness	Trials approaches to community-based disaster risk reduction.	World Relief, with national and provincial agencies	\$58,596 (2011-2013)	\$0	Seven local partner organisations have been trained in disaster risk reduction in three districts in Papua
NGO cooperation	Maternal Newborn Child Health Nutrition (MNCHN)	Strengthens district health systems to support community health services, and improve maternal, infant and young child feeding practices.	World Vision Australia	N/A	\$41,788	Mothers, children and health service workers in communities in three districts in Papua.
NGO cooperation	Papua Pendidikan Damai - Papua Peace Education Project (PAPEDA)	Trains individuals critical to School Based Management (SBM) such as teachers, school principals, supervisors and committee members) on peace building (PB) and child protection (CP) to strengthen and improve the school environment and educate the broader community.	World Vision Australia	N/A	\$337,749	Teachers, school principals, supervisors and committee members in 12 target communities in Central Highland Papua.
NGO cooperation	Qualified Elementary School Project (QUEST)	Assists in the improvement of basic education management.	World Vision Australia	N/A	\$117,509	Primary school students in 12 target communities in Central Highland Papua.
Public Sector Linkages Program (PSLP)	Australia Indonesia Partnership for Local Government Planning and Budgeting	Strengthens the capacity of officials in the five AIPD districts in Eastern Indonesia to undertake local government planning and budgeting by understanding how Australian state and local government apply medium term expenditure frameworks.	University of Technology Sydney Centre for Local Government, in partnership with Indonesia's Ministry of Home Affairs, and provincial planning agencies and finance ministries.	\$120,000 (2012-2015)	\$40,000	Local government officials involved in planning and budgeting functions.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 73

Program: DFAT

Topic: Incarceration and detention of children

Question in Writing

Senator Xenophon

Question

In the Budget Estimates hearings I raised the Four Corners program that aired early this year by Australian correspondent in the Middle East John Lyons about the incarceration and detention of Palestinian children by Israeli authorities.

I asked if the Department had considered or provided an opinion on this to the Australian Government and the response provided on notice was "Yes".

- 1. Can you further elaborate on this?*
- 2. What was the opinion provided to Government?*

I was also advised on notice that in February, the Australian Embassy in Israel made formal representations to the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Justice expressing Australia's concerns about security and judicial practices towards Palestinian minors. The Department also raised concerns about this issue with the Israeli Embassy in Canberra in February.

- 3. Can the Department advise of any actions by following these representations or proposed outcomes with regards to the issue? Have any subsequent representations been made to the Israeli Government?*

Answer

- (1) The issue was discussed and representations were made to the Israeli authorities.
- (2) See (1).

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- (3) The Australian Embassy in Tel Aviv made representations in February 2014. We again made representations in October and November 2014 and were told that nominated reforms were ongoing. The Australian Embassy in Israel will continue to raise concerns about the detention of minors in line with our strong interest in the protection of children's rights.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 74

Program: DFAT

Topic: Childhood data

Question in Writing

Senator Siewert

Question

According to UNICEF Report 11 (Innocenti Report Card) released April 2013 Australia doesn't provide adequate data to be accurately assessed.

- 1. What data was provided to the process by Australia?***
- 2. Who makes the decision about giving our data?***
- 3. Why wasn't the data given?***
- 4. What is the data was requested?***

Answer

1. No data was provided.
2. No decision was taken.
3. DFAT has not located any request to provide data for the UNICEF Report 11 (Innocenti Report Card) released in April 2013.
4. Same answer as question 3.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 75

Program: DFAT

Topic: Climate Change

Question in Writing

Senator Milne

Question

- 1. Can the Department please provide a list of the current projects that are being financed under Australia's fast-start finance package, and how much funding is being allocated per project?**
- 2. Can the Department please provide a list of the current climate change adaptation aid programs being financed?**
- 3. What is the total amount that is being directed toward climate finance related aid for the current year and for each year over the forward estimates?**
- 4. Will the Government make a contribution to the Green Climate Fund ahead of COP20 in Lima?**
 - a. Is this currently under consideration?**
 - b. If so, how much will the contribution be?**
- 5. Can the Department please provide a list of the aid projects relating to climate change that have been reduced or abolished and the level of each reduction since September 2013?**

Answer

1. Australia's fast-start finance package ended as planned on 30 June 2013. Information on the allocation of funding under the package is contained in the final report on Australia's fast-start finance package, which is available at:
<http://aid.dfat.gov.au/Publications/Pages/fast-start-climate-finance-2010-13.aspx>
2. The following lists current programs that specifically address climate change adaptation. This list is not exhaustive as (for the reasons set out in response to part 3 of this question) it is not possible to identify all current projects which contribute to climate change adaptation.

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The Philippines:

- Disaster and Climate Risks Management Initiative: (2006-16)
- Building Resilience of Metro Manila Communities Program: (2010-15)

Timor-Leste:

- Improving land and water management to reduce impacts of climate change on communities (implemented by Oxfam Australia, 2012-15)
- Assisting Communities to Secure their Environment to Climate Change (implemented by CARE Australia, 2012-15)

Vietnam:

- Support Program to Respond to Climate Change (2012-15)
- Integrated Coastal Management Program (2011-17)
- Flood and Drought Risk Management and Mitigation Project (2012-17)
- Vietnam Climate Change Action Grants (2012-15)
- Strengthening institutional capacity for disaster risk management in Vietnam, including climate change related risks (2012-15)

Pacific programs:

- Climate and Oceans Support Program in the Pacific (COSPPac) (2012-2016)
 - Pacific Australia Climate Change Science and Adaptation Planning (PACCSAP) Program (2011-14)
 - Pacific iCLIM: Supporting the Regional Management of Climate Change Information in the Pacific (March 2014-June 2016)
 - Pacific Risk Resilience Program (PRRP) (2012 – 2017)
 - Core funding support for the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Program (SPREP) and Secretariat of Pacific Community (SPC) to deliver their respective climate change programs (ongoing)
 - Kiribati Adaptation Program Phase III (2012-2016)
3. Climate expenditure is now mainstreamed within the aid program. Budget details will be announced in the 2015-16 budget.
 4. The Prime Minister and the Minister for Foreign Affairs announced on 10 December 2014 that Australia will contribute \$200 million over four years to the Green Climate Fund.
 5. As part of the reprioritisation of the aid program climate change expenditure is now mainstreamed within the aid program. It is not possible to list all aid projects relating to climate change without detailed and lengthy retrospective analysis of program data. Such an analysis has not been performed in respect of the 2013-14 financial year.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 76

Program: DFAT

Topic: Maldives

Question in Writing

Senator McGrath

Question

- 1. *Has the Australian Government contributed international observers (through the Commonwealth of Nations or otherwise) to oversee elections in the Maldives?***
- 2. *Has the Australian Government provided, or does it intend to provide, any other assistance for the conduct of elections in the Maldives? If so, what assistance?***
- 3. *In supplementary estimates hearings on 23 October 2014, Mr Bryce Hutchesson (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Acting First Assistant Secretary, South and West Asia Division) stated that the Australian High Commissioner in Colombo had recently been instructed to make a round of representations to the Maldivian Government about the current issues relating to the Human Rights Commission of the Maldives.***
 - a. *Have these representations now taken place? If so, when did they take place?***
 - b. *What was the content of these representations?***
 - c. *What response to these representations, if any, was received from the Maldivian Government?***
 - d. *What further actions, if any, does the Australian Government intend to take on the issues of human rights and democracy in the Maldives?***
- 4. *In supplementary estimates hearings on 23 October 2014, Mr Bryce Hutchesson (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Acting First Assistant Secretary, South and West Asia Division) stated that Australia's diplomatic engagement with the Maldives was 'not all about human rights and democratisation'.***
 - a. *What other issues does the Australian Government raise through its diplomatic engagement with the Maldives?***
- 5. *In supplementary estimates hearings on 23 October 2014, Mr Bryce Hutchesson (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Acting First Assistant Secretary, South and West Asia Division) stated that Australia has a small aid program with the Maldives.***

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- a. What is the aid directed at achieving?*
- b. What conditions, if any, are attached to the aid?*
- c. What assurances, if any, are provided by the Maldivian Government that the aid is spent in accordance with any conditions?*

Answer

- 1. Has the Australian Government contributed international observers (through the Commonwealth of Nations or otherwise) to oversee elections in the Maldives?**

Yes.

- 2. Has the Australian Government provided, or does it intend to provide, any other assistance for the conduct of elections in the Maldives? If so, what assistance?**

Yes. Australia provided \$3.34 million in core funding to the Commonwealth Secretariat (2013-14); the Secretariat in turn directly funds Commonwealth election observer missions. Australia has also provided \$850,000 (2012-14) to the UNDP-led Integrated Governance Program, which supports a number of democratic, human rights and justice sector institutions and strengthens related civil society organisations. Through this program, UNDP has worked with the Maldives Elections Commission to provide training for 3,000 staff and polling officials, support voter education and strengthen coordination among relevant institutions on election related issues.

- 3. In supplementary estimates hearings on 23 October 2014, Mr Bryce Hutchesson (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Acting First Assistant Secretary, South and West Asia Division) stated that the Australian High Commissioner in Colombo had recently been instructed to make a round of representations to the Maldivian Government about the current issues relating to the Human Rights Commission of the Maldives.**

- a. Have these representations now taken place? If so, when did they take place?**

Yes. Australia's High Commissioner accredited to the Maldives, resident in Colombo, made representations to the Maldivian Ambassador at Large for Foreign Affairs, Ahmed Mohamed, on 23 October 2014 to express concern at action initiated by the Maldives Supreme Court against the Maldives Human Rights Commission. Australia's Ambassador and Permanent Resident to the UN in Geneva reiterated our concerns on 14 November 2014 to the Maldives Acting High Commissioner to the UK and Ambassador-designate to the EU.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

b. What was the content of these representations?

Australia expressed concern about developments in the Maldives which have constrained public discussion and freedom of expression, including reports of recent intimidation and attack on journalists. Australia expressed particular concern about the implications of action initiated by the Maldives Supreme Court's against the Maldives Human Rights Commission following the latter's report to the UN High Rights Council.

c. What response to these representations, if any, was received from the Maldivian Government?

Maldivian officials noted our concerns.

d. What further actions, if any, does the Australian Government intend to take on the issues of human rights and democracy in the Maldives?

The Australian Government continues to monitor developments in the Maldives and will take opportunities as necessary to raise human rights and democratisation concerns with the Maldives Government. Our aid program continues to provide support towards strengthening democracy and democratic institutions.

4. In supplementary estimates hearings on 23 October 2014, Mr Bryce Hutchesson (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Acting First Assistant Secretary, South and West Asia Division) stated that Australia's diplomatic engagement with the Maldives was 'not all about human rights and democratisation'.

a. What other issues does the Australian Government raise through its diplomatic engagement with the Maldives?

The Australian Government engages with the Maldives on a range of bilateral, regional and multilateral issues underpinned by cooperation in education, trade and development, and shared membership of the Commonwealth.

5. In supplementary estimates hearings on 23 October 2014, Mr Bryce Hutchesson (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Acting First Assistant Secretary, South and West Asia Division) stated that Australia has a small aid program with the Maldives.

a. What is the aid directed at achieving?

Australia's aid to the Maldives targets human development through the education sector. In 2014-15, we will: provide 33 Australia Awards

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Scholarships for study at Australian universities, focused on economics, education and environmental science; and help improve the quality of education at primary and secondary levels through the Maldives Education Sector Volunteers Program in cooperation with the Maldives Ministry of Education. Australia will also support effective governance through support to the UNDP-led Integrated Governance Program.

b. What conditions, if any, are attached to the aid?

The only conditions relate to the Australia Awards scholarships. All applicants who accept an Australia Awards scholarship are required to sign a contract with the Commonwealth of Australia declaring that they will comply with the conditions of the scholarship.

c. What assurances, if any, are provided by the Maldivian Government that the aid is spent in accordance with any conditions?

Australia's aid program in the Maldives is not delivered through Maldives Government systems. The Maldives Government is not responsible for the delivery of Australia's aid.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 77

Program: DFAT

Topic: West Papua / Indonesia

Question in Writing

Senator Di Natale

Question

- 1. Can the Department provide an update on the fate of Thomas Dandois and Ms Valentine Bourrat, two journalists who were arrested in West Papua?**
- 2. Has there been a response from the Indonesian Government to the Senate Motion on 1 October 2014 regarding Mr Thomas Dandois and Ms Valentine Bourrat,?**
- 3. Has there been any diplomatic contact or any official response regarding the Senate motion of 1 October 2014?**
- 4. What measures is the Australian Government undertaking to follow up on the fate of these jailed journalists?**
- 5. Does the Australian Federal Police (AFP) continue to provide training, supplies and extensive operational support to Indonesian National Police Detachment 88? If so, can you please provide details on the nature of the assistance provided by Australia and the expenditure on that assistance?**
- 6. What due diligence or vetting has AFP undertaken to ensure that it is not directly aiding individuals or units within Detachment 88 who stand accused of torture, ill-treatment and extra-judicial killings in West Papua?**

Answer

1. The Department understands that Mr Dandois and Ms Bourrat were tried on 24 October 2014 in the District Court in Manokwari, Papua for visa violation offences. They were sentenced to 10 weeks gaol. Given time served in detention, the two were released on 24 October 2014.
2. The Department has not received any response.
3. No.
4. As noted above, both journalists have now been released.
5. This question should be directed to the Australian Federal Police.
6. This question should be directed to the Australian Federal Police.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 78

Program: DFAT

Topic: ODA - Provision of abortion services

Question in Writing

Senator Bullock

Question

What is the total amount of Australian development assistance funds allocated to activities which allow for the provision of abortion services, with a breakdown into specific activities or projects:

- a) expended in 2013-14;*
- b) budgeted for 2014-15; and*
- c) in the forward estimates for each of the years 2015-16; 2016-17 and 2017-18?*

Answer

A. In 2013-14, Australia expended around \$7 million on health activities implemented by organisations with mandates that allow, within the laws of the countries concerned, the provision of safe abortion and post-abortion services as part of their comprehensive response to reproductive healthcare needs. These include the following activities:

- \$2.48 million to Marie Stopes International for supporting the Cambodian Government to increase access to family planning and provide training and quality assurance of government health providers in comprehensive safe abortion care.
- \$505,534 to Marie Stopes International for supporting sexual and reproductive health social franchise networks in Vietnam to improve access to quality services, including family planning and safe abortion.
- \$2 million to the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) in South Asia and \$2 million in core funding to IPPF. In 2013, of the 136.6 million sexual and reproductive health care services provided by IPPF, 2 percent were abortion related, including services such as post-abortion

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family planning.

B. Expenditure on health activities which provides safe abortion and post-abortion services as part of their comprehensive response to reproductive healthcare needs for 2014-15 will become available in late 2015 when the actual 2014-15 expenditures are finalised.

C. Estimates for future years are dependent on annual budget processes and country prioritization and planning processes.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 79

Program: DFAT

Topic: ODA - International Planned Parenthood Federation

Question in Writing

Senator Bullock

Question

In an answer to written question on notice number 45 asked by Senator Boswell at the February 2013 Additional Budget Estimates, the reply stated that it is not possible to identify where and on what International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) and IPPF South Asia spent AusAID funding because it is pooled alongside other donor funds.

However, in answer to Senator Boswell's written question on notice number 17.D for the Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 the reply stated that "IPPF is contractually obliged to comply with the Guiding Principles" which prohibit abortions after 20 weeks gestation as well as coerced abortions and abortions for sex selection.

IPPF's Annual Performance Report 2013-2014 states that in 2013 it provided 533,085 surgical and 341,783 medical abortions.¹ Included in these figures are abortion related services provided by the China Family Planning Association (14,000 in 2011)² and abortion related services provided by the Vietnam Family Planning Association (45,000 in 2011)³. In both these countries post 20 week abortions are permitted by law; abortions for sex selection are endemic, notwithstanding formal legal bans, and coerced abortions are frequent due to the national population control programmes.

In the light of this information:

¹ IPPF, *Annual Performance Report 2013-2014*, Table 2 on p, 18, http://www.ippf.org/sites/default/files/ole_apr2012-13_web.pdf

² <http://www.ippf.org/our-work/where-we-work/east-and-south-east-asia-and-oceania/china>

³ <http://www.ippf.org/our-work/where-we-work/east-and-south-east-asia-and-oceania/vietnam>

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- a) how can Australia be sure that not a single development assistance dollar is used to fund abortions provided by IPPF that are performed after 20 weeks gestation; carried out for sex selection or performed under coercion by the State?*
- b) will Australian development assistance funds continue to be given to IPPF for pooling with other donor funds?*

Answer

- A. IPPF has confirmed to DFAT in writing that it has not provided abortions beyond 20 weeks gestation, performed for sex selection or under coercion by the State in any country, including China and Vietnam. IPPF has put in checks including an audit and reporting process to ensure compliance to Australian requirements on late term abortions.

- B. Yes.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 80

Program: DFAT

Topic: International Planned Parenthood Federation

Question in Writing

Senator Bullock

Question

Have any Australian development assistance funds given to the IPPF been used in campaigns to make abortion legal in particular countries?

Answer

No.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 81

Program: DFAT

Topic: Budget – Line item – Cross Regional Projects

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

- 1. The aid budget's line item for Cross Regional Projects shows a \$380 million increase. Please provide a breakdown of what programs are being funded and will be funded under this Cross Regional Projects line item; the amount of funding per project; and the aim and outcomes of those projects?**
- 2. What scholarships will be funded under the Cross Regional Projects; please provided details to whom the scholarships are awarded, where they are awarded, and what are the outcomes expected?**

Answer

1. Details of programs funded under Cross-Regional Programs are provided in the table below. Some programs are not included in the table as negotiations with partners are not yet finalised.

It is likely that the final expenditure under Cross-Regional Programs will be different from the current projection as funding may be adjusted as priorities and circumstances change over the course of the year and program implementation decisions are made.

Program	2014-15 Estimated Outcome (\$million)	Description
Scholarships	139	See answer to Part 2 of the question below.
Education	7	Includes multicountry/regional/global education programs supporting global partnerships, civil society partnerships and education research. Further detail at http://aid.dfat.gov.au/aidissues/education/Pages/home.aspx .
Health	118	Includes multicountry/regional/global programs targeting Ebola and malaria; Australia's contribution to GAVI the Vaccine Alliance; and support for medical research. Further detail at http://aid.dfat.gov.au/aidissues/health/Pages/home.aspx .

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Water and Sanitation	55	Includes multicountry/regional/global water, sanitation and hygiene programs supporting civil society partnerships and research. Further detail at http://aid.dfat.gov.au/aidissues/watersanitation/Pages/default.aspx .
Fisheries and Agriculture	14	Includes multicountry/regional/global fisheries and agriculture programs supporting global partnerships, research and food security. Further detail at http://aid.dfat.gov.au/aidpolicy/developmentpolicy/Pages/agriculture-fisheries-water.aspx
Infrastructure and Rural Development	61	Includes multicountry/regional/global programs supporting aid-for-trade, rural development, infrastructure, mining and natural resources. Further details at http://aid.dfat.gov.au/aidissues/infrastructure/Pages/home.aspx .
Governance	19	Includes multicountry/regional/global programs supporting anti-corruption, governance and leadership, human rights and social development. Further detail at http://aid.dfat.gov.au/aidissues/governance/Pages/home.aspx .
Development Innovation	20	Multicountry funding supporting innovation in program development.
Disability Inclusive Development	13	Includes multicountry/regional/global programs promoting disability-inclusive development. Further detail at http://aid.dfat.gov.au/aidissues/did/Pages/home.aspx .
Gender	30	Includes multicountry/regional/global programs to empower women and girls. Further detail at http://aid.dfat.gov.au/aidissues/gender/Pages/home.aspx
Direct Aid Program	22	A flexible small grants program managed through 66 of the DFAT's overseas posts that supports a wide range of aid projects. Further detail at http://www.dfat.gov.au/direct_aid_program/ .
Environment	8	Multicountry/regional global support for climate change and sustainable development partnerships and research. Further detail at http://aid.dfat.gov.au/aidissues/environment/Pages/home.aspx .
Office of Development Effectiveness (ODE)	2	Funds ODE operations including aid evaluations and civil society partnerships. Further detail at http://www.ode.dfat.gov.au/ .

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Government Partnerships for Development	15	A competitive grants program that funds eligible Australian public sector organisations to support economic growth and poverty alleviation in developing countries. Further detail at http://aid.dfat.gov.au/business/other_opps/Pages/gpfd.aspx .
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2. The types of scholarships funded under cross regional programs are:

- Australia Awards Scholarships (Long-term)
- Australia Awards Fellowships (Short-term)
- Short-courses (Short-term)

Australia Awards aim to promote knowledge, education links and enduring ties between Australia and our neighbours particularly in the Indo-Pacific region through Australia's extensive scholarship programs. They aim to:

- develop capacity and leadership skills so that individuals can contribute to development in their home country; and
- build people-to-people linkages at the individual, institutional and country levels.

Australia Awards contribute to the achievement of development objectives across a range of sectors and are a feature of nearly all of Australia's bilateral aid programs. The Australian Government works closely with its partners in developing countries to ensure that Australia Awards support the development priorities of each country.

The country list and number of Australia Awards Scholarships offered for Intake 2015 are provided below. Please note that the below list does not include participating countries for Australia Awards Fellowships and short-courses as this information is not available yet. Individual names of recipients are not provided for privacy reasons.

The list of countries that are eligible for Australia Awards Scholarships and country-specific eligibility criteria are available at <http://aid.dfat.gov.au/australia-awards/Pages/eligiblecountries.aspx>

Region	Country	Australia Awards Scholarships - Intake 2015 (Long-term)
Asia	BANGLADESH	65
	BHUTAN	52
	CAMBODIA	55
	INDIA	1
	INDONESIA	440
	LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC	50
	MALDIVES	33
	MONGOLIA	45

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	MYANMAR	49
	NEPAL	44
	PAKISTAN	60
	PHILIPPINES	120
	SRI LANKA	35
	TIMOR-LESTE	23
	VIET NAM	185
	TOTAL	1257
Pacific	FIJI	20
	KIRIBATI	13
	MARSHALL ISLANDS	1
	MICRONESIA, FEDERATED STATES OF	1
	NAURU	5
	PALAU	1
	PAPUA NEW GUINEA	185
	SAMOA	23
	SOLOMON ISLANDS	25
	TONGA	6
	TUVALU	7
	VANUATU	14
		TOTAL
Africa	BOTSWANA	14
	BURUNDI	2
	CAMEROON	6
	GAMBIA	2
	GHANA	14
	KENYA	20
	LESOTHO	8
	LIBERIA	6
	MALAWI	11
	MAURITIUS	6
	MOZAMBIQUE	7
	NAMIBIA	5
	NIGERIA	18
	RWANDA	7
	SEYCHELLES	3
	SIERRA LEONE	5
	SOUTH AFRICA	4
	SOUTH SUDAN	5
	SWAZILAND	9
TANZANIA, UNITED REPUBLIC OF	15	
UGANDA	12	

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	ZAMBIA	16
	TOTAL	195
Middle East	PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES	10
	TOTAL	10

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 82

Program: DFAT

Topic: Bougainville

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

- 1. Since 2010 what funding has the Australian government provided to experts to assist the Autonomous Bougainville Government or to the ABG to pay experts to assist them; who are these experts; and how much has been paid?**
- 2. What amount of funding has been earmarked for Bougainville in each of the last three financial years?**
- 3. What reporting processes and accountability mechanisms for spending of that aid are in place? Have these processes been followed?**
- 4. Since 2010 what mining consultation forums/events funded by Australia have been held regarding reopening mining in Bougainville? Please provide a list of these forums/events.**
 - a. What country where these forums held in and how much Australian assistance was allocated for each event?**
 - b. What DFAT officials were involved?**
 - c. What was the purpose of each event?**
 - d. Where materials produced for these events and if so could they be provided?**
 - e. Where the events evaluated and if so can those evaluations be provided?**
- 5. What consultations involving DFAT related staff of people funded by DFAT have been held on Bougainville specifically relating to the draft mining legislation?**
- 6. Since 2010 what projects related to mining on Bougainville that cover research, provision of advice, practical assistance or related activities have been funded by DFAT and for each project please include its purpose, outcomes and amounts expended?**
- 7. Since 2010 what projects has DFAT funded on Bougainville relating to human rights, peacemaking, women's rights, and agriculture; and for each project please include its purpose, outcomes and amounts expended?**
- 8. What meetings have been held between Australian government officials and representatives of the Autonomous Bougainville Government, and for each meeting please include dates, location, event/purpose, government staff involved, and any outcomes?**
- 9. What meetings have been held between Department or Ministerial staff met and representatives of the Autonomous Bougainville Government**

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regarding the Panguna copper mine; and please include dates, location, event/purpose, government staff involved, and any outcomes?

10. *What meetings have been held between Department or Ministerial staff met and Adam Smith International, relating to Bougainville; and please include dates, location, event/purpose, government staff involved, and any outcomes?*
11. *Since 1 December 2013 what meetings have Department or Ministerial staff held with Rio Tinto officials, including its subsidiary Bougainville Copper Limited, relating to its Bougainville interests, including dates, location, event/purpose, government staff involved, and any outcomes?*

Answer

1. The Australian Government has supported a range of advisers, volunteers and experts to assist the Autonomous Bougainville Government (ABG) since 2010, through both PNG national sector programs and through programs specific to Bougainville. Details of advisory positions funded by AusAID in 2013 were provided in response to Question on Notice No. 306 of Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013. A list of current advisory positions funded by DFAT is provided in response to Question 83 below.

The precise number, role and duration of individuals assisting the ABG fluctuates over time. The annual costs vary depending on the period advisors are engaged for and the reimbursable travel costs incurred in a particular year. The Department does not maintain a separate central record of advisers engaged since 2010 from all the programs in Bougainville with costs totalled over the four year period requested. To collate such this information would entail a significant additional investment of resources. The Department does not consider this diversion of resources from priority areas to be justified.

2.

2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	Total
\$24.5m	\$33.8m	\$37.7m	\$96.00m

3. *Making Performance Count: enhancing the accountability and effectiveness of Australian aid* is the Government's performance framework which is now applicable to all Australia's aid programs (available at <http://aid.dfat.gov.au/Publications/Pages/framework-making-performance-count.aspx>). Each program has in place reporting and accountability mechanisms which have been followed. Consolidated information on the performance of our programs in PNG, including those in Bougainville, is provided through the annual Papua New Guinea Aid Program Performance Report produced by the Department (which can be accessed through the departmental website <http://aid.dfat.gov.au>,

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the most recent report is available

at: <http://aid.dfat.gov.au/Publications/Pages/png-appr-2013-14.aspx>).

4. Australia co-funds with New Zealand the Governance Implementation Fund (GIF). The GIF expended \$436,264.65 up to 31 October 2014 to implement the Mining Community Negotiations and Consultations Project. Forums/events conducted under the project have included:

- workshops to identify and address negotiating issues for landowners and develop an integrated negotiation position between ABG and landowners;
- workshops working with landowners to develop their negotiating skills and their capacity to effectively manage the business of their associations;
- workshops providing specific opportunities for women representatives to identify and address negotiation issues and build their capacity to influence decision making;
- organising the Bougainville-wide Women's Forum for women to receive information regarding, and have input into, preparations for the Panguna negotiations;
- establishing the Bougainville Negotiation Forum, the broadly-based stakeholder group designed to ensure that negotiations are directed by a body that has broad representation from all key Bougainville interests, including the ABG, Panguna affected landowners, ex-combatants, women's groups, churches, councils of elders, business and youth; and
- village level community engagement in the Panguna area to ensure those most affected by earlier mining operations are fully engaged in preparations for negotiations.

The GIF also funded a Mining Negotiations Adviser, Professor Ciaran O'Faircheallaigh, to support the ABG to consult and negotiate with relevant communities and stakeholders on the reopening of the Panguna Mine. Funding provided since 2010 totalled \$796,302.40, including \$19,053.97 provided by DFAT in 2011.

Australia also provided \$49,425.45 for ten senior ABG representatives, including President Momis, to attend the ABG Mining Conference in Canberra in February 2013.

Australia has also provided funding to the ABG to support the consultation process the ABG has conducted on the mining sector in Bougainville, including to engage advisers to assist, among other things, the ABG plan and conduct the public consultations.

Australia funded an ABG Strategic and Legal Advisor, Mr Anthony Regan, to advise the Bougainville Executive Council, and Chief Administrator and the Autonomous

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Bougainville Government on a broad range of legal, constitutional and policy issues. This has included advice on mining policy and negotiations on re-opening the Panguna copper mine and assistance with the development of the proposed Bougainville Mining Act and interim mining legislation. Total funding for this position, including work unrelated to mining, since 2010 was \$968,120.

a. Apart from the ABG Mining Conference which was held in Canberra, all other activities supported by Australia took place in Papua New Guinea.

b. DFAT officials in PNG have been involved in arranging support for these activities.

c. The purpose of the activities has been to support the ABG's efforts to ensure policy decisions on mining are transparent, consultative, and acceptable to Bougainvilleans, as well as conducted in a way to minimise the risk of conflict.

d. No materials were commissioned by DFAT.

e. DFAT conducts evaluations at the program level, not for individual events.

5. See answers to question 4 above.

6. See answers to question 4 above. Australia also expended \$202,989.00 since 2010 on the Australian Development Research Awards Scheme to support research and document the economic, social and environmental impacts of illegal mining, identify consequential policy issues, and suggest legal regimes and policies that can generate local benefits.

DFAT conducts evaluation of outcomes at the program level, not for individual projects or events.

7.

Activity	Purpose	Amount Expended
Women's rights		
Inclusive Development in Post-Conflict Bougainville Program	To support capacity building of women's groups in Bougainville through the provision of community project grants and training.	\$2,500,000.
Bougainville Women's Federation (BWF) Information Kiosk, Café and	To help women to have access to a safe, secure, clean and welcoming centre in Buka. For the centre to provide high quality service, good food and hygienic amenities. Provide	\$76,220

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Public Facilities	BWF and members with opportunities for income generation and training.	
Construction of facilities for Nazareth Rehabilitation Centre		\$413 000 in 2009
Tinputz district village assembly leadership strengthening	Includes support to strengthen the organizational capacity of selected Tinputz Village Assemblies incorporating gender equality.	\$459,419
Bougainville Village Assembly Strengthening Extension Project	Includes support for gender equity and diversity in governance.	\$1,631,033
Women's resource centre	To improve the leadership and management skills for the executive group for Tinpuz District Women's Association.	\$56,859
Wokabout sawmill	To equip and improve leadership and management skills of the executives of Ubuiope Women's Association.	\$56,087
Conference centre	To construct a Resource Centre within easy walking distance for all Suir Goev women.	\$57,969
Family and sexual violence training	Women and others vulnerable to family and sexual violence increasingly access justice, legal protection and support services.	\$908,529
Peacemaking		
Strengthening Peace in Bougainville	To support efforts to promote lasting peace and unite the people of Panguna and Bougainville into a cohesive and harmonious society that exercises good governance and inclusive leadership and fully recognizes the voices of all citizens including women and youths.	\$1,243,491
Consultant on Weapons Disposal & Resolution of	To support the ABG in its policy decisions on weapons disposal and local conflict resolution.	\$875,871. 95

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Localised Conflict		
UNDP weapons disposal program		\$1.5 million over three years (2008-2010)
Agriculture		
Poultry (chicken)	To Construct a building facility to raise 200 broilers and 100 layers for 7 hamlets of Manuatavu with the total population of 205.	\$52,030
Fresh fish marketing	To empower women by providing a building facility for a poultry project.	\$44,581
Balbi Grains and Vegetables	To increase production and returns for grains & veggies unique in 6 villages of Rotokas and improve their skills of 60 model farmers on potato and rice management to meet quality standards.	\$64,111

The outcomes of this support is reported on through the program evaluations and aid program reporting referred to in the response to question 83(4) above. The Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) also administers programs in the agricultural sector in Bougainville and questions on its programs should be directed to ACIAR.

8. Australian government officials meet with ABG officials regularly and, in the case of the Department's officers located in Buka, on an almost daily basis. To collate a list of all such meetings would entail a significant investment of resources. The Department does not consider this diversion of resources from priority areas to be justified.

9. Australian government officials meet with ABG officials regularly and, in the case of the Department's officers located in Buka, on an almost daily basis. To collate a list of all meetings held specifically to discuss the Panguna copper mine would entail a significant investment of resources. The Department does not consider this diversion of resources from priority areas to be justified.

Questions relating to meetings held by Ministerial officers should be directed to the relevant Minister's office.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

10.

Dates	Location	Event/purpose	Government staff involved	Outcomes
23 Oct 2012	Canberra, Australia	DFAT meeting to discuss Adam Smith's work in Bougainville	DFAT officials based in Canberra	None
11 Feb 2014	Buka, Papua New Guinea	Drop-in meeting by Adam Smith International during mission to Bougainville	DFAT staff based in Buka and Port Moresby	None
8 Aug 2014	Canberra, Australia	DFAT lunchtime seminar on Extractive industries in Burma and Papua New Guinea	Various DFAT officials based in Canberra	None
Week of 18 Aug 2014	Buka, Papua New Guinea	Briefing on mission to coordinate with Australian Aid program.	DFAT officials based in Buka	None

Questions relating to meetings held by Ministerial officers should be directed to the relevant Minister's office.

11. Please note the responses provided to the Questions on Notice 90 for the Supplementary Budget Estimates hearing on 23 October 2014 and Question on Notice 96 for the Supplementary Budget Estimates hearing on 21 November 2013.

The Department notes that Australian government officials meet with Peter Taylor, chairman of BCL, and other Rio Tinto and BCL officials frequently for a range of purposes. To collate such a list and provide the level of detail requested would entail a significant investment of resources. The Department does not consider this diversion of resources from priority areas to be justified.

Questions relating to meetings held by Ministerial officers should be directed to the relevant Minister's office.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 83

Program: DFAT

Topic: Advisers on Bougainville

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

1. *How many advisors or contracted personnel is the Australian government currently funding on Bougainville?*
 - a. *What are each of their roles?*
 - b. *What amount of funding is being provided to each?*
 - c. *What are the names of each of these personnel?*
2. *Once advisors disclose possible conflicts of interest they may have does DFAT determine whether the disclosed conflict of interest will impact on their role and needs to be responded to?*
3. *May I have a copy of the guidelines DFAT follows in such cases?*

Answer

1. Australia currently supports 56 advisors and individual contractors to work with the ABG in a combination of full time and part time roles.

The majority of advisors are engaged through the Provincial and Local-level Government Program (PLGP), with others supported under the PNG Australia Law and Justice Program (PALJP); the education sector Capacity Development Facility (CDF) and the Bougainville Governance and Implementation Fund (GIF), to which the ABG and New Zealand also contribute funding.

a. List of current advisors and contractors

Position	Program	Expensed 2014/15
Finance		
Strategic public financial management adviser*#	PLGP	\$205.00
Taxation and revenue adviser	GIF	\$0.00
Contract accountants (3)*	GIF	\$0.00
Strategic planning and strengthening Chief Administrator's office		

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Strategic management adviser*	GIF	\$0.00
Senior Strategic Planner contractor	GIF	\$0.00
Secreterial practice adviser	GIF	\$0.00
Performance, reporting and compliance contractor*	GIF	\$0.00
Program Management Unit (PMU), infrastructure and economic development		
Procurements and contracts adviser	PLGP	\$125,015.00
PMU and Special Intervention Fund adviser#	PLGP	\$174,281.00
PMU Project management adviser#	PLGP	\$2,685.00
PMU Project feasibility and design specialist#	PLGP	\$5,470.00
PMU Project manager (South)*	GIF	\$0.00
PMU Operational monitoring and evaluation	GIF	\$39,323.00
PMU Roads engineer	GIF	\$100,000.00
PMU Infrastructure manager	GIF	\$40,000.00
PMU Cadet*	GIF	\$0.00
Human resources		
Organisation management & HRD adviser*	PLGP	\$0.00
HR adviser	PLGP	\$1,654.00
GIF HR contractor	GIF	\$29,364.00
Autonomy implementation and policy development		
Policy development and drawdown advisor	PLGP	\$2,189.00
Strategic adviser#	PLGP	\$262,247.00
Strategic and legal adviser#	PLGP	\$194,658.00
Legislative drafting adviser	PLGP	\$97,050.00
Elections adviser	PLGP	\$4,905.00

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District planning and COE adviser	GIF	\$107,261.24
Mining negotiations adviser	GIF	\$362,117.71
Communications, awareness raising and peacebuilding		
Community radio producer	GIF	\$3,847.98
Communications officer Radio	GIF	\$7,317.20
Communications officer print/online	GIF	\$3,847.98
Community radio, mobile radio	GIF	\$3,391.94
Communications officer events	GIF	\$3,391.94
Communications officer bulletin	GIF	\$8,536.00
Graphic design officer	GIF	\$3,391.94
Weapons disposal and conflict resolution adviser	PLGP	\$77,471.00
Peacebuilding, leadership and civic engagement adviser*#	PLGP	\$0.00
Information Communication Technology (ICT)		
ICT supervisor	GIF	\$13,107.60
ICT network adviser	GIF	\$58,603.75
Information management adviser	GIF	\$0.00
ICT manager*	GIF	\$0.00
ICT governance adviser*	GIF	\$0.00
Sectoral support		
Law and Justice (L&J)		
L&J Sector finance adviser (ended 30 June 2014)	PALJP	\$1,504.24
L&J Sector service delivery adviser	PALJP	\$83,061.02
L&J Sector training adviser	PALJP	\$69,471.82
L&J Sector service delivery adviser#	PALJP	\$37,323.41

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Bougainville infrastructure adviser#	PALJP	\$31,783.35
Bougainville facilities manager#	PALJP	\$4,050.00
Health		
Health adviser	HHISP	\$128,627.00
Education		
Regional literacy supervisor (North)	GIF	\$16,153.83
Regional literacy supervisor (Central)*	GIF	\$0.00
Regional literacy supervisor (South)	GIF	\$4,615.38
Literacy program appraisal specialists	GIF	\$0.00
Education strategic plan facilitator	CDF	\$0.00
Education sector comparative assessment consultant	CDF	\$0.00
Education sector pathways mapping adviser	CDF	\$0.00
Total		\$1,752,101.49

* Not yet recruited.

Short term advisory support.

Additional personnel are engaged by our partners, contractors or subcontractors to deliver programs in Bougainville, but do not work within or for the ABG directly or are not funded solely by the Australian government. There are also additional Australian government employees who work with the ABG through the Australian Civilian Corps.

b. Expenditure for each role for the current financial year is detailed in **a**.

These costs can vary depending on number of days a particular adviser is engaged and the reimbursable travel costs incurred by the adviser. Some of the positions supported are currently vacant or have been recently filled, so costs for some of the positions have not yet been incurred in this financial year.

c. The Department does not consider the public release of the personal details of advisers and contractors to be appropriate.

2. Yes.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

3. The Department requires full disclosure of conflicts of interest as a part of the Australian aid program's standard contractual obligations. Any contractual engagement by the Department is also governed by a range of legal and policy documents which deal with conflicts of interest, including the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (available at <http://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/C2013A00123>); *2014 Commonwealth Procurement Rules* (available at <http://www.finance.gov.au/procurement/procurement-policy-and-guidance/commonwealth-procurement-rules/>), the Commonwealth Fraud Control Framework 2014 (available at <http://www.ag.gov.au/CrimeAndCorruption/FraudControl/Pages/FraudControlFramework.aspx#frame>); the DFAT Secretaries Instructions and the DFAT Conduct and Ethics manual, which includes Chapter 5 on Conflicts of interests (copy provided).

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 84

Program: DFAT

Topic: Stitch in Time report - Bougainville

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

- 1. *Is the department aware of the Voices of Bougainville report published in September 2014 by Jubilee Australia?***
- 2. *Has DFAT assessed the information presented in this report?***
- 3. *Will the data provided in this report be taken into consideration by the Department in its engagement in Bougainville?***
- 4. *If not why has it been determined not to use the data and information in this report?***

Answer

1. Yes.
2. Yes.
3. Yes.
4. Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 85

Program: DFAT

Topic: Stitch in Time report - Bougainville

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

- 1. Does DFAT endorse the recommendations of the report 'A Stitch in Time' produced in November 2013, by the Australian Strategic Policy Institute, partly funded by the Department of Defence?**
- 2. Specifically does DFAT support the recommendation in this report that calls for a significant investment in Bougainville, including the potential provision of Australian Defence Force and Australian Federal Police personnel?**
- 3. Did DFAT have any role in the production of this report? If so please provide details on the report's methodology, the evidence employed to develop its recommendations, the reaction if any from the Autonomous Bougainville Government, and the amount expended in the report's production and dissemination?**
- 4. Please detail meetings between DFAT personnel and personnel from the Australian Defence Force about Bougainville, including the purpose of these meetings, date, location, personnel involved, and outcomes?**
- 5. Please detail meetings between DFAT personnel and officials from the Autonomous Bougainville Government, including the purpose of these meetings, date, location, personnel involved, and outcomes?**

Answer

1. We welcome the contribution from the Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI) and other independent think tanks and public commentators to the public debate on Australia's future engagement with Bougainville. It is not standard practice for the Department to endorse or otherwise the recommendations of think tanks.
2. Please see the response to 1. above
3. The Department was sent an early draft of the report to review it for factual accuracy, but was otherwise not involved in the production of the report.

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4. The Department engages regularly with a range of Australian government departments and agencies on Bougainville. It would not be possible to collate a list as requested.
5. Please see the response to Question on Notice 82(8).

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 86

Program: DFAT

Topic: Mantle Group - Bougainville

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

- 1. Is DFAT aware of the activities of the Mantle Group in Bougainville and that they have bought large tracts of land in Bougainville for various plantations?***
- 2. Has any financial or other assistance been provided by the Australian government to the Mantle Group to enable its work in Bougainville? If so please provide details of the amount of money provided and for what purpose it was given?***

Answer

1. The Department is aware of the Mantle Group's activities in Bougainville.
2. No.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 87

Program: DFAT

Topic: Professional Services Solutions - Contracts

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

- 1. *Considering Professional Services Solutions states on its website [http://professionalservicesolutions.net/our_story] that it was established to “provide skilled people and support to the Bougainville Transition Team which succeeded the military led Peace Monitoring Group following the crisis in PNG's North Solomon's province”***
 - a. Has the Australian government ever contracted or had dealings with this company or any business or entity that has contracted this company? If so please provide details of this association?***
 - b. What does the Australian government know of this company's presence in PNG?***
 - c. Was the Australian government aware of this company's dealings in Bougainville and if so what did the government understand this company was doing?***

Answer

1 & a.

In 2003, the Australian government engaged HK Logistics to provide logistical support to the Bougainville Transition Team. DFAT understands that HK Logistics in turn engaged subcontractors to assist in fulfilling its contractual obligations, including Professional Services Solutions. The Department understands that Professional Services Solutions was engaged to assist in the recruitment of personnel to support the Bougainville Transition Team between June 2003 and March 2007.

Professional Services Solutions was also engaged by HK Logistics to provide the Department with the following services:

- construction and logistics project in Nauru between April 2004 and March 2007; and
- support to the Indian Ocean Tsunami (Banda Aceh) between March 2005 and June 2006.

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The Australian Embassy in Kabul separately contracted Professional Services Solutions to construct accommodation in 2010 and to recruit and engage a cook (October 2010 to March 2011) and an Afghan research officer (December 2010 to July 2011).

The Department cannot comment on any other contractual arrangements that Professional Services Solutions may have with other government departments.

b & c.

The Department understands that Professional Services Solutions has had two engagements in PNG. The first was the deployment to Bougainville detailed in the response to question 87(1)(a) above. The second was a subsequent engagement with Rio Tinto Limited in May 2013 to conduct a security risk assessment of Bougainville in the context personnel of Rio Tinto Limited and Bougainville Copper Limited travelling to Bougainville.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 88

Program: DFAT

Topic: Support to Australian research centres focusing on the Pacific region

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

- 1. *What government funding is provided to the State, Society and Governance in Melanesia Program at the Australian National University, and please include the purpose of this funding, key performance indicators, and any performance evaluations that have been conducted?***
- 2. *Can the Department provide details of funding provided to the Development Policy Centre at the Australian National University program, including the purpose of this funding, key performance indicators, and any performance evaluations that have been conducted?***

Answer

1. The Government will provide \$19.9 million to the State, Society and Governance in Melanesia (SSGM) program from 2013-2017.
 - a. This funding supports:
 - i. Production and dissemination of policy relevant research about the Pacific, across the following thematic areas: Politics, Elections, Leadership & Governance; Conflict, Justice & Peace Building; Poverty, Livelihoods, Rural Development, Migration and Extractive Industries; and Gender, Health and Social Development;
 - ii. Expanding and sustaining a network of Australian, regional and international research institutions and individual researchers; and
 - iii. Training and mentoring the next generation of Pacific and Timor Leste researchers.
 - b. The key performance indicators for the SSGM program are:

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- i. A core research program that provides policy relevant research and analysis to the Government and stakeholders in the Pacific;
 - ii. Establishment of research partnerships with key regional and international institutions (including universities, think tanks and donor programs);
 - iii. Effective research communication to Government and regional stakeholders through hosting of seminars and workshops and publication of a range of research products (including research reports, discussion papers and policy briefs); and
 - iv. An increased number of Pacific Island scholars collaborating on and producing peer reviewed research and analysis on relevant issues.
 - c. Under the terms of the SSGM grant agreement a mid-term performance evaluation will be conducted for the current program.
2. The Government will have provided \$1,400,000 to the Development Policy Centre, through Crawford School of Public Policy from 2012 – 2015.
- a. This funding supports:
 - i. Research and analysis to inform PNG Government budget and expenditure policy directions.
 - ii. Collaboration with the National Research Institute in PNG to undertake this research and provide mentoring and training
 - b. Key Performance Indicators for the Development Policy Centre are:
 - i. A research program that provides research and analysis relevant to public policy in PNG
 - ii. Strengthened existing research partnership with the National Research Institute.
 - iii. Communication of research findings to Government of PNG, other donor agencies, the general public through range of publications including discussion papers, research reports and production of a research findings in a report titled “*A Lost Decade? Service Delivery and Reforms in Papua New Guinea 2002-2012*”.

A performance evaluation has not been conducted on the Development Policy Centre for the current research program.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 89

Program: DFAT

Topic: Illegal land grabs

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

- 1. *Did DFAT have any involvement with the Special Agriculture and Business Lease which, according to a recent Commission of Inquiry, has seen more than 5 million hectares of customary land in PNG (much of it covered in rainforest) unlawfully alienated from the traditional owners?***
- 2. *What information or advice has the Australian government received about the PNG Commission of Inquiry recommending the leases be cancelled and a National Executive Council decision in June endorsing that recommendation?***
 - a. *Is the Australian government aware that despite the above recommendations no SABL leases have been cancelled?***
 - b. *What is Australia's position on this?***
 - c. *What Australian personnel, companies or individuals are involved in any part of this issue? Is there any Australian funding involved in any part of this issue?***
- 3. *What information does the Australian government have about the PNG Forest Authority granting 25 Forest Clearance Authorities allowing clear felling of forest within the SABL areas?***
 - a. *What is the government's position or concerns about this?***
 - b. *What discussion, consultation or actions has the government been involved in with this issue?***
 - c. *What Australian personnel, companies or individuals are involved in any part of this issue? Is there any Australian funding involved in any part of this issue?***
- 4. *Is the government aware that despite the leases being found to be unlawful no steps have been taken by PNG authorities to stop the logging?***
 - a. *If yes, may I have the details of this information***
 - b. *If no, why would the government not be aware of this?***
- 5. *What steps has the government [Minister?] taken to raise these issues with the PNG government? May have details of that communications and outcomes?***
- 6. *What resources or support is Australia providing to assist PNG to stop the land grabbing and illegal logging?***

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Answer

1 and 2:

DFAT has been following the PNG's Commission of Inquiry into Special Agriculture and Business Leases (SABLs).

a. No.

b. This is a matter for the PNG Government.

c. DFAT is aware of claims made in the Commission of Inquiry into SABLs regarding alleged payments to Papua New Guinean public officials by a company with Australian connections. No Australian Government funding has been involved.

3. None.

a. This is a matter for the PNG Government.

b. None.

c. DFAT is aware of claims made in the Commission of Inquiry into SABLs regarding alleged payments to Papua New Guinean public officials by a company with Australian connections. No Australian Government funding has been involved.

4. No.

a.& b. This is a matter for the PNG Government.

5. Through the Australia-PNG Forestry Cooperation, senior officials from the Department of Agriculture and the PNG Forestry Authority (PNGFA) meet annually to discuss forestry issues. The fourth meeting was held on 29-30 May in Madang PNG and was attended by two officials from the Department of Agriculture and six PNGFA officers. The meeting discussed Australia's illegal logging laws and PNGFA provided draft country specific guidelines to support the regulations. The Department of Agriculture is considering the draft guidelines. The guidelines will be used to assist Australian timber companies to import from PNG businesses that meet the due diligence requirements.

6. Australia's Illegal Logging Prohibition Act 2012 makes it an offence to import a timber product or to process an Australian grown raw log that has been illegally logged. In the context of activities in Papua New Guinea, the Act is applicable if illegally logged timber is imported to Australia.

The Australian Government is supporting improved forest management and conservation through the existing partnership between the Department of Agriculture and the PNG Forestry Authority. PNG receives support through the Asia Pacific Forestry Skills and Capacity Building Program, which provides PNG's

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Forestry Authority with skills based training, technology transfer and information exchange and transfer.

More broadly, Australia plays an active role in supporting good governance, improving law and justice and combating corruption in PNG.

The Australian Government takes all allegations of foreign bribery seriously. Officials are under an obligation to report all allegations of extra-territorial offences committed by Australian citizens, permanent residents or companies, including information they receive about bribes paid to foreign public officials. These allegations are then referred to the Australian Federal Police for investigation.

Australia has a robust anti-corruption regime that prohibits the bribery of foreign public officials. The prohibition applies extra-territorially to Australian individuals and businesses operating overseas. The foreign bribery offence attracts significant penalties for both individuals and corporations.

Australia is a party to the key international conventions concerned with combating foreign bribery and is a member of the OECD Working Group on Bribery.

DFAT seeks to ensure that Australian businesses are aware of their obligations under Australian anti-bribery laws. In conjunction with the Attorney-General's Department, DFAT conducts outreach activities to the private sector about these laws and the Australian Government's zero tolerance approach to foreign bribery.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 90

Program: DFAT

Topic: Australia-PNG Business Council

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

- 1. *What Australian funding is provided to support the Australia PNG business council?***
 - a. Please supply a list of DFAT and A-PNG business council meetings?***
 - b. How many meetings have taken place between the Department and Peter Taylor, the head of the A-PNG Business council?***
- 2. *Has DFAT organised workshops with landowners, if so how many such events have been held in the last and current financial years; and please supply copies of the material used in the DFAT/AusAID presentations?***

Answer

1. None.

a. DFAT representatives regularly attend APNGBC Executive Committee Meetings, held every two months. APNGBC representatives attend meetings of the Australia-PNG Business and Officials Working Group and the Australia-PNG Business and Development Roundtable, both held on a semi-regular basis.

b. DFAT officials met regularly with Peter Taylor in his capacity as President of the APNGBC. He is no longer in that position.

2. Please see the response to Question on Notice 82 for support related to landowners in Bougainville and Question on Notice 96 for activities supported through the Mining for Development Initiative, including support provided for the Extractives Industry Transparency Initiative's PNG multi-stakeholder group, which includes representation of civil society groups in Papua New Guinea.

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Question No 91

Program: DFAT

Topic: PNG - National Research Institute

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

Does DFAT financially support the National Research Institute in PNG?

Answer

Yes. DFAT signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Research Institute (NRI) in April 2014 to provide A\$2.3 million per year for two years.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 92

Program: DFAT

Topic: Vanuatu - Carnival Cruises

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

- 1. *What activities/evaluations have been undertaken under the 3 year MoU signed between (previously) AusAID and Carnival Cruises Australia?***
- 2. *May I have details of reviews, meetings , timelines and government funding.***
- 3. *Will the impact study recently released under this MoU be made publicly available, and when?***
- 4. *If not, why not given the need for public accountability?***
- 5. *May I have details about what activities are being funded currently under the Vanuatu Land Program, including aims, funding and project partners.***

Answer

1. Since it was signed in 2013 the MoU has seen:
 - Bottled water, sourced from Vanuatu, being rolled out across the P&O Cruises fleet
 - The introduction of Vanuatu coffee as a speciality “single origin” coffee onto the P&O Cruises fleet
 - An Australian volunteer placed in Milne Bay to assist the local tourist industry benefit from cruises to PNG
 - Cabinets have been installed across the P&O Cruises fleet displaying local handicrafts that are pre-approved to pass Australian quarantine laws. Locally produced handicrafts are vital revenue streams for small producers
 - An economic impact study on cruise tourism to the Vanuatu economy is almost completed, which will help determine future areas of focus under the MOU
2. Since the MOU has been signed there have been four formal meetings between DFAT officials and the Carnival team that manage the MOU (22 August 2013, 14 January 2014, 16 May 2014 and 10 November 2014).

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3 & 4. The Impact Assessment is a publically available document. It will be uploaded onto the DFAT website shortly.

5. Please see response to Question on Notice 56.

Activities include: supporting implementation of Vanuatu's new land laws, including community outreach and awareness; training of customary land officers; strengthening of the Vanuatu Land Governance Committee; lease registration improvement; development of a digital cadastral database; and support for the issue of new strata titles.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 93

Program: DFAT

Topic: ODA - Funding to North and West Africa

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

- 1. Is it correct that funding for what AusAid had classified as the Middle and North Africa region has fallen to \$2.8m this year?*
- 2. What was this figure under the previous Labor Government for their last financial year in office?*
- 3. What programs have been cut as a result of this reduction in funding?*

Answer

1. Yes.
2. Funding for the Middle East and North Africa program (excluding Iraq and the Palestinian Territories) was \$64.3 million in 2012-13.
3. Two agriculture programs in Egypt and Tunisia, two employment generation programs in Egypt, one mine action program in Lebanon, and Australia Awards (Scholarships) to North Africa.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 94

Program: DFAT

Topic: ODA - Iraq

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

- 1. *The budget outline on your website setting out proposed expenditure for 2013-14 and actual expenditure for 2012-13 for DFAT's aid program indicates that the aid funding the Iraq was slashed from \$17.3 million in 2012-13 to \$3.7 million in 13-14.***
 - a. Is this estimate still correct?***
 - b. What has been cut from the previous aid budget to Iraq?***
 - c. What programs will be funded in Iraq this financial year?***
 - d. Can you give details of these programs?***

Answer

- a. The estimated expenditure for the Iraq program in 2013-14 has been revised to \$2.5 million.
- b. Two agricultural programs and one vocational education training program.
- c. There are no development assistance programs. Australia is providing \$17 million in humanitarian assistance in response to the conflict perpetrated by ISIL in Iraq.
- d. This includes contributions to United Nations appeals for food (\$3 million to World Food Programme), shelter (\$9 million to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees), and medical assistance with a focus on support for survivors of gender-based violence and the protection of children (\$2 million to United Nations Population Fund and \$3 million to Plan International Australia).

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 95

Program: DFAT

Topic: Palestine

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

- 1. On Friday 13 June, the head of the General Delegation of Palestine to Australia, Izzat Abdulhadi, said that the Abbott's government's decision to stop calling East Jerusalem "occupied" would "unfortunately" influence trade between Australia and the Arab world. (<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/jun/13/australia-may-be-hit-with-sanctions-over-occupied-east-jerusalem-policy-change>)**
 - a. Have there been changes to trade relations with the Arab world since Friday 13 June?**
 - b. Have you had any discussions about trade repercussions from the Arab world?**
 - c. Can you detail them?**

Answer

- a. No.
- b. Yes. A range of trade matters have been discussed with the Arab states since June 2014.
- c. Representatives from Arab and Islamic countries made representations on several occasions, during which trade relations were discussed. On 19 June 2014, the Palestinian Head of Delegation, Mr Izzat Abdulhadi, said that there would be no trade sanctions imposed on Australia.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 96

Program: DFAT

Topic: Trade Negotiations - Mining for Development, EFIC, EITI

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

1. *What projects are currently being funded by the Mining for Development program?
a. Please include details of each country that is involved and amount of funding per project?*
2. *What percentage of the Afghan aid budget is allocated to mining related projects? Is this funding also included in the Mining for Development program?*
3. *What percentage of the African aid budget is allocated to mining related projects? Is this funding also included in the Mining for Development program?*
4. *What Australian Universities are involved in Mining for Development? What funding have these universities received since the Mining for Development program commenced?*
5. *What African countries have participated in the Mining for Development program? How are these countries involved?*
6. *What projects has or is the Mining for Development program funding pertaining to Bougainville, including research projects?
a. What is/was the purpose of each of those projects?
b. How much is/was each project funded for?
c. Who has/is undertaking each project?*
7. *Has Mining for Development ever supported people from Bougainville to come to Australia for study tours?
a. If so who was funded, why, when and what was the cost?*

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Answer

- 1. What projects are currently being funded by the Mining for Development program?**
a) Please include details of each country that is involved and amount of funding per project?

Information about the initiative is publicly available at:

Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative

<http://www.dfat.gov.au/aid/topics/investment-priorities/infrastructure-trade-facilitation-international-competitiveness/extractives-sector-development-assistance/Pages/extractives-sector-development-assistance-initiatives.aspx>

IMF Topical Trust Fund on Managing Natural Resource Wealth

<http://www.dfat.gov.au/aid/topics/investment-priorities/infrastructure-trade-facilitation-international-competitiveness/extractives-sector-development-assistance/Pages/extractives-sector-development-assistance-initiatives.aspx>

International Mining for Development Centre

<http://www.dfat.gov.au/aid/topics/investment-priorities/infrastructure-trade-facilitation-international-competitiveness/extractives-sector-development-assistance/Pages/extractives-sector-development-assistance-initiatives.aspx>

- Country Breakdown of Course Participants for IM4DC

Region	Country	Participants
Africa		1034
	Algeria	2
	Benin	1
	Botswana	12
	Burkina Faso	16
	Burundi	3
	Cameroon	25
	Central African Republic	1
	Chad	1
	Congo-Brazzaville	6
	Cote D'Ivoire	13
	Democratic Republic of Congo	15
	Djibouti	1
	Eritrea	4

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	Ethiopia	24
	Gabon	10
	Gambia, The	4
	Ghana	122
	Guinea	10
	Kenya	41
	Lesotho	6
	Liberia	46
	Madagascar	71
	Malawi	43
	Mali	5
	Mauritania	4
	Morocco	3
	Mozambique	88
	Namibia	12
	Niger	14
	Nigeria	74
	Rwanda	18
	Senegal	8
	Seychelles	3
	Sierra Leone	48
	South Africa	19
	South Sudan	17
	Sudan	2
	Swaziland	1
	Tanzania	48
	Togo	2
	Uganda	40
	Zambia	134
	Zimbabwe	17
Latin America		364
	Argentina	2
	"All	15
	Brazil	3
	Chile	4
	Colombia	38
	Dominican Republic	1
	Ecuador	11
	Guatemala	2
	Panama	1
	Peru	281
	Uruguay	6

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Asia-Pacific		823
	Afghanistan	3
	Cambodia	1
	Fiji	7
	Indonesia	203
	Laos	32
	Mongolia	224
	Myanmar	16
	Papua New Guinea	170
	Philippines	161
	Solomon Islands	4
	Vietnam	2

Performance and Assessment: Mining for Development

- \$210,529.48, 1 January 2012 to 30 June 2015, Global

Information about the initiative is publicly available at:

Extractive Industries Technical Advisory Facility

<http://www.dfat.gov.au/aid/topics/investment-priorities/infrastructure-trade-facilitation-international-competitiveness/extractives-sector-development-assistance/Pages/extractives-sector-development-assistance-initiatives.aspx>

Mining Policy and Research

<http://www.dfat.gov.au/aid/topics/development-issues/research/Pages/2012-adras-award-recipients.aspx#mining>

Mining Governance and Transparency

<http://www.dfat.gov.au/aid/topics/investment-priorities/infrastructure-trade-facilitation-international-competitiveness/extractives-sector-development-assistance/Pages/extractives-sector-development-assistance-initiatives.aspx>

2. What percentage of the Afghan aid budget is allocated to mining related projects? Is this funding also included in the Mining for Development program?

- Nil

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3. What percentage of the African aid budget is allocated to mining related projects?

- Australian Aid expenditure related to mining projects in Africa in 2013/14 comprised \$13,380,279 through the Australia Africa Partnership Facility and \$2,000,000 to the Africa Mining Development Centre
- This was 6.79% of total Australian aid to Africa.

a) Is this funding also included in the Mining for Development program?

- The AMDC funding was through the Mining for Development Program

4. What Australian Universities are involved in Mining for Development? What funding have these universities received since the Mining for Development program commenced?

- Since FY 2011/12 \$20.8 million has been spent through Australia Awards on mining related scholarships and fellowships and paid to the following Australian institutions.

Curtin University
James Cook University
The University of Sydney
The University of Queensland
Education and Training International
The University of New South Wales (including ADFA)
The University of Western Australia
The Australian National University
Asia Pacific Journalism Centre
The University of Adelaide
Queensland University of Technology
University of Wollongong
The University of Melbourne
University of Technology Sydney
Mining Education Australia
University of Canberra
University College London
Swinburne University of Technology
NGIS Australia Pty Ltd
Integrated Environmental Services Australia
University of South Australia
Macquarie University
Queensland Treasury and Trade
Flinders University
The University of Newcastle

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RMIT University
Murdoch University
TAFE NSW
Southbank Institute of Technology
Southern Cross University
Griffith University
Central Gippsland Institute of TAFE (Gipps TAFE)

- The International Mining For Development Centre has obtained services from the University of Western Australia, the University of Queensland, Curtin University, the Australian National University, the University of New South Wales.

5. What African countries have participated in the Mining for Development program? How are these countries involved?

- The Australia Africa Partnership Facility has provided the following support (funded through Africa bilateral allocation)

Information is publicly available at:

http://www.aa-partnerships.org/activities_map.asp

Mining Governance Activities	
Country	Activity Types
Algeria	Training, study tour
Botswana	Training, study tour
Burkina Faso	Training, study tour,
Burundi	Scoping
Cameroon	Training, study tour
Central African Republic	Study tour
Cote D'ivoire	Training
Democratic Republic of Congo	Training, study tour
Djibouti	Study tour
Egypt	Training
Ethiopia	Training, program support, study tour
Gabon	Training, study tour
Ghana	Technical Assistance, Capacity Building, Scoping, Training, study tour

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Guinea	Study tour
Guinea Bissau	Training
Kenya	Scoping, training, program support, study tour
Lesotho	Study tour
Liberia	Program Support, technical assistance, training, scoping, study tour,
Madagascar	Training, study tour
Malawi	Scoping, training, study tour
Mali	Training, study tour
Mauritius	Program Support
Morocco	Training, study tour
Mozambique	Program Support, capacity building, scoping, training, study tour
Namibia	Scoping, training, study tour
Niger	Training, study tour
Nigeria	Scoping, training, study tour, technical assistance
Republic of Guinea	Training
Rwanda	Scoping, training, study tour
Senegal	Training, study tour
Seychelles	Program Support
Sierra Leone	Scoping, training, study tour
Somalia	Program Support
South Sudan	Study tour, technical assistance
SouthAfrica	Scoping, training, study tour
Sudan	Study tour
Tanzania	Training, program support, study tour
The Gambia	Training
Togo	Training
Tunisia	Study tour
Uganda	Scoping, training, study tour
Zambia	Scoping, training, study tour, technical assistance, program support
Zimbabwe	Training, study tour

- IM4DC Africa Program has provided the following support

Country	#	Program	Financial Year
ALGERIA	1	Occupational Health and Safety Management	2012/13

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ALGERIA	1	Regional Development in Mining	2012/13
BENIN	1	Application of GIS for Geoscience and Policy	2013/14
BOTSWANA	3	AAPF Mining Development Infrastructure Study Tour	2012/13
BOTSWANA	2	Agriculture and Mining with AAPF (Africa Down Under)	2013/14
BOTSWANA	7	Taxation Workshop - Johannesburg Feb 2014	2013/14
BURKINA FASO	2	AAPF African Women in Mining and Development Study Tour	2012/13
BURKINA FASO	6	Gold Mining and Fraud Prevention Study Tour (with AAPF)	2013/14
BURKINA FASO	1	IDEP Mining Negotiation Frameworks	2013/14
BURKINA FASO	7	Regional Exploration and Management of Public Geological Data	2011/12
BURUNDI	1	IDEP Mining Negotiation Frameworks	2013/14
BURUNDI	2	Taxation Workshop - Tanzania May 2014	2013/14
CAMEROON	1	GIRAF - Geoscience Info in Africa Workshop	2013/14
CAMEROON	3	Gold Mining and Fraud Prevention Study Tour (with AAPF)	2013/14
CAMEROON	1	IAIA Resettlement Conference	2014/15
CAMEROON	2	IDEP Mining Negotiation Frameworks	2013/14
CAMEROON	1	Manual & Automated Workflows & Exploration Targeting	2014/15
CAMEROON	1	Mediation in Mining Workshop	2013/14
CAMEROON	2	Mining and Gender Study Tour (with AAPF)	2013/14
CAMEROON	3	Mining Governance with AAPF (including ADU)	2014/15
CAMEROON	4	Mining Negotiation Roundtable - Cameroon	2013/14
CAMEROON	1	Negotiation Roundtable with AARN	2013/14
CAMEROON	6	Taxation Workshop - Tanzania May 2014	2013/14
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC	1	IDEP Mining Negotiation Frameworks	2013/14

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CHAD	1	IDEP Mining Negotiation Frameworks	2013/14
CONGO-BRAZZAVILLE	3	Regional Exploration and Management of Public Geological Data	2011/12
CONGO-BRAZZAVILLE	3	Tax Administration and Collection Frameworks WS - Addis Nov 2014	2014/15
COTE D'IVOIRE	3	GIRAF - Geoscience Info in Africa Workshop	2013/14
COTE D'IVOIRE	1	IAIA Resettlement Conference	2014/15
COTE D'IVOIRE	1	IDEP Mining Negotiation Frameworks	2013/14
COTE D'IVOIRE	1	Kimberley Process Study Tour	2014/15
COTE D'IVOIRE	1	Large Volume Waste - Ghana	2013/14
COTE D'IVOIRE	2	Mining Indaba - Young Leaders - Jan 2014	2013/14
COTE D'IVOIRE	1	OHS Leadership	2013/14
COTE D'IVOIRE	3	Regional Exploration and Management of Public Geological Data	2011/12
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO	2	AAPF African Women in Mining and Development Study Tour	2012/13
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO	3	Gold Mining and Fraud Prevention Study Tour (with AAPF)	2013/14
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO	3	Kimberley Process Study Tour	2014/15
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO	1	Negotiation Roundtable with AARN	2013/14
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO	6	Tax Administration and Collection Frameworks WS - Addis Nov 2014	2014/15
DJIBOUTI	1	AAPF Mining Development Infrastructure Study Tour	2012/13
ERITREA	1	Mining Indaba - Young Leaders - Jan 2014	2013/14
ERITREA	3	Taxation Workshop - Tanzania May 2014	2013/14
ETHIOPIA	4	AAPF African Women in Mining and Development Study Tour	2012/13
ETHIOPIA	1	Application of GIS for Geoscience and Policy	2013/14
ETHIOPIA	4	GIRAF - Geoscience Info in Africa Workshop	2013/14

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ETHIOPIA	3	Gold Mining and Fraud Prevention Study Tour (with AAPF)	2013/14
ETHIOPIA	1	IDEP Mining Negotiation Frameworks	2013/14
ETHIOPIA	2	Manual & Automated Workflows & Exploration Targeting	2014/15
ETHIOPIA	3	Mining and Gender Study Tour (with AAPF)	2013/14
ETHIOPIA	1	Mining Governance with AAPF (including ADU)	2014/15
ETHIOPIA	1	Mining Indaba - Young Leaders - Jan 2014	2013/14
ETHIOPIA	1	OHS Leadership	2013/14
ETHIOPIA	1	Regional Exploration and Management of Public Geological Data	2011/12
ETHIOPIA	1	Resource Governance Master Class	2012/13
ETHIOPIA	1	Tax Administration and Collection Frameworks WS - Addis Nov 2014	2014/15
GABON	2	AAPF African Women in Mining and Development Study Tour	2012/13
GABON	3	Gold Mining and Fraud Prevention Study Tour (with AAPF)	2013/14
GABON	2	Regional Exploration and Management of Public Geological Data	2011/12
GABON	3	Tax Administration and Collection Frameworks WS - Addis Nov 2014	2014/15
GAMBIA, THE	2	IDEP Mining Negotiation Frameworks	2013/14
GAMBIA, THE	2	Occupational Health and Safety Management	2012/13
GHANA	1	AAPF African Women in Mining and Development Study Tour	2012/13
GHANA	4	AAPF Mining Development Infrastructure Study Tour	2012/13
GHANA	1	Application of GIS for Geoscience and Policy	2013/14
GHANA	5	Australia-Africa Local Supplier Workshop - AAPF	2011/12
GHANA	4	Community Aspects of Resource	2012/13

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		Developments 2012	
GHANA	5	Community Aspects of Resource Developments 2013	2013/14
GHANA	1	Community Aspects of Resource Developments 2014	2014/15
GHANA	1	Environmental Management 2014 - Brisbane	2013/14
GHANA	1	GIRAF - Geoscience Info in Africa Workshop	2013/14
GHANA	3	Gold Mining and Fraud Prevention Study Tour (with AAPF)	2013/14
GHANA	4	Higher Education Study Tour (AAPF)	2012/13
GHANA	5	IAIA Resettlement Conference	2014/15
GHANA	6	Large Volume Waste - Ghana	2013/14
GHANA	2	Life of Mine Management of Waste Study Tour	2012/13
GHANA	33	Local MSME Workshop	2012/13
GHANA	6	Management of Large Volume Waste in Mining Course - Zambia	2012/13
GHANA	3	Manual & Automated Workflows & Exploration Targeting	2014/15
GHANA	3	Mediation in Mining Workshop	2013/14
GHANA	2	Mine Closure Frameworks	2012/13
GHANA	1	Mineral Economics Master Class	2012/13
GHANA	1	Mineral Policy and Economics - Jun/Jul2014	2013/14
GHANA	3	Mining and Gender Study Tour (with AAPF)	2013/14
GHANA	4	Mining Indaba - Young Leaders - Jan 2014	2013/14
GHANA	3	Mining Negotiation Roundtable - Cameroon	2013/14
GHANA	3	Negotiation Roundtable with AARN	2013/14
GHANA	2	Occupational Health and Safety Management	2012/13
GHANA	4	Regional Development & Mining - Ghana	2013/14
GHANA	4	Regional Development in Mining	2012/13

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GHANA	1	Regional Exploration and Management of Public Geological Data	2011/12
GHANA	3	Resource Governance - Bris Jun/Jul2014	2013/14
GHANA	1	Resource Governance Master Class	2012/13
GHANA	2	Water In Mining (with AusIMM Conference)	2013/14
GUINEA	3	AAPF Mining Development Infrastructure Study Tour	2012/13
GUINEA	1	IDEP Mining Negotiation Frameworks	2013/14
GUINEA	1	Kimberley Process Study Tour	2014/15
GUINEA	5	Tax Administration and Collection Frameworks WS - Addis Nov 2014	2014/15
KENYA	3	AAPF Mining Development Infrastructure Study Tour	2012/13
KENYA	1	Application of GIS for Geoscience and Policy	2013/14
KENYA	3	Australia-Africa Local Supplier Workshop - AAPF	2011/12
KENYA	1	Community Aspects of Resource Developments 2012	2012/13
KENYA	3	GIRAF - Geoscience Info in Africa Workshop	2013/14
KENYA	2	IAIA Resettlement Conference	2014/15
KENYA	8	Kenyan Parliamentary Delegation	2013/14
KENYA	3	Mining and Gender Study Tour (with AAPF)	2013/14
KENYA	3	Mining Governance with AAPF (including ADU)	2014/15
KENYA	1	Mining Indaba - Young Leaders - Jan 2014	2013/14
KENYA	1	Occupational Health and Safety Management	2012/13
KENYA	6	Regional Development & Mining - Ghana	2013/14
KENYA	1	Regional Development 2014 - Perth	2013/14
KENYA	2	Regional Development in Mining	2012/13
KENYA	1	Resource Governance - Bris Jun/Jul2014	2013/14
KENYA	2	Taxation Workshop - Tanzania May 2014	2013/14

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LESOTHO	2	AAPF African Women in Mining and Development Study Tour	2012/13
LESOTHO	2	Agriculture and Mining with AAPF (Africa Down Under)	2013/14
LESOTHO	2	Taxation Workshop - Johannesburg Feb 2014	2013/14
LIBERIA	3	AAPF Mining Development Infrastructure Study Tour	2012/13
LIBERIA	3	Australia-Africa Local Supplier Workshop - AAPF	2011/12
LIBERIA	1	Community Aspects of Resource Developments 2012	2012/13
LIBERIA	5	Community Aspects of Resource Developments 2013	2013/14
LIBERIA	2	Environmental Management 2014 - Brisbane	2013/14
LIBERIA	1	GIRAF - Geoscience Info in Africa Workshop	2013/14
LIBERIA	1	IAIA Resettlement Conference	2014/15
LIBERIA	4	Large Volume Waste - Ghana	2013/14
LIBERIA	3	Local MSME Workshop	2012/13
LIBERIA	3	Mediation in Mining Workshop	2013/14
LIBERIA	1	Mineral Economics Master Class	2012/13
LIBERIA	1	Mineral Policy and Economics - Jun/Jul2014	2013/14
LIBERIA	3	Mining and Gender Study Tour (with AAPF)	2013/14
LIBERIA	4	Mining Indaba - Young Leaders - Jan 2014	2013/14
LIBERIA	2	Mining Negotiation Roundtable - Cameroon	2013/14
LIBERIA	3	Negotiation Roundtable with AARN	2013/14
LIBERIA	1	OHS Leadership	2013/14
LIBERIA	2	Regional Development & Mining - Ghana	2013/14
LIBERIA	1	Regional Development in Mining	2012/13
LIBERIA	1	Resource Governance - Bris Jun/Jul2014	2013/14
LIBERIA	1	Resource Governance Master Class	2012/13

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MADAGASCAR	2	AAPF African Women in Mining and Development Study Tour	2012/13
MADAGASCAR	3	Community Aspects of Resource Developments 2014	2014/15
MADAGASCAR	53	Connecting Mining Activities to Human Development Goals	2013/14
MADAGASCAR	1	IAIA Resettlement Conference	2014/15
MADAGASCAR	1	IDEP Mining Negotiation Frameworks	2013/14
MADAGASCAR	1	Manual & Automated Workflows & Exploration Targeting	2014/15
MADAGASCAR	2	Mining and Gender Study Tour (with AAPF)	2013/14
MADAGASCAR	3	Mining Governance with AAPF (including ADU)	2014/15
MADAGASCAR	5	Taxation Workshop - Tanzania May 2014	2013/14
MALAWI	3	AAPF African Women in Mining and Development Study Tour	2012/13
MALAWI	1	Application of GIS for Geoscience and Policy	2013/14
MALAWI	3	Australia-Africa Local Supplier Workshop - AAPF	2011/12
MALAWI	2	Environmental Management 2014 - Brisbane	2013/14
MALAWI	1	IAIA Resettlement Conference	2014/15
MALAWI	2	IDEP Mining Negotiation Frameworks	2013/14
MALAWI	1	Large Volume Waste - Ghana	2013/14
MALAWI	9	Malawi Government Study Tour	2013/14
MALAWI	1	Management of Large Volume Waste in Mining Course - Zambia	2012/13
MALAWI	1	Mediation in Mining Workshop	2013/14
MALAWI	1	Mineral Policy and Economics - Jun/Jul2014	2013/14
MALAWI	3	Mining and Gender Study Tour (with AAPF)	2013/14
MALAWI	3	Mining Governance with AAPF (including ADU)	2014/15
MALAWI	2	Mining Negotiation Roundtable - Cameroon	2013/14

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MALAWI	1	Negotiation Roundtable with AARN	2013/14
MALAWI	1	OHS Incident Investigation - Zambia May 2014	2013/14
MALAWI	1	OHS Leadership	2013/14
MALAWI	1	Regional Development 2014 - Perth	2013/14
MALAWI	1	Risk Management Training - Zambia	2012/13
MALAWI	5	Taxation Workshop - Johannesburg Feb 2014	2013/14
MALI	3	Mining Governance with AAPF (including ADU)	2014/15
MALI	2	Regional Exploration and Management of Public Geological Data	2011/12
MAURITANIA	2	Mining Governance with AAPF (including ADU)	2014/15
MAURITANIA	2	Tax Administration and Collection Frameworks WS - Addis Nov 2014	2014/15
MOROCCO	2	Regional Exploration and Management of Public Geological Data	2011/12
MOROCCO	1	Tax Administration and Collection Frameworks WS - Addis Nov 2014	2014/15
MOZAMBIQUE	2	AAPF African Women in Mining and Development Study Tour	2012/13
MOZAMBIQUE	4	AAPF Mining Development Infrastructure Study Tour	2012/13
MOZAMBIQUE	4	Australia-Africa Local Supplier Workshop - AAPF	2011/12
MOZAMBIQUE	2	Community Aspects of Resource Developments 2012	2012/13
MOZAMBIQUE	1	Community Aspects of Resource Developments 2013	2013/14
MOZAMBIQUE	1	GIRAF - Geoscience Info in Africa Workshop	2013/14
MOZAMBIQUE	4	Higher Education Study Tour (AAPF)	2012/13
MOZAMBIQUE	2	IAIA Resettlement Conference	2014/15
MOZAMBIQUE	3	Mediation in Mining Workshop	2013/14

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MOZAMBIQUE	3	Mining Negotiation Roundtable - Cameroon	2013/14
MOZAMBIQUE	54	Mozambique Community Workshop (with SDSG) with AAPF	2012/13
MOZAMBIQUE	3	Negotiation Roundtable with AARN	2013/14
MOZAMBIQUE	1	Resource Governance Master Class	2012/13
MOZAMBIQUE	4	Taxation Workshop - Johannesburg Feb 2014	2013/14
NAMIBIA	2	AAPF Mining Development Infrastructure Study Tour	2012/13
NAMIBIA	1	Manual & Automated Workflows & Exploration Targeting	2014/15
NAMIBIA	1	Mining and Gender Study Tour (with AAPF)	2013/14
NAMIBIA	2	OHS Incident Investigation - Zambia May 2014	2013/14
NAMIBIA	3	Risk Management Training - Zambia	2012/13
NAMIBIA	3	Taxation Workshop - Johannesburg Feb 2014	2013/14
NIGER	1	Application of GIS for Geoscience and Policy	2013/14
NIGER	4	Gold Mining and Fraud Prevention Study Tour (with AAPF)	2013/14
NIGER	2	IDEP Mining Negotiation Frameworks	2013/14
NIGER	2	Large Volume Waste - Ghana	2013/14
NIGER	1	Regional Development 2014 - Perth	2013/14
NIGER	2	Regional Exploration and Management of Public Geological Data	2011/12
NIGER	1	Tax Administration and Collection Frameworks WS - Addis Nov 2014	2014/15
NIGERIA	1	AAPF Mining Development Infrastructure Study Tour	2012/13
NIGERIA	3	Application of GIS for Geoscience and Policy	2013/14
NIGERIA	4	Australia-Africa Local Supplier Workshop - AAPF	2011/12
NIGERIA	1	Community Aspects of Resource Developments 2013	2013/14

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NIGERIA	1	Community Aspects of Resource Developments 2014	2014/15
NIGERIA	1	Environmental Management 2014 - Brisbane	2013/14
NIGERIA	3	Gold Mining and Fraud Prevention Study Tour (with AAPF)	2013/14
NIGERIA	5	IAIA Resettlement Conference	2014/15
NIGERIA	1	IDEP Mining Negotiation Frameworks	2013/14
NIGERIA	5	Large Volume Waste - Ghana	2013/14
NIGERIA	1	Life of Mine Management of Waste Study Tour	2012/13
NIGERIA	2	Local MSME Workshop	2012/13
NIGERIA	1	Manual & Automated Workflows & Exploration Targeting	2014/15
NIGERIA	1	Mineral Economics Master Class	2012/13
NIGERIA	1	Mineral Policy and Economics - Jun/Jul2014	2013/14
NIGERIA	3	Mining and Gender Study Tour (with AAPF)	2013/14
NIGERIA	5	Mining Governance with AAPF (including ADU)	2014/15
NIGERIA	1	Mining Indaba - Young Leaders - Jan 2014	2013/14
NIGERIA	19	National Defence College of Nigeria	2012/13
NIGERIA	1	Occupational Health and Safety Management	2012/13
NIGERIA	2	OHS Leadership	2013/14
NIGERIA	3	Regional Development & Mining - Ghana	2013/14
NIGERIA	2	Regional Development 2014 - Perth	2013/14
NIGERIA	1	Regional Exploration and Management of Public Geological Data	2011/12
NIGERIA	1	Resource Governance - Bris Jun/Jul2014	2013/14
NIGERIA	1	Resource Governance Master Class	2012/13
NIGERIA	4	Taxation Workshop - Tanzania May 2014	2013/14
RWANDA	2	Application of GIS for Geoscience and Policy	2013/14

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RWANDA	1	Community Aspects of Resource Developments 2014	2014/15
RWANDA	1	IDEP Mining Negotiation Frameworks	2013/14
RWANDA	1	Large Volume Waste - Ghana	2013/14
RWANDA	1	Manual & Automated Workflows & Exploration Targeting	2014/15
RWANDA	3	Mining Governance with AAPF (including ADU)	2014/15
RWANDA	1	Mining Indaba - Young Leaders - Jan 2014	2013/14
RWANDA	1	OHS Leadership	2013/14
RWANDA	2	Regional Development 2014 - Perth	2013/14
RWANDA	5	Taxation Workshop - Tanzania May 2014	2013/14
SENEGAL	3	Gold Mining and Fraud Prevention Study Tour (with AAPF)	2013/14
SENEGAL	1	IAIA Resettlement Conference	2014/15
SENEGAL	1	IDEP Mining Negotiation Frameworks	2013/14
SENEGAL	3	Tax Administration and Collection Frameworks WS - Addis Nov 2014	2014/15
SEYCHELLES	3	Mining Governance with AAPF (including ADU)	2014/15
SIERRA LEONE	3	Agriculture and Mining with AAPF (Africa Down Under)	2013/14
SIERRA LEONE	1	Kimberley Process Study Tour	2014/15
SIERRA LEONE	40	Mine Rehabilitation and Closure Workshop	2011/12
SIERRA LEONE	1	Mineral Policy and Economics - Jun/Jul2014	2013/14
SIERRA LEONE	3	Mining Indaba - Young Leaders - Jan 2014	2013/14
SOUTH AFRICA	3	AAPF African Women in Mining and Development Study Tour	2012/13
SOUTH AFRICA	4	Agriculture and Mining with AAPF (Africa Down Under)	2013/14
SOUTH AFRICA	3	Australia-Africa Local Supplier Workshop - AAPF	2011/12

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SOUTH AFRICA	1	GIRAF - Geoscience Info in Africa Workshop	2013/14
SOUTH AFRICA	1	IAIA Resettlement Conference	2014/15
SOUTH AFRICA	3	Mining and Gender Study Tour (with AAPF)	2013/14
SOUTH AFRICA	3	Mining Governance with AAPF (including ADU)	2014/15
SOUTH AFRICA	1	Mining Indaba - Young Leaders - Jan 2014	2013/14
SOUTH SUDAN	2	AAPF African Women in Mining and Development Study Tour	2012/13
SOUTH SUDAN	2	Application of GIS for Geoscience and Policy	2013/14
SOUTH SUDAN	3	Gold Mining and Fraud Prevention Study Tour (with AAPF)	2013/14
SOUTH SUDAN	1	Manual & Automated Workflows & Exploration Targeting	2014/15
SOUTH SUDAN	1	Mineral Economics Master Class	2012/13
SOUTH SUDAN	1	Mineral Policy and Economics - Jun/Jul2014	2013/14
SOUTH SUDAN	3	Mining and Gender Study Tour (with AAPF)	2013/14
SOUTH SUDAN	3	Mining Governance with AAPF (including ADU)	2014/15
SOUTH SUDAN	1	Mining Indaba - Young Leaders - Jan 2014	2013/14
SUDAN	1	GIRAF - Geoscience Info in Africa Workshop	2013/14
SUDAN	1	IDEP Mining Negotiation Frameworks	2013/14
SWAZILAND	1	IDEP Mining Negotiation Frameworks	2013/14
TANZANIA	2	AAPF Mining Development Infrastructure Study Tour	2012/13
TANZANIA	2	Agriculture and Mining with AAPF (Africa Down Under)	2013/14
TANZANIA	1	Application of GIS for Geoscience and Policy	2013/14
TANZANIA	4	Australia-Africa Local Supplier Workshop - AAPF	2011/12
TANZANIA	6	GIRAF - Geoscience Info in Africa Workshop	2013/14
TANZANIA	3	Gold Mining and Fraud Prevention Study Tour (with AAPF)	2013/14

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TANZANIA	4	IAIA Resettlement Conference	2014/15
TANZANIA	2	IDEP Mining Negotiation Frameworks	2013/14
TANZANIA	1	Life of Mine Management of Waste Study Tour	2012/13
TANZANIA	6	Management of Large Volume Waste in Mining Course - Zambia	2012/13
TANZANIA	4	Manual & Automated Workflows & Exploration Targeting	2014/15
TANZANIA	2	Mines Inspector Leadership Program - Brisbane Jul/Aug2014	2014/15
TANZANIA	2	Mining Indaba - Young Leaders - Jan 2014	2013/14
TANZANIA	2	OHS Incident Investigation - Zambia May 2014	2013/14
TANZANIA	1	Regional Development & Mining - Ghana	2013/14
TANZANIA	2	Taxation Workshop - Johannesburg Feb 2014	2013/14
TANZANIA	4	Taxation Workshop - Tanzania May 2014	2013/14
TOGO	1	IDEP Mining Negotiation Frameworks	2013/14
TOGO	1	Mining Indaba - Young Leaders - Jan 2014	2013/14
UGANDA	3	AAPF African Women in Mining and Development Study Tour	2012/13
UGANDA	1	Community Aspects of Resource Developments 2014	2014/15
UGANDA	2	GIRAF - Geoscience Info in Africa Workshop	2013/14
UGANDA	1	IAIA Resettlement Conference	2014/15
UGANDA	2	Manual & Automated Workflows & Exploration Targeting	2014/15
UGANDA	1	Mineral Economics Master Class	2012/13
UGANDA	1	Mining Indaba - Young Leaders - Jan 2014	2013/14
UGANDA	2	Regional Development 2014 - Perth	2013/14
UGANDA	1	Regional Development in Mining	2012/13
UGANDA	3	Tax Administration and Collection Frameworks WS - Addis Nov 2014	2014/15

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UGANDA	2	Taxation Workshop - Tanzania May 2014	2013/14
UGANDA	21	Uganda Extractive Industries Study Tour with AAPF	2011/12
ZAMBIA	4	AAPF Mining Development Infrastructure Study Tour	2012/13
ZAMBIA	9	Application of GIS for Geoscience and Policy	2013/14
ZAMBIA	5	Australia-Africa Local Supplier Workshop - AAPF	2011/12
ZAMBIA	2	Community Aspects of Resource Developments 2012	2012/13
ZAMBIA	3	Community Aspects of Resource Developments 2013	2013/14
ZAMBIA	1	Environmental Management 2014 - Brisbane	2013/14
ZAMBIA	2	GIRAF - Geoscience Info in Africa Workshop	2013/14
ZAMBIA	4	Higher Education Study Tour (AAPF)	2012/13
ZAMBIA	2	IAIA Resettlement Conference	2014/15
ZAMBIA	1	IDEP Mining Negotiation Frameworks	2013/14
ZAMBIA	1	Life of Mine Management of Waste Study Tour	2012/13
ZAMBIA	2	Local MSME Workshop	2012/13
ZAMBIA	18	Management of Large Volume Waste in Mining Course - Zambia	2012/13
ZAMBIA	2	Manual & Automated Workflows & Exploration Targeting	2014/15
ZAMBIA	2	Mine Closure Frameworks	2012/13
ZAMBIA	1	Mineral Economics Master Class	2012/13
ZAMBIA	1	Mineral Policy and Economics - Jun/Jul2014	2013/14
ZAMBIA	2	Mines Inspector Leadership Program - Bris Jul/Aug2014	2014/15
ZAMBIA	3	Mining and Gender Study Tour (with AAPF)	2013/14
ZAMBIA	2	Mining Governance with AAPF (including ADU)	2014/15

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ZAMBIA	2	Mining Indaba - Young Leaders - Jan 2014	2013/14
ZAMBIA	2	Mining Negotiation Roundtable - Cameroon	2013/14
ZAMBIA	3	Occupational Health and Safety Management	2012/13
ZAMBIA	13	OHS Incident Investigation - Zambia May 2014	2013/14
ZAMBIA	13	OHS Incident Investigation - Zambia Nov 2013	2013/14
ZAMBIA	1	OHS Leadership	2013/14
ZAMBIA	4	Regional Development & Mining - Ghana	2013/14
ZAMBIA	1	Regional Development 2014 - Perth	2013/14
ZAMBIA	4	Regional Development in Mining	2012/13
ZAMBIA	1	Resource Governance - Bris Jun/Jul2014	2013/14
ZAMBIA	1	Resource Governance Master Class	2012/13
ZAMBIA	13	Risk Management Training - Zambia	2012/13
ZAMBIA	5	Taxation Workshop - Johannesburg Feb 2014	2013/14
ZAMBIA	1	Taxation Workshop - Tanzania May 2014	2013/14
ZAMBIA	3	Water In Mining (with AusIMM Conference)	2013/14
ZIMBABWE	1	Community Aspects of Resource Developments 2014	2014/15
ZIMBABWE	1	GIRAF - Geoscience Info in Africa Workshop	2013/14
ZIMBABWE	1	IAIA Resettlement Conference	2014/15
ZIMBABWE	2	Kimberley Process Study Tour	2014/15
ZIMBABWE	1	Management of Large Volume Waste in Mining Course - Zambia	2012/13
ZIMBABWE	1	Mineral Policy and Economics - Jun/Jul2014	2013/14
ZIMBABWE	1	Mining Negotiation Roundtable - Cameroon	2013/14
ZIMBABWE	1	Negotiation Roundtable with AARN	2013/14
ZIMBABWE	1	Resource Governance - Bris Jun/Jul2014	2013/14
ZIMBABWE	5	Taxation Workshop - Johannesburg Feb 2014	2013/14
ZIMBABWE	3	Taxation Workshop - Tanzania May 2014	2013/14

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

6. What projects has or is the Mining for Development program funding pertaining to Bougainville, including research projects?

- a. What is/was the purpose of each of those projects?
- b. How much is/was each project funded for?
- c. Who has/is undertaking each project?

Information about the initiative is publicly available at:

<http://www.dfat.gov.au/aid/topics/development-issues/research/Pages/2012-adras-award-recipients.aspx#mining>

The Mining for Development Program provided \$1 million in 2013/14 to the Bougainville Governance and Implementation Fund, through which Australia and New Zealand support a range of activities building the capacity of the Autonomous Bougainville Government (ABG). The funding supported activities relating to mining consultation and advice requested by the ABG. This included support for Professor Ciaran O'Faircheallaigh to help facilitate community engagement on the future of mining. This assistance aims to ensure ABG's policy decisions on mining are transparent, consultative and acceptable to Bougainvilleans.

Information about the initiative is publicly available at:

http://www.aph.gov.au/~media/Committees/fadt_ctte/estimates/sup_1415/dfat/DFAT_Answers_to_QoNs_Received_121214.pdf

and

http://www.aph.gov.au/~media/Estimates/Live/fadt_ctte/estimates/sup_1314/dfat/dfatqonanswers.pdf

7. Has Mining for Development ever supported people from Bougainville to come to Australia for study tours? If so who was funded, why, when and what was the cost?

- Yes

Organisation	Number of Persons	Program	Start Date	End Date	Course City
Autonomous Bougainville Government (ABG) - Department of Mining	4	Alumni Forum - Brisbane 2014	14/07/2014	15/07/2014	Brisbane

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Autonomous Bougainville Government (ABG) - Department of Mining	1	Environmental Management 2014 - Brisbane	3/02/2014	28/02/2014	Brisbane
Autonomous Bougainville Government (ABG) - Department of Mining	2	Mineral Policy and Economics - Jun/Jul2014	23/06/2014	18/07/2014	Perth
Autonomous Bougainville Government (ABG) - Department of Mining	2	Resource Governance - Brisbane June/July 2014	30/06/2014	25/07/2014	Brisbane
Autonomous Bougainville Government (ABG)	2	Women in Mining Symposium/Workshop PNG	7/08/2014	8/08/2014	Port Moresby
Bougainville Administration	1	Women in Mining Symposium/Workshop PNG	7/08/2014	8/08/2014	Port Moresby
Kieta District Admin, Bougainville	1	Women in Mining Symposium/Workshop PNG	7/08/2014	8/08/2014	Port Moresby
Bougainville Women's Federation	1	Women in Mining Symposium/Workshop PNG	7/08/2014	8/08/2014	Port Moresby
Inclusive Development in Post Conflict Bougainville Project	1	Women in Mining Symposium/Workshop PNG	7/08/2014	8/08/2014	Port Moresby
Bougainville Womens Federation & International Womens Development Agency	1	Women in Mining Symposium/Workshop PNG	7/08/2014	8/08/2014	Port Moresby

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Office of Panguna Negotiations - Autonomous Bougainville Government (ABG)	1	Women in Mining Symposium/Workshop PNG	7/08/2014	8/08/2014	Port Moresby
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Information about the initiative is publicly available at:

<http://www.dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/Mmd-term-review-of-international-mining-for-development-centre-im4dc.aspx>

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 97

Program: DFAT

Topic: ODA - Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

How much funding is allotted to Water and Sanitation in terms of overall amounts and of percentage of the aid budget?

Answer

The estimated budget for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in the Australian aid program 2014-15 is \$217.2 million. This equates to around 4.3 per cent of the aid budget for 2014-15.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 98

Program: DFAT

Topic: GAVI - Global Partnership for Education (GPE)

Question in Writing

Senator Rhiannon

Question

- 1. *Has the Government made a pledge to the Global Partnership for Education and how did it compare to the previous replenishment period in terms of Australia's contribution?***
- 2. *Who did the Department consult when preparing the brief for the Minister in relation to the funding amount for GPE?***
- 3. *Was the decision to provide \$140 million to GPE a decision taken by the Minister? If no, what was the process for this decision?***
- 4. *Did the Minister or her office consult with the Treasurer, his office or the PM or his office or anyone else in government when making the decision about funding for GPE? IF YES: can you provide the details of these consultations. Who was consulted to inform funding decisions for the GPE?***
- 5. *Is there a commitment to maintaining the current levels of spending on education within the aid budget?***
- 6. *The funding for GPE this year, the final round of the previous replenishment, was \$100 million. Given the total funding for GPE over four years is \$140 is it correct there is an overall cut to the amount allocated for education in future aid budgets?***

Answer

- 1.** In June 2014, Australia pledged \$140 million over four years (2015-18) in core funding to the Global Partnership for Education (GPE). Australia provided \$270 million to GPE for the previous replenishment period (2011-14).
- 2.** The decision to contribute to GPE was a decision about international development and the Australian aid budget. As such, consultation beyond the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade was not required.
- 3.** Yes, the Minister for Foreign Affairs made the decision to contribute.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

4. This question should be directed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs and her office.
5. Education remains a priority area for Australia's aid program. The Government has not set an overall target for expenditure in the education sector.
6. No. There is no overall allocation for education in the aid budget. Education initiatives are funded through a range of bilateral, regional, cross-regional and global budget programs. The Australia Awards program within DFAT was increased by \$31.7 million in 2014-15. This will ensure DFAT can offer over 4,500 scholarship and fellowships awards in 2014-15.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 99

Program: DFAT

Topic: KAFTA

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- 1. *Has the Korean Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (MOTIE) completed its economic impact study? If so, can the Department provide an English translation?***
- 2. *Has KAFTA been considered by one of the Korean National Assembly standing committees? If so, when.***
- 3. *When is KAFTA likely to come before the National Assembly as a whole for a vote?***
- 4. *Is there a risk that KAFTA will not pass through Korea's domestic implementation processes prior to the end of November, in time for the agreement to come into effect in 2014?***
 - a. *What efforts has the Australian Government made to reduce this risk?***
- 5. *If Korea is not ready to implement KAFTA this year, will the Government seek to re-negotiate with Korea so as not to lose the benefit of the anticipated double tariff cuts in December 2014 and again in 2015?***
- 6. *How will the economic impact of KAFTA be monitored over the coming years?***
- 7. *Will Treasury be consulted or involved in this monitoring regarding the broader impact on the Australian economy? If not, why not?***

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Answer

1. An economic impact assessment of the Korea-Australia Free Trade Agreement (KAFTA) was tabled in the Korean National Assembly on 16 September 2014.

The full economic impact assessment is only available in the Korean language. An official English translation of the document has not been completed.

2. KAFTA was approved by the Korean National Assembly's Foreign Affairs and Unification Committee on 13 November 2014.

3. The Korean National Assembly voted to approve KAFTA on 2 December 2014.

4. KAFTA entered into force on 12 December 2014.

a. Not applicable.

5. Not applicable.

6. DFAT monitoring of Australia's trade and investment relationships with trading partners, including the Republic of Korea is ongoing. Trends in relevant data for example are assessed and considered in the broader economic context.

7. As a matter of course, DFAT consults Treasury in forming assessments of the impact of trade and investment on the broader economy.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 100

Program: DFAT

Topic: Japan-Australia Economic Partnership Agreement (JAEPA)

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- 1. *What is the status of JAEPA in the Japanese domestic treaty implementation process? When is the process likely to be completed?***
- 2. *Is it the intention of both Governments to aim for JAEPA to be implemented prior to 1 April 2015, which would result in two tariff cuts in 2015 (one on implementation, the other on 1 April).***
 - a. *If there are two tariff cuts in 2015, what would be the total tariff reduction on Japanese vehicle imports into Australia in 2015 and in 2016?***
 - b. *How would these cuts affect the Australian car manufacturers?***
 - c. *What would be the impact of an early 2015 implementation on the agriculture sector?***
- 3. *Under JAEPA, all Australian tariffs on Japanese goods will be removed within 8 years (except for the \$12,000 customs duty on used cars). However there are several Australian products that receive no Japanese tariff concession under JAEPA. These include rice, fresh milk, low polarity sugar, shiitake mushrooms, sake and certain fur skin products.***
 - a. *What, if any, leverage does Australia have to obtain future tariff concessions on these products, especially for our exports of fresh milk, low polarity sugar and rice?***
 - b. *Will these products be excluded from subsequent plurilateral agreements such as TPP?***

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Answer

1. The Japan-Australia Economic Partnership Agreement (JAEPA) entered into force on 15 January 2015.

2. Yes

2(a) The Government negotiated staging periods of up to two years for some imported Japanese motor vehicles, to assist local industry adjustment, for example the 5.0 per cent tariff is reduced to 1.7 per cent in 2015 (following two cuts), before a cut to 0.0% on 1 April 2016.

2(b) This is a question for manufacturers but for example tariff reductions in JAEPA will benefit Toyota Australia, as it imports some models and components from Japan.

2(c) Very positive. This is because tariff cuts and quota size increases are scheduled on entry into force, and on 1 April each year. With entry into force occurring before April 2015, Australia will secure two tariff cuts and, where applicable, quota size increases in quick succession. This effectively front loads benefit, enabling better market access for our agriculture sector.

3(a) Within JAEPA there is a scheduled renegotiation of market access after five years and also strong review/renegotiation mechanisms that protect Australia and offer pathways for further liberalisation.

3(b) Australia is negotiating for improved market access on all products in the TPP and other plurilateral negotiations.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 101

Program: DFAT

Topic: China-Australia Free Trade Agreement negotiations

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- 1. In relation to the China-Australia FTA negotiations:**
 - a. How many meetings have been held relating to this FTA since 1 June 2014?**
 - b. Where were the meetings held and who attended?**
 - c. What is the cost of these meetings to date?**
 - d. What future meetings are scheduled? Where, when and who will attend, and what is the budgeted costs?**
- 2. What is the status of the negotiations?**
- 3. Will the text be released prior to signing?**
- 4. If the agreement is signed this year, when does the Government anticipate the agreement coming into effect?**
- 5. Please explain the treaty implementation process in China.**
- 6. Are negotiations relating to dairy in the China – Australia FTA completed?**
 - a. Will Australian dairy industry be put on par with their NZ counterparts?**
- 7. What would be the approximate cost of obtaining economic modelling of the outcomes for Australia?**
- 8. Will the final agreement be assessed by economic modelling or other measures? Please provide details.**
 - a. If not, on what basis will the economic impact of a China-Australia FTA be assessed?**

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

9. *Please outline how DFAT tracks economic and political developments in China?*
10. *Does the Department provide regular briefings to the Minister and/or Minister's office outlining these developments?*
 - a. *How often?*
 - b. *In what format?*
11. *What media monitoring does the Department undertake? Does the Department monitor Australian as well as Chinese newspaper and online publications?*
 - a. *Are these circulated by the Department to the Minister's Office?*
 - b. *Does this include hard copy and online subscriptions to the Australian Financial Review and The Australian?*
12. *On 5 August 2014 Australian Financial Review reported on long-term and short-term challenges to Australia's coal industry in its article, "China's creeping threat to Australian coal"? In particular, the article outlines the possibility of coal import tariffs.*
 - a. *How was this subsequently considered and reported by DFAT?*
 - b. *Was the Minister for Trade aware of these developments as part of the China-Australia FTA negotiations over the past month?*
13. *What communications did the Department receive from China in relation to the proposed tariffs on coal imports?*
 - a. *When did the Government become aware of the likelihood of these measures?*
 - b. *Did the Department or the Government have any negotiations with China before the implementation of these tariffs? If so please explain.*
14. *What will be the impact of the Chinese coal tariff measures on Australian exporters and the Australian economy? Please detail.*
15. *What was the status of tariff and non-tariff negotiations in the China-Australia free trade agreement relating to Australia's minerals and resources sector, and specifically the coal lines, prior to the announcement of the coal tariffs?*
 - a. *On what basis or in exchange for what concessions, has the Australian Government negotiated for the removal of this new coal tariff in the China-Australia free trade agreement? If so, please explain.*

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- 16. Will the Coal tariff continue to apply until the implementation of the China-Australia free trade agreement? If so, what is the economic cost to Australia's coal exporters?**
- 17. What is the Government's approach to foreign investment by State Owned Entities?**
 - a. Has the Department undertaken or commissioned studies into the subject? If so, please describe or provide. If not, what is the basis for the negotiating strategy on SOEs?**
- 18. Trade Minister Robb has publically supported the establishment of a \$3 billion Chinese fund, known as the Beijing Australia Agricultural Resource Cooperative Development Fund, being a joint venture between state owned Beijing Agricultural Investment Fund and the Shenzhen-based Yuhu group.**
 - a. What meetings has the Department or Government had with this Fund and/or its joint venture partners?**
 - b. Was the establishment of this fund linked or connected to any concessions negotiated in the China-Australia Free Trade Agreement? If so, please describe.**
 - c. What Foreign Investment Review Board (FIRB) assessment criteria will be utilised to review investments made by an entity with SOE ownership?**
- 19. Is there an environmental standards chapter in the China-Australia FTA? If so, will it be enforceable?**
- 20. How does China and Australia compare on environmental standards and ambitions?**
- 21. Will Australia's lack of an emission trading scheme or similar global warming reducing initiatives subsequent hurt some of our export opportunities (for example by increased Chinese regulation or requirements for goods)?**
- 22. China announced in October 2014 that it will ban the import of coal with high ash and sulphur content from 2015 in a bid to tackle air pollution.**
 - a. How does this affect Australia's miners?**
 - b. How will this and other pollution reducing measures affect Australian exporters?**

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- 23. Who negotiated the Intellectual Property (IP) Chapter on behalf of Australia in the China-Australia free trade agreement? What is their position and qualifications? Who was consulted on the IP chapter?**
- 24. Will Australian be required to modify or change any of Australia's existing domestic or international obligations relating to Intellectual Property Rights under the China-Australia Free Trade Agreement? If so, please describe.**
- 25. Is there any current or planned economic modelling of the IP impact on the Australian economy?**
- 26. On 14 October 2014, Prime Minister Abbott publicly stated that: "On the 457s, labour market testing will remain, but we want to be easier to engage in."**
- a. Please confirm that the China-Australia free trade agreement will retain policy space to maintain labour market testing. If not, please explain why, and if there are any protections for Australian workers.**
- 27. Is the chapter on movement of people in the China-Australia free trade agreement reciprocal and mutual in application? If not, why not?**
- 28. Are Australia's commitments to China on movement of people in the bilateral FTA over and above those made by Australia in the 1995 WTO GATS? If so, please detail.**
- 29. Is there a labour standards chapter in the China-Australia free trade agreement? If so, is it enforceable? If not, why?**

Answer

1. (a) Since 1 June, 16 meetings have been held.
- (b) These meetings have been held in Beijing, Sydney and Canberra. Meetings were attended by relevant officials.
- (c) The approximate cost was \$510,000.
- (d) Further meetings between relevant officials are planned to finalise the legal scrub with locations and dates to be finalised. Meetings costs will be kept to an efficient minimum.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

2. Negotiations have concluded.
3. The agreed text will be released publicly upon signature, in accordance with usual practice.
4. The Government's objective is for the agreement to enter into force in 2015.
5. The Constitution of the People's Republic of China sets out the steps that China follows to ratify a treaty and enable its entry into force following signature. These include:
 - The relevant Ministry, in conjunction with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, submits the treaty to the State Council of the People's Republic of China for consideration.
 - The State Council submits the treaty to the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC) for decision on whether it should be ratified. This is the stage at which any necessary changes are made to bring China's domestic laws into line with its obligations under the treaty.
 - The President ratifies the treaty pursuant to the recommendation of the Standing Committee of the NPC.
 - Instruments of ratification are exchanged between the parties. This exchange takes place once the other party has completed its own domestic treaty processes, and enables the treaty to enter into force.
6. Yes.
 - 6 (a) Under ChAFTA, tariffs on all Australian dairy exports to China will be progressively phased out.

Crucially, New Zealand's FTA with China contains restrictive safeguard measures on a wide range of dairy products (where China raises the tariff back to the normal rate when New Zealand exports exceed a certain volume). In contrast, under ChAFTA, Australia will face a discretionary safeguard only on whole milk powders, with the safeguard trigger volume set well above current trade levels and indexed to grow annually. For all other dairy products Australia will receive unlimited preferential access.
7. This would depend on the nature of the modelling.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

8. This is a decision for government. The Agreement will, however, benefit Australia through the creation of significant new market access and it secures Australia's competitive position in China, our largest export market.
- 8 (a) This is a decision for government but the Department will monitor relevant bilateral trade and investment data once the agreement has entered into force.
9. DFAT relies on a range of information sources, including reporting by diplomatic and consular posts, analyses prepared by other government agencies, international organisations and academic institutions, as well as foreign and domestic media reporting.
- 10 (a/b) Briefings are provided as required in various formats.
11. The Department monitors a range of media coverage on issues of portfolio relevance. Posts monitor media coverage abroad. Portfolio Ministers and their offices receive regular summaries of relevant media coverage electronically. In respect of subscriptions, see response to QoN 136 part 2c.
12. (a) DFAT did not report on speculation about the resumption of coal tariffs.
(b) Neither the Minister nor the Department had prior notice of the Chinese Government's decision.
13. (a) China provided information on the coal tariffs when publicly announcing the re-introduction of tariffs on 9 October 2014.
(b) While coal tariffs generally had been part of the FTA negotiations from the outset, there were no specific discussions with China about its plans to reintroduce tariffs.
14. While the tariffs will have some impact, they are relatively small and will be phased out once the FTA enters into force.
15. Prior to its decision to resume coal tariffs, China had already offered as part of the FTA negotiations to eliminate tariffs on coal and other mineral products.
(a) The outcome on coal was just one element in a comprehensive package of market access outcomes which resulted from FTA negotiations.
16. Yes. The tariffs are an additional cost, but will be phased out relatively quickly once the agreement enters into force.
17. All foreign State Owned Entities require prior approval by the Foreign Investment Review Board before making a direct investment in Australia, starting a new business, or acquiring an interest in land, regardless of the value of the investment.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

(a): DFAT has not undertaken or commissioned any studies into this subject. The negotiating strategy on SOEs reflected government policy.

18. (a). The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade has had no meetings with the Joint Venture Partners with regard to the Fund. The Minister for Trade and Investment witnessed the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the proponents.

(b) No.

(c) Please refer questions pertaining to the FIRB to Treasury.

19. No.

20. The China-Australia Free Trade Agreement does not contain provisions on environmental standards.

21. The Government has a policy of Direct Action to meet Co2 emissions reduction targets. Global demand for high quality Australian resources and energy exports, including coal into China is expected to remain strong.

22. (a) The limit on sulfur content is not expected to affect Australian coal exporters as Australian coal is well below the required standard. The proposed ash content standard may affect a small number of exporters however these producers have several options to reduce the ash content to meet the required standard.

(b) The proposed standards do not apply to electricity generators that are fitted with technology to reduce fine particle emissions and who are the main users of imported coals from countries like Australia.

23. The Intellectual Property Chapter was negotiated by a team of experienced and appropriately qualified officers.

A range of stakeholder and community views was sought and taken into account during negotiations. In addition DFAT and other agencies conducted informal consultations with stakeholders on particular issues during the course of the negotiations.

24. No.

25. No.

26. Answer: See Answer to Question 67.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

27. Obligations in the MNP Chapter under China-Australia free trade agreement will be legally binding on both Australia and China. As is common in Australia's FTAs, each side will set out the specific commitments it will make with respect to different categories of persons under the MNP Chapter. These specific commitments are negotiated outcomes and reflect the particular circumstances of each Party.

28. As is common in our FTAs, Australia will make GATS+ commitments in the area of movement of natural persons in the China FTA.

29.No.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 102

Program: DFAT

Topic: Australia-Gulf Cooperation Council - Free Trade Agreement negotiations

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- 1. In response to Budget Estimates question on notice number 511, DFAT advised that :**

After a 5 year suspension of all FTA negotiations the Gulf Cooperation Council announced in March 2014 that it would resume negotiations of ITAs but did not specify with which countries or when. Since that time the Government has made concerted representations to the GCC seeking that Australia be considered a priority country for an early resumption of FTA negotiations.

- a. Please explain what is meant by “concerted representations”, including the number, type, place and attendees of meetings or other correspondence.**
 - b. What is the current status of these FTA negotiations?**
 - c. What Department funds have been expended on this FTA in the past calendar year? Please describe.**
- 2. In response to Budget Estimates question on notice number 511, DFAT further advised that Australia’s merchandise exports to the Gulf cooperation Council have continued to grow since 2009 (when FTA negotiations were suspended). Australia’s major exports in 2013 were advised by DFAT to include:**

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- i. passenger motor vehicles (PMVs) (A\$1.4 billion);*
 - ii. wheat and barley (A\$845 million);*
 - iii. fresh, chilled or frozen meat (A\$664 million); and*
 - iv. dairy products (A\$148 million).*
 - v. Alumina exports are also significant (data is confidential in Australian Bureau of Statistics trade data).*
- a. What is the current export tariff applied to each of these major Australian exports?*
 - b. What are the non-tariff barriers relevant to each of these major Australian exports?*
 - c. How will the closure of Australia's car manufacturing industry impact on the export of passenger motor vehicles to the Gulf Cooperation Council? Will there be any supply-chain growth opportunities or will this market be lost?*
 - d. In relation to meat and dairy, will the implementation of bilateral free trade agreements with Korea, Japan and China impact on Australia's supply capability to the Gulf Cooperation Council members? Please describe.*
- 3. Please describe the nature of Australia's alumina exports, and rational for confidentiality of relevant data.**

Answer

- 1a. The Government has taken every opportunity presented to make representations to Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries and the GCC Secretariat to have Australia be considered a priority country for an early resumption of FTA negotiations.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- 1b. GCC Foreign Ministers approved on 4 March 2014 conditional resumption of FTA negotiations, almost five years after the GCC suspended FTA negotiations with all its negotiating partners, including Australia, in 2009. There is yet no indication as to when and with which countries the GCC would resume FTA negotiations.
- 1c. With the GCC yet to resume negotiations with Australia, the Department has not allocated any additional funds towards this FTA and has drawn on the existing budget to meet the costs of representations seeking a resumption of the FTA negotiations with the GCC.
- 2a. The GCC applies a common external tariff of 5 per cent on virtually all imports from outside the GCC, including major exports from Australia.
- 2b. Australian exporters have registered a number of concerns about non-tariff barriers to their trade with the GCC. These have been outlined in a study on the prospects and possible benefits of a free trade agreement between Australia and the GCC (<https://www.dfat.gov.au/fta/agccfta/agcc-fta-study.html>) and in DFAT's submission to the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade's inquiry into Australia's trade and investment relationships with countries of the Middle East (http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Joint/Foreign_Affairs_Defence_and_Trade/Middle_East_trade_and_investment).
- 2c. This is a question for the Department of Industry.
- 2d. This is a question for the Department of Agriculture.
3. Australia's total exports of Alumina were worth \$5.4 billion in 2013 (up 7.6 per cent on 2012) and accounted for 1.7 per cent of total goods and services exports. In quantity terms, Australia's exports were 17.8 million tonnes in 2013 (up 1.8 per cent on 2012).

The Census and Statistics Act 1905 provides the authority for the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) to collect statistical information and requires that statistical output shall not be published or disseminated in a manner that is likely to enable the identification of a particular person or organisation.

For Alumina exports, the ABS has published aggregated global exports. However details of the country of final export destination (including country groups) have been suppressed in order to satisfy the requirements of the Act.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 103

Program: DFAT

Topic: Negotiations on the Australia-India Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- 1. *Please provide a status update on the negotiations of this agreement including:***
 - a. *Formal and informal meetings in 2014 and planned;***
 - b. *Who attended these meetings, where were they held and at what Department cost?***
- 2. *What are Australia's top 10 export goods or services to India?***
- 3. *What goods or services are expected to be in the top 10 exports in the next 10-15 years?***
- 4. *What are the current tariffs and quotas applicable to each of the current and future top 10 exports?***

Answer

1. Both governments are pursuing negotiations for a comprehensive Australia-India trade and investment agreement.
 - a) A negotiating round took place in New Delhi on 18-19 December 2014. Further rounds of negotiations will take place in coming months.
 - b) DFAT's lead negotiator led an inter-agency negotiating team. The approximate cost for DFAT was \$85,000.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014, 23 October 2014

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

2. Australia's top 10 merchandise or services exports to India, based on 2013 calendar year data, and the applied tariff as at November 2014, are: coal, gold, personal services, copper ores and concentrates, vegetables, travel services, wool and other animal hair, other ores and concentrates and crude petroleum.
3. It is likely that minerals, energy, agriculture and services will continue to feature prominently in the years ahead.
4. India applies a range of tariffs and quotas.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 104

Program: DFAT

Topic: Negotiations on the Indonesia-Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (IA-CEPA)

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- 1. *What progress has been made on these negotiations since the swearing in of Indonesia's new President Joko Widodo? Please describe, including scheduled future meetings, attendees, place and estimated costs.***
- 2. *How will Indonesia's WTO challenge against Australia's plain packaging tobacco laws affect relations between the countries, and the trade negotiations? Please describe.***
- 3. *How many personnel are undertaking work related to this agreement?***
- 4. *What is the trade growth outlook between Australia and Indonesia?***
 - a. *Has there been any change to our trade relationship with Indonesia this year? If so, please describe.***

Answer

1. Relevant Australian and Indonesian officials met in Jakarta in November 2014 to progress talks. The approximate departmental cost was \$10,000. Future meetings are expected to take place this year.
2. We do not expect it to affect the relationship or trade negotiations.
3. The Free Trade Agreement Division is responsible for the negotiations. Officers from two branches work on IA-CEPA as well as on a number of other FTAs.
4. There has been solid recent growth with significant potential for this to continue.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 105

Program: DFAT

Topic: Free trade agreements with other countries, including the EU, Brazil, HK, PNG, South Africa, Taiwan

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- 1. Please describe the Department activity involved in exploring FTAs with each of these trading regions/countries?**
- 2. What was the outcome of Department's consultations with the EU in July 2014 to "explore commercial interest in a free trade agreement"?**
 - a. Who attended these consultations? Where were they held, and what were the associated Department costs?**
- 3. Will the Government make any further progress towards FTAs with these countries in the near future?**
- 4. What has been the response from each trading partner to the concept of an FTA with Australia?**
- 5. Will FTA negotiations with any of these trading partners be commenced in the foreseeable future? If so, please provide detail.**
- 6. Has the Government or DFAT explored the feasibility of free trade agreements with any other country or region? If so please describe, including current status and next steps.**
- 7. What resources (including personnel, consultants, modelling) have been put into these exploratory feasibility stages? Please describe.**

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Answer

1. Activity regarding future possible agreements with the EU, Brazil, Hong Kong, Papua New Guinea, South Africa and Taiwan is ongoing and as required and includes informal working level discussions.

2. In July 2014 the Department commenced consultations with Australian domestic stakeholders to hear their views on the commercial interest in an FTA with the EU. The majority opinion was supportive of a future FTA with the EU.
 - a. 107 industry associations and business groups were consulted. Face-to-face meetings were held with associations and business groups in Sydney, Melbourne and Canberra. Stakeholders in other locations were contacted by telephone.

This consultation process was undertaken within existing departmental resources. The cost to the department was \$2550.

3. Any decisions about future FTAs will be decisions for the Government.

4. The EU is open to discussing the concept of an FTA with Australia. Discussions are very preliminary. Trading partners have not yet expressed public views on the other FTAs.

5. These would be decisions for government.

6. In 2012 Colombia proposed both countries analyse the feasibility of a bilateral FTA, including utilising the Australia-Chile FTA as a model agreement. Following analysis by DFAT and Colombia's foreign trade authorities, both parties concluded that an FTA was readily achievable. The analysis could form a useful basis for work if both parties formally agree to proceed in the future.

7. DFAT has drawn on existing resources when considering the feasibility of future FTAs.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 106

Program: DFAT

Topic: Negotiations on the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP)

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- 1. Please provide a status update on the progress of TPP negotiations, including the number and type of chapters closed, since the Department's status update response to the last Budget Estimates rounds.**
- 2. In relation to the 10-day chief negotiator meetings in Hanoi from 1-10 September 2014:**
 - a. Who attended on behalf of Australia?**
 - b. What were the Department's costs of these meetings?**
- 3. In relation to the 3-day TPP Ministers meetings in Sydney from 25-27 October:**
 - a. Who attended on behalf of Australia?**
 - b. What are the anticipated costs of these meetings?**
 - c. What were the core subject matter areas discussed by the Ministers during the Sydney meetings? What were the key outcomes?**
- 4. Has the Department maintained Australia's former position on not agreeing to be bound by ISDS provisions in the TPP? If not why not, and what level of safeguards and carve outs are being considered? What model clause or template is being used as a base?**
- 5. What are the key changes from Australia's current Intellectual Property Rights laws that are being negotiated in the TPP?**
 - a. Which stakeholders would benefit from such changes, and which stakeholders are disadvantaged?**
 - b. Has DFAT and the Government considered the various recommendations relating to Intellectual Property rights chapters in free trade agreements stated by the Productivity Commission,**

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

the Harper Review and restated in the recent JSCOT and Senate FADT References Committee Inquiry Reports on KAFTA?

6. *Is the Department monitoring the reactions, analysis and reporting of the TPP in other member countries? Please describe.*
7. *Is the Department aware of modelling or analysis undertaken by any other member country relating to the impacts of TPP or any particular chapter or aspect of TPP for such country?*
 - a. *Please describe.*
 - b. *Please provide an English version copy of such reports/studies/analyses.*
 - c. *Are these studies considered by relevant Australian negotiating members in formulating their recommended positions?*
8. *Based on experience of commissioning prior economic studies, what would be the estimated costs of an economically modelling of TPP impacts and/or impacts of selected chapters such as tariffs lines and Intellectual Property Rights?*
9. *What funds have been expended to date by DFAT relating to the negotiations on the TPP?*
10. *Is the Government aware of the World Health Organisation methodology to estimate the impact of TRIPS-plus provisions on spending on medicines and medicine consumption?*
 - a. *Has anyone in the Department or in Government utilised that methodology to assess the relevant proposals in the Intellectual Property chapter of the TPP? If so, please describe. If not, why not? If not, on what basis does the Department assess relevant impacts?*
11. *How much does the PBS pay for biologics per year?*
12. *What are the projected increases in costs to the PBS of biologics as a result of proposed extensions in data exclusivity and patent rights in the TPP? Please describe.*
13. *How much would it cost the Australian Government per year if the term of data exclusivity on biologics was extended from the current five year period in Australia to eight years?*
14. *What would be the impact on the Australian economy of a 25 year copyright term increase on audio-visual works and sound recordings?*
 - a. *What would be the cultural impact?*

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- 15. *Has the Department undertaken to identify organisations/bodies that may be most affected by changes to intellectual property? If so, please describe. If not, why not?***
- 16. *Is the department aware that the US Trade Representative has identified Australia's local content rules as barriers to trade?***
 - a. *Does DFAT concur with this assessment? Please explain.***
- 17. *Has any modelling been done on the effect of local content production if the local content requirements were removed or watered down?***
- 18. *Has the TPP working group relating to the release of the text made any recommendations?***
- 19. *Will the text be released before signing?***

Answer

1. Most chapters are now coming close to conclusion, with only a few issues remaining. Negotiations on the following chapters are concluded:
 1. Competitiveness and Business Facilitation
 2. Cooperation and Capacity Building
 3. Cross Border Trade in Services
 4. Customs
 5. Development
 6. Regulatory Coherence
 7. Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises
 8. Telecommunications
 9. Temporary Entry
- 2a. Officials from Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and other Australian Government agencies attended.
- 2b. Approximately \$90,000.
- 3a. Officials from Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade attended.
- 3b. The anticipated costs of these meetings, and subsequent officials' level meetings, is approximately \$168,000.
- 3c. Information on Ministerial discussions is included in the post-meeting media statement on Minister for Trade and Investment's web site at www.trademinister.gov.au

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

4. The Government has outlined that it is willing to consider the inclusion of ISDS provisions in trade agreements on a case-by-case basis.
5. The Government is not supporting any provisions that would require changes to Australia's existing intellectual property regime.
- 5a. See 5. Above.
- 5b. Yes.
6. Yes, as appropriate.
7. Media reporting suggests that Malaysia intends to undertake a cost-benefit analysis of the TPP. We are not aware of any modelling or analysis being undertaken by other TPP Parties.
8. It would depend on the nature of the modelling.
9. For FY 2014-15 up until 31 December 2014, \$743,159.65 has been spent on TPP negotiations.
10. Yes.
- 10a. No. DFAT is assessing impacts of proposals in the Intellectual Property Chapter of the TPP based on a range of other relevant analyses.
11. This question falls within the portfolio responsibility of the Department of Health.
12. An outcome that would increase costs to the PBS or adversely affect Australia's health system more generally is not anticipated.
13. This question falls within the portfolio responsibility of the Department of Health.
14. This question falls within the portfolio responsibility of the Attorney-General's Department.
- 14a. This question falls within the portfolio responsibility of the Attorney-General's Department.
15. No. In the TPP, the Government is not supporting any provisions that would require changes to Australia's intellectual property regime.
16. Yes.
- 16a. No. Local content requirements for television and radio simply ensure that Australian audiences have access to a minimum amount of Australian audio-visual content.
17. No.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

18. There is no such TPP working group.
19. TPP Parties have not made a decision about the timing of the release of the text.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 107

Program: DFAT

Topic: Negotiations on the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP)

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- 1. *On the 2nd RCEP participating countries Ministerial meeting held on 27 August 2014 in Myanmar:***
 - a. What were the key outcomes from this Ministerial level meeting?***
 - b. Were there any setbacks or failure to agree on any matters? If so, please outline.***
 - c. What was the agreed scope of the RCEP agreement?***
 - d. What was the level of ambition for negotiations on tariffs, services and investment?***
 - e. Who attended these meetings and what were the department's costs?***
 - f. Were any Ministerial level meetings held on the side in Myanmar? If so, what was the nature of such meetings and who attended for Australia?***
- 2. *Noting that Japan is a member of both RCEP and TPP - is the level of agricultural market access anticipated to be the same in both agreements?***
 - a. Is the level of agricultural market access in RCEP and TPP anticipated to be higher than that achieved in the Japan Australia Economic Partnership Agreement?***
- 3. *Who will be attending on behalf of Australia at the 6th RCEP round to be held in India in December 2014?***
 - a. What are the key topics for negotiation and what is the anticipated outcome?***

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

4. Given the relatively early stages of the Agreement, is it feasible for the Agreement to be concluded by the end of 2015?

Answer

1 (a) Please see page 114 of Hansard from Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee Estimates Thursday, 23 October 2014.

(b) Ministers agreed to expedite work to resolve a range of threshold issues.

(c) Ministers reaffirmed the *Guiding Principles and Objectives for Negotiating the RCEP*.

(d) The *Guiding Principles* stipulate that RCEP will provide significant improvements over the existing ASEAN+1 FTAs, while recognising the individual and diverse circumstances of the participating countries.

(e) In addition to the Minister for Trade and Investment and one adviser, DFAT officials were involved in the RCEP Ministerial meeting. Travel related costs were approximately \$19,000.

(f) The RCEP Ministerial meeting was one of a broader suite of ASEAN-related Economic Ministers' meetings. The Minister for Trade and Investment, an adviser and range of relevant officers attended meetings as appropriate.

2. Australia uses every available negotiating opportunity with Japan, including in the RCEP and TPP negotiations, to further improve agricultural market access.

(a) Negotiations are continuing.

3 DFAT's RCEP Chief Negotiator led an inter-agency negotiating team of officials.

(a) The negotiations focussed on a range of areas including the modality for initial tariff offers, the approach to scheduling services commitments and the scope of the investment chapter.

4 Yes.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 108

Program: DFAT

Topic: Negotiations on the Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific (FTAAP)

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- 1. *What is the updated status of efforts towards this regional agreement?***
- 2. *What level of contribution has Australia made to the “Beijing Road Map” for this agreement?***
- 3. *China is reported as seeking an agreement before 2025 - how realistic is this timeframe?***
- 4. *Has Australia commenced feasibility related work? If so, please describe.***
- 5. *What resources have the Government and Department assigned to this regional agreement? Please provide details.***

Answer

1. At their recent meeting in China, APEC Leaders endorsed The Beijing Roadmap for APEC’s Contribution to the Realisation of the FTAAP. Leaders agreed to launch a collective strategic study on issues related to the realisation of the FTAAP, endorsed the establishment of an APEC Information Sharing Mechanism on RTAs/FTAs and endorsed a framework to carry forward the APEC Capacity Building Needs Initiative to narrow the gap of the capacities of APEC economies to facilitate eventual realisation of the FTAAP.

2. Australia helped set up the APEC Information Sharing Mechanism (ISM). The ISM provides for specific activities in four areas:

- enhancing access to information on RTAs/FTAs;
- sharing and assessing information on WTO-plus elements of RTAs/FTAs;
- holding Annual Dialogues and Reports on RTAs/FTAs; and
- reinforcing and intensifying use of the WTO RTA Transparency Mechanism.

3. An aspirational date for realisation of an FTAAP was not included in the Beijing Roadmap.

4. No.

5. Work on the ISM will be undertaken within the APEC Branch of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. DFAT will manage the resources required to advance the ISM and other aspects of the Beijing Roadmap in line with the Department’s responsibility to coordinate Australia’s interests in APEC.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 109

Program: DFAT

Topic: Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations Plus (PACER Plus)

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- 1. *Please provide a status update on negotiations on this agreement.***
- 2. *When is the next negotiation round? Where will it be held and who will attend for Australia?***
- 3. *What is the priority level of this Agreement within the Department?***
- 4. *What would be the key economic outcomes for Australia from this regional agreement?***
- 5. *What is the realistic timeframe for conclusion of this agreement?***

Answer

1. Negotiations are continuing.
2. The next negotiating round will be held in Port Vila (Vanuatu) in March 2015. The delegation for this meeting is not finalised.
3. High priority.
4. The agreement would facilitate trade, improve the business environment and reduce barriers to trade in goods, services and investment. An enhanced commercial position for Australian traders and investors in the region would be part of the mutual benefits of the Agreement.
5. There is no fixed time frame.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 110

Program: DFAT

Topic: Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- 1. *Who from Government and the Department attended the 14th Meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Indian Ocean Rim Association held in Perth on 9 October 2014?***
 - a. What were the Department's costs of this meeting?***
 - b. What were the key trade and investment outcomes?***

- 2. *In the IORA Economic Declaration, the Ministers set out some guiding principles to foster economic growth, including recognition of the "pre-eminence of the global, rules-based, WTO trading system is the best means for increasing trade and investment and fostering economic opportunity."***
 - a. Does that mean there is no current intention to negotiate a free trade agreement between countries in the Indian Ocean rim?***
 - b. What measures will be taken to increase trade growth in the region?***

- 3. *At the Ministers' meeting in Perth, an "Australian \$1 million economic diplomacy fund was established to support economic diplomacy initiatives in the region".***
 - a. Please provide information about this fund, including sources, uses, rules, goals, objectives and reporting requirements.***

Answer

1. Foreign Minister Ms Bishop led the Australian delegation at the 14th Meeting of the Council of Ministers (COMM) of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) held in Perth on 9 October 2014. Departmental officials also in attendance included: Deputy Secretary; Acting First Assistant Secretary (South and West Asia Division); Assistant Secretary (Development Operations Branch); Director (India Economic and IORA Section); four officers to support delivery of the policy outcomes; two officers to manage the administrative, security and logistical aspects of the COMM; a media liaison officer to manage the media engagement for the event; and six graduate trainees to act as liaison and coordination points for member country

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delegations. Other government agencies that attended the COMM included Austrade and the AFP.

1a. The IORA COMM's total cost to the Department was \$389,260, not including salaries.

1b. The IORA Economic Declaration was a key trade and investment outcome for the 2014 COMM, committing members to economic integration and driving greater trade and investment in the Indian Ocean rim. A commitment was made to identify gaps and opportunities among IORA members for increasing trade and investment. A parallel series of business events was held with the COMM to deepen understanding of the role of women and private industry in the Indian Ocean rim's development. Projects and activities to further trade and investment are taken forward through the IORA Working Group on Trade and Investment.

2a. There is no intention currently to negotiate a free trade agreement between countries in the Indian Ocean rim.

2b. Australia is currently negotiating the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (RCEP), which includes the following IORA members: India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand. Beyond this, the Government works bilaterally with IORA countries to advance Australia's trade interests.

3a. The IORA Economic Diplomacy Fund (\$1million over 2014-2015 drawn from Australian aid program funding) supports activities that contribute to Australian engagement in IORA and the prosperity of the Indian Ocean region. Proposed activities (up to \$200,000 in value) will need to demonstrate alignment with the six priority areas for IORA and Australia's economic diplomacy agenda, as well as meeting effectiveness and accountability criteria. Guidelines have been circulated to relevant Australian government agencies. The criteria reflect internationally agreed OECD DAC aid effectiveness criteria, with proposals required to clearly articulate objectives, relevance and context, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability, and how gender equality will be progressed through the proposed activity. Successful applicants will be required to report mid-way through their program as well as at its completion.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 111

Program: DFAT

Topic: Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP)

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- 1. Is the Department monitoring the negotiations between the EU and US in the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership? Is so, please provide an overview of current status and anticipated conclusion of these negotiations.***
- 2. Has the Department compared the types of information on TTIP provided on the EU Commission website to the types of information provided by the Department to the public on various international trade negotiations? If so, has the Department considered transparency and engagement improvements it could implement?***

Answer

1. Yes. Negotiations are ongoing and are expected to take some time to complete.
2. Yes. DFAT is comfortable that the information on our website balances the commitment to transparency with the need to safeguard sensitive information that is the subject of an ongoing negotiation.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 112

Program: DFAT

Topic: WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

1. *What is the status of the Trade Facilitation Agreement?*
2. *What efforts or measures are being taken to revitalize this agreement?*
3. *Is there a likelihood that this agreement, in current or modified form, will be re-tabled and ratified by member countries in the foreseeable future? Please explain.*
4. *What is the status of funds committed by Australia under this agreement for lesser developed and developing countries?*
5. *How many meetings has Australia attended in relation to this agreement since the impasse arose in July 2014?*
 - a. *Who attended?*
 - b. *Where were the meetings held?*
 - c. *What were the outcomes?*
6. *Are subsequent meetings planned? If so,*
 - a. *Where will they be held?*
 - b. *Who will attend for Australia?*

Answer

1-3. WTO Members have reached consensus and agreed to adopt the Protocol of Amendment for the Agreement on Trade Facilitation (ATF). The ATF will enter into force once two-thirds of Members have accepted it.

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4. Australia has been assisting developing countries undertake trade facilitation reforms, including providing \$A6 million over three years (2014-16) to the World Bank's Trade Facilitation Support Program. Australia also pledged \$A1 million to the WTO to assist developing countries implement the ATF, contingent upon adoption of the ATF.
5. Australia has been engaged in a variety of meetings at which the status and ongoing developments of the ATF have been discussed. These included weekly Ambassador meetings and WTO Committee meetings in Geneva involving relevant officials. The meetings were productive.
6. Further meetings are expected in Geneva and will involve relevant officials.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 113

Program: DFAT

Topic: WTO Doha Round negotiations

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- 1. *With respect to the 15 September 2014 informal WTO Heads of Delegations meeting in Geneva:***
 - a. Who attended on behalf of Australia?***
 - b. What were the key objectives and outcomes of that meeting?***
 - c. What were the associated Departmental costs?***

- 2. *With respect to the 35th formal meeting of the Trade Negotiations committee on 16 October 2014 in Geneva:***
 - a. Who attended on behalf of Australia?***
 - b. What were the key objectives and outcomes of that meeting?***
 - c. What were the associated Departmental costs?***

- 3. *Director-General Azevedo has stated that in his view (a) there is no current solution on the impasse relating to the Trade Facilitation Agreement, and (b) that the current situation surrounding the WTO has “had a major impact on several areas of negotiations” and there appears to be “a growing distrust which is having a paralyzing effect on [the WTO] work across the board.”***
 - a. What is the Department’s view of the state of the Doha Rounds and the WTO itself? How is the Department approaching this situation?***

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

4. *What work is the Department doing to prepare for the December General Council meeting?*
5. *Please provide an overview of the various other WTO committee meetings attended by Australia since the prior Budget Estimates.*
6. *Please provide information planned future meetings, including*
 - a. *Attendees*
 - b. *Objectives*
 - c. *Location*
 - d. *Costs.*

Answer

1. The 15 September 2014 informal WTO Heads of Delegations meeting in Geneva was attended by Australia's Permanent Representative to the WTO Hamish McCormick and officers from the Australian Permanent Mission to the WTO.

The meeting was intended to discuss the impasse at the WTO surrounding the Trade Facilitation Agreement Protocol of Acceptance. The meeting confirmed that Members were not in a position to agree on a way forward on that issue.

There were no costs associated with participation at this meeting.

2. The 35th Trade Negotiations Committee (TNC) meeting, postponed until 31 October 2014, was attended by Australia's Permanent Representative to the WTO Hamish McCormick and officers from the Australian Permanent Mission to the WTO in Geneva.

At the meeting the WTO Director General sought the views of WTO Members on what should be done about the impasse over Trade Facilitation, implantation of the Bali package and the implications for the multilateral trading system. There was no agreement among Members on these issues.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

There were no costs associated with participation at this meeting.

3. The blocking by a Member of an agreement unanimously agreed to by Ministers in Bali has eroded trust. The lack of trust among WTO Members will need to be addressed if there are to be productive negotiations in the WTO.

The Department is working to make progress where possible by remaining constructive, pragmatic and consultative. In addition to working to resolve the impasse over Trade Facilitation (answer to QoN 112 provides more detail), the Department remains actively involved across the full spectrum of WTO work. This work encompasses not only the monitoring of compliance with existing WTO rules, but plurilateral negotiation on the expansion of the Information Technology Agreement, on a Trade in Services Agreement, and on an agreement on environmental goods.

4. The Department, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, is working to promote Australia's interests in an effective multilateral trading system through encouraging adherence to the outcomes reached at the 9th WTO Ministerial Conference in Bali. In doing so the Government is working closely with other delegations and the Director-General.
5. Australia is engaged in all WTO committees, overviews of which can be found here: http://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/secre_e/current_chairs_e.htm.
6. The full schedule of formal WTO meetings scheduled between now and the end of the year can be found here: http://www.wto.org/meets_public/meets_e.pdf

Australia will be represented at these meetings by the Permanent Representative to the WTO (Hamish McCormick), staff at Australian Mission to the WTO and/or experts from Canberra (these can be from across the entire Public Service, depending on the meeting in question).

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

These meetings will be held at the WTO in Geneva. The only costs associated with Australian attendance will be those covering the travel of experts from outside Geneva. These will vary depending on the size of the delegation and other factors such as airfare and accommodation pricing.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 114

Program: DFAT

Topic: Trade in Services Agreement (TiSA) negotiations

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- 1. *What is the status of negotiations on this agreement?***
- 2. *With respect to the 8th Round of negotiations on TiSA chaired by the EU from 21-25 September 2014:***
 - a. *Who attended for Australia?***
 - b. *What were the key outcomes and key sticking points?***
 - c. *What were the Departmental costs?***
- 3. *With respect to the 9th Round of negotiations on TiSA to be chaired by Australia in Geneva from 1-5 December 2014:***
 - a. *Who will attend for Australia?***
 - b. *What are the estimated Departmental costs?***
 - c. *What level of progress and the key outcomes will Australia seek to achieve as chair of this round?***
- 4. *What impact could this agreement have on local content or local employment requirements in local, state and federal government procurement contracts? Please outline.***
- 5. *What impact could this agreement have on Government's decisions to privatize services or to re-nationalize certain public services? Please explain.***
- 6. *What protections is the Department putting in place to guard against the loss of sovereign rights from proposals such as the future proofing clause; open foreign access to our markets; the necessity test and the threats to data privacy regulations from the standstill provisions?***
- 7. *How will the Department consult with the Australian community on such issues prior to any signing of an agreement?***

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Answer

1. Negotiations are ongoing.
2.
 - a. Australia was represented by officials from the Australian Permanent Mission to the World Trade Organization, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Department of Communications.
 - b. Broad further progress was made.
 - c. The travel costs for Departmental officials to participate in the September round of TiSA negotiations was \$33,694.
3.
 - a. Australia was represented by officials from the Australian Permanent Mission to the World Trade Organization and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.
 - b. The travel costs Departmental officials to participate in the December round of TiSA negotiations were \$48,377.
 - c. As Chair of the December round, Australia further progressed negotiations across a range of areas.
4. We do not envisage any impact. Australia has not offered commitments in the TiSA that would require changes to Australian policy or regulatory settings.
5. We do not envisage any impact.
6. Australia has not offered any commitments in the TiSA that would require changes to Australian policy or regulatory settings.
7. Australian positions in the TiSA negotiations are informed by ongoing public consultations.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 115

Program: DFAT

Topic: Agreement on Environmental Goods negotiations

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- 1. Please provide a status update on negotiations on the Agreement on Environmental Goods.**
- 2. In relation to the formal launch of negotiations in Geneva on 8 July 2014:**
 - a. Who attended for Australia?**
 - b. What were the key outcomes and key sticking points?**
 - c. What were the Departmental costs?**
- 3. When and where are the next rounds of negotiations?**
 - a. Who will attend for Australia?**
- 4. What is the estimated economic, environmental and social impact for Australia of this agreement?**

Answer

1. The negotiations are ongoing.
- 2a. Officials from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, including the Permanent Mission to the WTO.
- 2b. EGA participants released a statement (see <https://www.dfat.gov.au/trade/negotiations/environment/joint-statement-environmental-goods.html>) to mark the start of negotiations. Key outcomes of the first round of negotiations (9-10 July) were summarised in a statement available at <https://www.dfat.gov.au/trade/negotiations/environment/statement-first-round-ega.html>.
- 2c. Departmental costs associated with our attendance at the first round of negotiations were \$11,389.25 and \$727.66 for hosting the week of meetings at the Australian mission in Geneva.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

3. The next round is expected to be held in Geneva on 16-20 March. Australia will be represented by relevant officials.
4. It is not yet possible to determine.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 116

Program: DFAT

Topic: Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC):

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- 1. In answer to Budget Estimates Question on Notice No.517, DFAT advised that “Australia is leading work to advance the new APEC information-sharing mechanism which aims to encourage take-up of WTO-plus outcomes and approaches in member economy FTAs and promote comprehensive, high quality FTAs as building blocks to an eventual FTAAP.”**
 - a. Please provide details of this “new information sharing mechanism”.**
 - b. Will it be publically available?**

- 2. Who from Government and the Department will represent Australia at the upcoming APEC meetings in November in Beijing, including at:**
 - a. Senior officials level (meetings 5-6 November);**
 - b. Ministerial level (meetings 7-8 November)**
 - c. CEO Summit (9-10 November); and**
 - d. Economic Leaders (10-11 November)?**

- 3. Are environmental issues for the economy listed program topics?**

- 4. In answer to Budget Estimates Question on Notice No. 521 DFAT advised that Australia is contributing \$500,000 to APEC’s Supply-chain connectivity sub-fund. The fund is said to be “aimed at improving regional supply-chain performance which will also support implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement”.**
 - a. What is the status of the fund?**
 - b. Are there specific fund projects? If so, please describe.**
 - c. Are the aims of the fund affected by the failure to ratify the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement?**

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- 5. Please detail Australia's financial contributions to APEC over the past 12 months, and outline the use or proposed use of such funds.**

Answer

1.
 - a. The RTA/FTA Information Sharing Mechanism (ISM) provides for specific activities in four areas:
 - enhancing access to information on RTAs/FTAs
 - sharing and assessing information on WTO-plus elements of RTAs/FTAs
 - holding annual dialogues and reports on RTAs/FTAs; and
 - reinforcing and intensifying use of the WTO RTA Transparency Mechanism.
 - b. The ISM will focus on finalised RTAs/FTAs which are generally available to the public.
2.
 - a. Mr Sam Gerovich, First Assistant Secretary Trade and Economic Diplomacy Division and Australian Ambassador to APEC.
 - b. The Hon Andrew Robb AO MP, Minister for Trade and Investment and the Hon Julie Bishop MP, Minister for Foreign Affairs.
 - c. No official representation.
 - d. The Hon Tony Abbott MP, Prime Minister.
3. No.
4.
 - a. The Supply-chain Connectivity Sub-fund is operational and US\$ 2 million has been committed for disbursement.
 - b. To date, five projects have been funded from the Sub-fund, namely:
 - Pre-Arrival Processing
 - Expedited Shipments
 - Release of Goods
 - Issuing Advanced Ruling
 - Electronic Payments for Duties, Taxes, Fees, and Charges for Importation and Exportation
 - c. No.
5. During the 2013-14 financial year, Australia's financial contributions in relation to APEC were:

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- APEC Secretariat for APEC project funding (\$2.8 million), policy support and analysis (\$400,000);
- APEC Secretariat secondee for APEC project management (\$457,297); and
- Australian public sector organisations for Australian-led APEC projects (\$1,258,640).

In addition, the Australian Government paid 2014 APEC membership fees from the DFAT Departmental budget of US\$335,000.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 117

Program: DFAT

Topic: G20

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- 1. *What changes have been made in the G20 agenda since it was first issued? Please describe.***

No changes were made to the G20 leaders' summit agenda since it was first issued to members on 24 September 2014.

- 2. *Is Australia's leadership on G20 on track to achieve the outcomes outline by the Prime Minister in his address to the World Economic Forum in Davos Switzerland on 23 January 2014? Please explain/describe.***

Yes. The Brisbane Summit delivered practical outcomes on the three key themes identified in the Prime Minister's address to the World Economic Forum on 23 January 2014, namely lifting growth and jobs, improving economic resilience and strengthening global institutions.

- 3. *Is Australia's leadership on track to discuss and secure real trade related growth outcomes at the November G20 meetings? Please describe.***

Yes. All G20 members included at least one trade facilitation measure in their growth strategies. Many members have also reduced barriers to services that support trade, particularly in transport, logistics and port services and are working to integrate SMEs into the global economy.

- 4. *The number one recommendation by the B20 was the prompt implementation of the Trade Facilitation Agreement. Given the current impasse on this agreement, what alternative growth strategy will Australia recommend?***

On 13 November, India announced it had successfully resolved its differences with the US relating to the issue of public stockholding for food security purposes in the WTO, which would open the way for implementation of the Trade Facilitation Agreement.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- 5. In answer to Budget Estimates Questions on Notice No453, DFAT advised:**
- a. that of the 41 positions in the G20 structure, 39 are occupied. What are the unoccupied positions and the reason they are unoccupied?**
 - b. that “The Government will consider opportunities for a bipartisan meeting and consultation closer to the date of the G20 meeting”.**
 - c. Have any bipartisan meetings or consultations now taken place or have been planned prior to the upcoming November G20 meetings? If so, please provide details. If not, why not?**

a. Staffing in the G20 structure has fluctuated over the year as staff have moved in and out of the team consistent with normal departmental staff movements.

b. and c. The Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet has the policy lead on G20. Neither the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet or the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade received a request to meet or consult with members of the Opposition prior to the Brisbane G20 summit.

- 6. Have leaders of all G20 countries confirmed their attendance? Are any not attending? If so, what is the stated reason?**

All G20 leaders attended the Brisbane summit, with the exception of Argentina (which was represented by Minister of Economy and Public Finance, Mr Axel Kicillof) and Saudi Arabia (which was represented by HRH the Crown Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz).

- 7. Will issues outside of the initial agenda be formally discussed (for example, issues relating to ISIS, Ebola and global warming)?**

Yes. Leaders discussed the Ebola outbreak and issued the Brisbane Statement on Ebola. Leaders also discussed the impacts of geopolitical tensions on global economic confidence and growth. Leaders discussed climate change as part of the formal agenda item on energy.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 118

Program: DFAT

Topic: Trade Disputes

Question in Writing

Senator Wong

Question

- 1. Please provide a status update (since the prior update provided at Budget Estimates) on the various WTO disputes to which Australia is a party, including costs.**
- 2. Please provide a status update (since the prior update provided at Budget Estimates) on international arbitrations to which Australia is a party, including costs.**

Answer

1. Australia is not currently a complainant in any WTO dispute. It is involved as a respondent in the following active WTO disputes:
 - DS434: *Australia — Certain Measures Concerning Trademarks and Other Plain Packaging Requirements Applicable to Tobacco Products and Packaging* (Complaint by Ukraine);
 - DS435: *Australia — Certain Measures Concerning Trademarks, Geographical Indications and Other Plain Packaging Requirements Applicable to Tobacco Products and Packaging* (Complaint by Honduras);
 - DS441: *Australia — Certain Measures Concerning Trademarks, Geographical Indications and Other Plain Packaging Requirements Applicable to Tobacco Products and Packaging* (Complaint by Dominican Republic);
 - DS458: *Australia — Certain Measures Concerning Trademarks, Geographical Indications and Other Plain Packaging Requirements Applicable to Tobacco Products and Packaging* (Complaint by Cuba);
 - DS467: *Australia — Certain Measures Concerning Trademarks, Geographical Indications and Other Plain Packaging Requirements Applicable to Tobacco Products and Packaging* (Complaint by Indonesia)

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

The status of disputes where Australia is a respondent is described below.

Tobacco Plain Packaging Disputes

WTO dispute settlement panels have been established in relation to Australia's tobacco plain packaging measure at the requests of Ukraine (on 28 September 2012), Honduras (on 25 September 2013), Indonesia (on 26 March 2014), the Dominican Republic (on 25 April 2014) and Cuba (on 25 April 2014). A large number of WTO Members (41 in total) have joined the disputes as a third party.

On 5 May 2014, the WTO Director-General appointed the panelists who will hear the disputes. The disputes will be heard together pursuant to a harmonised timetable.

On 7 May 2014, Australia filed requests for preliminary procedural rulings in relation to the panel requests made by four of the five complainants (Ukraine, Cuba, the Dominican Republic and Indonesia). The Panel issued its preliminary rulings on 19 August 2014. These rulings confirmed the measures at issue in the disputes are limited to Australia's tobacco plain packaging measure and excluded certain claims from being pursued by Ukraine in its dispute.

The complainants filed their first written submissions with evidence on 8 October 2014 in Geneva.

The Panel has advised that it does not expect to issue its final report to the parties before the first half of 2016.

Documents related to the WTO disputes on tobacco plain packaging are available on the DFAT website at: <http://www.dfat.gov.au/trade/negotiations/disputes/index.html>

Estimated costs of tobacco plain packaging disputes

The Government is committed to defending international legal challenges to tobacco plain packaging. However, the Government does not disclose figures associated with defending these legal challenges as public disclosure of that information may confer a tactical advantage on the other parties to the litigation.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Australia's involvement as a third party in WTO disputes

Australia is also a third party to the following active disputes (the status of those disputes also indicated in brackets):

- *European Communities – Measures Affecting Large Civil Aircraft* (DS316) (Awaiting compliance panel report).
- *United States – Measures Affecting Trade in Large Civil Aircraft – Second Complaint* (DS353) (Awaiting compliance panel report).
- *United States – Measures Concerning the Importation, Marketing and Sale of Tuna and Tuna Products* (DS381) (Awaiting compliance panel report).
- *United States – Countervailing Measures on Certain Hot-Rolled Carbon Steel Flat Products from India* (DS436) (Awaiting Appellate Body report).
- *United States – Countervailing Duty Measures on Certain Products from China* (DS437) (Awaiting Appellate Body report).
- *Argentina – Measures Affecting the Importation of Goods* (DS438, DS444, DS445) (Panel report under appeal).
- *United States – Measures Affecting the Importation of Horticultural Animals, Meat and Other Animal Products from Argentina* (DS447) (Awaiting panel report).
- *Argentina – Measures relating to Trade in Goods and Services* (DS453) (Awaiting panel report).
- *Indonesia – Importation of Horticultural Products, Animals and Animal Products* (DS465, DS466) (Consultations phase).
- *Ukraine – Definitive Safeguard Measures on Certain Passenger Cars* (DS468) (Awaiting Panel report).
- *European Union – Anti-Dumping Measures on Biodiesel from Argentina* (DS473) (Panel composed 23 June 2014).
- *European Union – Cost Adjustment Methodology and Certain Anti-Dumping Measures on Imports from Russia* (DS474) (Panel established 22 July 2014, awaiting panel composition).
- *Russian Federation – Measures on the Importation of Live Pigs, Pork and Other Pig Products from the European Union* (DS475) (Panel composed 23 October 2014, but hearing not yet scheduled).
- *Indonesia – Recourse to Article 22.2 of the DSU in the US – Clove Cigarettes Dispute* (DS481) (Consultations phase).
- *Indonesia – Measures Concerning the Importation of Chicken Meat and Chicken Products* (DS484) (Consultations phase).

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Estimated costs of disputes

The Department's Trade Law Branch is responsible for representing Australia in WTO disputes. It does not bill for its services. Therefore, it is not possible to estimate costs related to dispute activity.

2. Australia is the respondent to an investor-State dispute concerning tobacco plain packaging, brought by Philip Morris Asia under the Australia-Hong Kong Bilateral Investment Treaty. The Attorney General's Department, in collaboration with DFAT and the Department of Health, has the lead on the preparation of Australia's defence in that dispute.

A hearing on Australia's request for bifurcation of the proceedings was held before the Tribunal in Singapore on 20 and 21 February 2014. Bifurcation is the term which describes the separation of the proceedings into two phases: a preliminary jurisdictional phase and a subsequent merits phase, if required. On 14 April 2014, the Tribunal issued Procedural Order No.8, deciding to bifurcate the proceedings.

PM Asia submitted its Counter-Memorial on Australia's Preliminary Objections on 7 July 2014. Australia filed its Reply on 1 December 2014. PM Asia's Rejoinder was filed on 12 January 2015.

The hearing on Preliminary Objections will begin in Singapore on 16 February 2015.

The Procedural Orders of the Tribunal are available on the website of the Permanent Court of Arbitration and can also be accessed through a link on the Attorney-General's Department website.

Questions related to the litigation should be directed to the Attorney General's Department.

Estimated costs of disputes

The Government is committed to defending international legal challenges to tobacco plain packaging. However, the Government does not disclose figures associated with defending these legal challenges as public disclosure of that

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information may confer a tactical advantage on the other parties in the litigation.

Other international arbitrations

Questions regarding Australia's involvement in international arbitrations, other than those under investor-State dispute settlement provisions, should be directed to the Attorney-General's Department.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 119

Program: DFAT

Topic: Self Initiated work

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. *Does the department have a program for staff to engage in self-initiated work (projects, plans etc that are devised by staff without being directed by the minister's office or department management)?***
- 2. *Please list all ongoing projects. For each, please detail:***
- 3. *When did the project commence?***
- 4. *When is it expected to conclude?***
- 5. *What will the total cost of the project be?***
- 6. *Where did the money for the project come from?***
- 7. *Where is the project based?***

Answer

1. No, there are no existing programs for self-initiated work being devised by staff without direction from the Minister's office or departmental management.
2. N/A, refer to 1.
3. N/A, refer to 1.
4. N/A, refer to 1.
5. N/A, refer to 1.
6. N/A, refer to 1.
7. N/A, refer to 1.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 120

Program: DFAT

Topic: Conditions of Government Contracts and Agreements

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. Do any contracts managed by the Department/Agency contain any limitations or restrictions on advocacy or criticising Government policy? If so, please name each contact. When was it formed or created?**
- 2. What are the specific clauses and / or sections which state this, or in effect, create a limitation or restriction?**
- 3. Do any agreements managed by the Department/Agency contain any limitations or restrictions on advocacy or criticisms of Government policy? If so, please name each agreement. When was it formed or created?**
- 4. What are the specific clauses and/or sections which state this, or in effect, create a limitation or restriction?**
- 5. For each of the contracts and agreements, are there any particular reason, such as genuine commercial in confidence information, for this restriction?**
- 6. Have any changes to financial or resource support to services which advocate on behalf of groups or individuals in Australian society been made? If so, which groups? What was the change?**
- 7. Has any consultation occurred between the Department/Agency and any individuals and/or community groups about these changes? If so, what consultation process was used? Was it public? If not, why not? Are public submissions available on a website?**
- 8. If no consultation has occurred, why not?**
- 9. Did the Minister/Parliamentary Secretary meet with any stakeholders about changes to advocacy in their contracts and/or agreements? If so, when? Who did he/she meet with?**

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Answer

1. The Department's standard contract terms and conditions do not contain any limitations or restrictions on advocacy or criticising Government policy.
2. N/A.
3. The Department's standard contract terms and conditions do not contain any limitations or restrictions on advocacy or criticising Government policy.
4. N/A.
5. N/A.
6. No.
7. N/A.
8. N/A.
9. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade is not aware of the Ministers or Parliamentary Secretary having met with any stakeholders about changes to advocacy in their contracts and/or agreements.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 121

Program: DFAT

Topic: Non-Conventional Therapies

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since 7 September 2013:

- 1. *Are non-conventional therapies, for staff or ministerial use, able to be provided by the department/agency? (Including, but not limited to: Music Therapy, Hypnosis, Acupuncture, Chiropractic, Homeopathy, Naturopathy, etc) If yes:***
 - a) What is the process by which these therapies can be approved?***
 - b) Who are they available to?***
 - c) Please detail the reasons the therapies able to be provided (e.g. Work Place Agreement, recommended by a report to the department, etc)?***

- 2. *Has the department/agency paid for any non-conventional therapy for any Minister or staff? If yes:***
 - a) What therapies have been provided?***
 - b) What were they used to treat?***
 - c) What was the cost of the therapy?***

Answer

1. No.
2. No.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 122

Program: DFAT

Topic: Statutory Review Provisions

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Please list all current legislation, covered by the department's portfolio, which contain a statutory review provision/s. For each, please provide:

- 1. What work has been done towards preparing for the review? If none, why not?*
- 2. Please provide a schedule or a workplan for the review.*
- 3. When did/will this work begin?*
- 4. When is/was the review due to commence.*
- 5. What is the expected report date.*
- 6. Who is the minister responsible for the review.*
- 7. What department is responsible for the review.*
- 8. List the specific clauses or legislation under review caused by the statutory provision.*
- 9. List the terms of reference.*
- 10. What is the scope of the review.*
- 11. Who is conducting the review. How were they selected? What are the legislated obligation for the selection of the person to conduct the review?*
- 12. What is the budgeted, projected or expected costs of the review?*
- 13. When was the Minister briefed on this matter?*
- 14. What decision points are upcoming for the minister on this matter?*

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- 15. List the number of officers, and their classification level, involved in conducting the review.**
- 16. Will the the report will be tabled in parliament or made public. If so, when?**

Answer

The department has identified two pieces of legislation within its portfolio that contain statutory review provisions.

The *Export Market Development Grants Act 1997* contains a provision for the review of the scheme, to be conducted not later than 1 January 2015. Further information regarding this review provision is being provided by Austrade in response to a similar Question on Notice.

The *Intelligence Services Act 2011* contains provisions for reviews of other legislation to be undertaken by the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security. These reviews do not relate to the *Intelligence Services Act 2011* and relate to other Acts which are not within the department's portfolio responsibilities.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 123

Program: DFAT

Topic: Sunset Provisions

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

1. *Please list all current legislation, covered by the department's portfolio, which contain a sunset provision/s. For each, please provide:*
 - a. *What work has been done towards preparing for the activation of sunset provisions? If no work has commenced, why not?*
 - b. *Has any consideration been given to delaying or alerting the sunset provisions?*
 - c. *Please provide a schedule or a workplan for the sunset provisions becoming active.*
 - d. *When did/will this work begin?*
 - e. *When is/was the review due to commence.*
 - f. *What is the expected report date.*
 - g. *Who is the minister responsible for the review.*
 - h. *What department is responsible for the review .*
 - i. *List the specific clauses or legislation under review caused by the statutory provision.*
 - j. *List the terms of reference.*
 - k. *What is the scope of the review.*
 - l. *Who is conducting the review. How were they selected? What are the legislated obligation for the selection of the person to conduct the review?*
 - m. *What is the budgeted, projected or expected costs of the review?*
 - n. *When was the Minister briefed on this matter?*
 - o. *What decision points are upcoming for the minister on this matter?*
 - p. *List the number of officers, and their classification level, involved in conducting the review.*
 - q. *Will the the report will be tabled in parliament or made public. If so, when?*

Answer

The department has not identified any current legislation within its portfolio that contain sunset provisions.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 124

Program: DFAT

Topic: Domain Usage

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. Please provide a breakdown of the domain usage for the 50 most utilised (by data sent and received), unique (internet) domains accessed by the minister's office. Please provide:***
 - a. Domain name of the website being accessed (or IP address if the Domain is unavailable in the tracking system).***
 - b. Amount of data downloaded and uploaded to the site.***
 - c. Number of times the site was accessed.***

Answer

The department is unable to extract an accurate reflection of the domain usage for the 50 most utilised (by data sent and received), unique (internet) domains accessed by the Ministers' offices.

Many domains automatically generate secondary associations or links to social media, advertising and 'like' domains. For example, a user opening an online news domain that enables articles to be shared by social media will automatically have background links established with Facebook and Twitter without the user being aware of the association. A review of a user's domain logs would reflect the user had accessed social media where they had only accessed a news site.

Additionally, domains that carry significant content will often store their video or images in third party content servers. The user would be recorded as downloading data from the third party content server, rather than the domain they visited.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 125

Program: DFAT

Topic: Procedure Manuals (Departmental)

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. *Does the department have a procedure manual for communication between the department and the minister? If yes, please provide a copy and:***
- 2. *When was the manual last updated?***
- 3. *Who is responsible for updating the manual?***
- 4. *Has the minister's office had any input into the content of the manual? If so, please detail.***
- 5. *Who is the manual distributed to?***
- 6. *Is anyone responsible for clearing communications before they are sent to the minister or the minister's office?***

Answer

1. No. The department issues guidance to staff through administrative circulars on specific communications such as ministerial submissions.
2. N/A.
3. N/A.
4. N/A.
5. N/A.
6. Communications with ministers' offices takes many forms and are conducted and cleared at different levels, as appropriate.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 126

Program: DFAT

Topic: Procedure Manuals (Ministerial)

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. Does the minister's office have a procedure manual for communication between the minister's office and the department? If yes, please provide a copy and:*
- 2. When was the manual last updated?*
- 3. Who is responsible for updating the manual?*
- 4. Who is the manual distributed to?*
- 5. Is anyone responsible for clearing communications before they are sent to the department?*

Answer

1. No.
2. N/A.
3. N/A.
4. N/A.
5. This question should be directed to the offices of the Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Minister for Trade and Investment.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 127

Program: DFAT

Topic: G20 - Brisbane

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. Which ministers from the portfolio attended the G20 conference in Brisbane? For each attending minister, please answer the following:**

The Minister for Foreign Affairs attended the G20 summit.

- 2. How long will the minister be in Brisbane for?**

The Minister for Foreign Affairs was in Brisbane from 1600 Friday 14 November to 1600 Sunday 16 November.

- 3. Please provide a copy of the minister's program and a list of any meetings that are scheduled.**

The Minister for Foreign Affairs visited Brisbane from 14-16 November, 2014 for the G20 Summit. Her program included:

- meetings with the Business 20 and Civil Society 20;
- hosting a dinner for foreign ministers accompanying leaders to the summit;
- a Mexico, Indonesia, Korea, Turkey and Australia (MIKTA) foreign ministers meeting; and
- meetings with foreign ministers from Argentina, Brazil, Mauritania, Turkey and South Africa and with the National Security Adviser, United States of America.

- 4. Did the minister request any briefing material from the department in relation to the G20? Please provide a list of the briefing titles.**

The Department provided a single, comprehensive brief to the Minister for Foreign Affairs for her Brisbane program, including bilateral and G20 material.

- 5. How many ministerial staff attended with the minister?**

Five staff from the Foreign Minister's Office attended.

- 6. How many departmental staff attended the G20?**

Thirty five DFAT staff were accredited by DFAT for the G20 Summit. These staff, including six staff permanently based in Brisbane, were responsible for policy support and logistics arrangements.

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An additional 30 DFAT staff worked as part of the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet's team of liaison officers for visiting delegations. These staff were deployed to Brisbane to support G20 senior officials' meetings and prepare for the summit.

7. For each minister and staff member attending, how much was spent on airfares to and from Brisbane?

The Department of Finance is responsible for the costs of the Minister and ministerial staff.

A total of \$22,192.65 was spent on airfares for 29 Canberra-based DFAT staff.

Questions on the costs of airfares for the 30 staff working as part of the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet's team of liaison officers should be directed to the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet.

8. For each minister and staff member attending, how much was spent on accommodation in Brisbane?

The Department of Finance is responsible for the costs of the Minister and ministerial staff.

A total of \$63,846.50 was spent on accommodation for 29 Canberra-based DFAT staff.

Questions on the costs of accommodation for the 30 staff working as part of the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet's team of liaison officers should be directed to the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet.

9. For each minister and staff member attending, how much was spent on other associated expenses? Please detail.

The Department of Finance is responsible for the costs of the Minister and ministerial staff.

A total of \$325.80 was spent on car hire for departmental staff to support the delivery and collection of classified documents for the Australian delegation.

A precise figure for travel allowances is not available at present pending a full acquittal of all travel expenses by staff.

10. Has the department purchased any merchandise or promotional material for the G20? Please detail.

Yes. The department in Canberra purchased the following G20 branded items for G20 and related meetings, including the G20 Development Working Group, meetings with representatives from the B20, C20, T20, L20 and Y20, and briefing of the diplomatic community, at a total cost of \$11,978.76:

- pull-up banners (6);

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- media banner (1);
- paper folders (approx. 1,000);
- A5 notepads (100);
- A4 notepads (550); and
- umbrellas (140).

In addition, a range of Australian diplomatic posts purchased G20 promotional material as part of their public diplomacy budgets.

The department also used merchandise or promotional material originally purchased for the G20 Finance Ministers' Meeting for the G20 Trade Ministers' Meeting.

- 11. Will the department be preparing a report following the G20? If yes:**
- a. What will be the scope of the report?***
 - b. When will it be complete?***
 - c. Will it be available to the public?***

No. The department will not prepare a report.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 128

Program: DFAT

Topic: Report printing

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. Have any reports, budget papers, statements, white papers or report-like documents printed for or by the department been pulped, put in storage, shredded or disposed of?*
- 2. If so please give details; name of report, number of copies, cost of printing, who order the disposal, reason for disposal*

Answer

1. The handling of copies of reports, budget papers, statements, white papers or report-like documents for storage or destruction (disposal / shredding) is managed by departmental officers in accordance with Australian government legislation.
2. As this activity is handled at the unit level, providing this level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 129

Program: DFAT

Topic: Graduate Intake

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. *What was the graduate intake for 2012-2013?***
- 2. *What was the graduate intake for 2013-2014?***
- 3. *What is the graduate intake for 2014-2015?***
- 4. *What will be the graduate intake for 2015-2016?***

Answer

1. 53 DFAT graduates commenced in 2012.
2. 39 DFAT graduates commenced in 2013 + 35 AusAid graduates.
3. 43 DFAT graduates commenced in 2014.
4. 44 DFAT graduates are expected to commence in 2015.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 130

Program: DFAT

Topic: Enterprise Bargaining Agreements (EBAs)

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. Please list all related EBAs with coverage of the department.***
- 2. Please list their starting and expiration dates.***
- 3. What is the current status of negotiations for the next agreement/s? Please detail.***

Answer

1. Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Enterprise Agreement 2011-2014.
2. Commencement Date – 22 July 2011.
Nominal Expiry Date – 30 June 2014.
3. Bargaining representatives are meeting to negotiate the terms and conditions of the new EA.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 131

Program: DFAT

Topic: Reviews

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. *How many new reviews (defined as review, inter-departmental group, inquiry, internal review or similar activity) have been commenced?
Please list them including:***
 - a. the date they were ordered***
 - b. the date they commenced***
 - c. the minister responsible***
 - d. the department responsible***
 - e. the nature of the review***
 - f. their terms of reference***
 - g. the scope of the review***
 - h. Who is conducting the review***
 - i. the number of officers, and their classification level, involved in conducting the review***
 - j. the expected report date***
 - k. the budgeted, projected or expected costs***
 - l. If the report will be tabled in parliament or made public***

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

2. *For any review commenced or ordered since Budget Estimates in June, 2014, have any external people, companies or contractors being engaged to assist or conduct the review?*
 - a. *If so, please list them, including their name and/or trading name/s and any known alias or other trading names*
 - b. *If so, please list their managing director and the board of directors or equivalent*
 - c. *If yes, for each is the cost associated with their involvement, including a break down for each cost item*
 - d. *If yes, for each, what is the nature of their involvement*
 - e. *If yes, for each, are they on the lobbyist register, provide details.*
 - f. *If yes, for each, what contact has the Minister or their office had with them*
 - g. *If yes, for each, who selected them*
 - h. *If yes, for each, did the minister or their office have any involvement in selecting them,*
 - i. *If yes, please detail what involvement it was*
 - ii. *If yes, did they see or provided input to a short list*
 - iii. *If yes, on what dates did this involvement occur*
 - iv. *If yes, did this involve any verbal discussions with the department*
 - v. *If yes, on what dates did this involvement occur*
3. *Which reviews are on-going?*
 - a. *Please list them.*
 - b. *What is the current cost to date expended on the reviews?*
4. *Have any reviews been stopped, paused or ceased? Please list them.*
5. *Which reviews have concluded? Please list them.*

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

6. *How many reviews have been provided to Government? Please list them and the date they were provided.*
7. *When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?*
8. *What reviews are planned?*
 - a. *When will each planned review be commenced?*
 - b. *When will each of these reviews be concluded?*
 - c. *When will government respond to each review?*
 - d. *Will the government release each review?*
 - e. *If so, when? If not, why not?*

Answer

1. Nil.
2. N/A.
3. N/A.
4. Nil.
5. Nil.
6. Nil.
7. N/A.
8. Nil.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 132

Program: DFAT

Topic: Commissioned reports

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. How many reports (including paid external advice) have been commissioned by the Minister, department or agency? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.***
- 2. How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost? How many departmental or external staff were involved in each report and at what level?***
- 3. What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?***

Answer

1, 2 & 3.

As part of the new performance framework, *Making Performance Count*, released in June 2014, the Government committed to producing an annual Performance of Australian Aid report. The report is currently being written by departmental staff, with additional production costs expected to be approximately \$4600. It is anticipated that the report will be provided to the Government in December 2014.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 133

Program: DFAT

Topic: Appointments

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. Please detail any board appointments made from to date.***
- 2. What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio?***
- 3. Has the department instigated of changed its gender ratio target and/or any other policy intended to increase the participation rate of women on boards? If yes, please specify what the target and policy is for each board.***
- 4. Please specify when these gender ratio or participation policies were changed.***

Answer

1. Appointments to each board made from Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 23 October are listed below.

2. The gender ratio for each board is listed below. As at 23 October 2014, the gender ratio for boards across the portfolio (excluding ACIAR, EFIC and Austrade who are responding to separate QoNs) was 40.95 per cent female (not including ex-officio members).

3. Under the 'Board Target Gender Balance Plan', in 2010 the Australian Government committed to achieve a target of a minimum of 40% women and 40% men on Australian Government Boards by 2015. The remaining 20 per cent can be either women or men. These policy and gender ratio targets have not changed. The department has already achieved this target for Boards across the portfolio, and is continuing efforts to achieve this target on each specific Board, with most Boards also already achieving this target.

4. Gender ratio and participation policies under the 'Board Target Gender Balance Plan' have not changed since they were introduced in 2010 (minor updates to the departmental policy were made in December 2012 and July 2013).

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Australia Awards

1. Body ceased on 1 July 2014.

Australia-China Council

1. No new board member appointments were made from Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 23 October 2014.
2. The gender ratio of the Australia-China Council at 23 October 2014 was 57.1 per cent female (not including ex-officio members).

Australia India Council

1. Three new board member appointments were made from Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 23 October 2014. The new members are: Mr Michael Kasprowicz, Professor Robin Batterham and Ms Neema Premji, who were appointed as Members on 4 August 2014 for a five-year term.
2. The gender ratio of the Australia India Council as at 23 October 2014 was 50 per cent female (not including ex-officio members).

Australia-Indonesia Institute

1. No new board member appointments were made from Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 23 October 2014.
2. The gender ratio of the Australia-Indonesia Institute as at 23 October 2014 was 0 per cent female [100 per cent male] (not including ex-officio members). New appointments including several women nominations are currently under consideration.

Australia International Cultural Council

1. The abolition of the AICC was announced as part of the MYEFO budget process on 15 December 2014.

Australia-Japan Foundation

1. No new board member appointments were made from Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 23 October 2014.
2. The gender ratio of the Australia Japan foundation at 6 June 2014 was 50 per cent female (not including ex-officio members).

Australia Korea Foundation

1. No new board member appointments were made from Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 23 October 2014.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

2. The gender ratio of the Australia Korea Foundation at 23 October 2014 was 50 per cent female (not including ex-officio members).

Australia-Malaysia Institute

1. No new board member appointments were made from Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 23 October 2014.

2. The gender ratio of the Australia-Malaysia Institute at 23 October 2014 was 50 per cent female (not including ex-officio).

Australia-Thailand Institute

1. No new board member appointments were made from Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 23 October 2014.

2. The gender ratio of the Australia-Thailand Institute at 23 October 2014 was 50 per cent female (not including ex-officio members).

Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research – Commission for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR Commission)

ACIAR is responding to a similar question (see QoN 15 from ACIAR).

Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research – Policy Advisory Council

ACIAR is responding to a similar question (see QoN 15 from ACIAR).

Australian National Commission for UNESCO

1. No new board member appointments were made from Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 23 October 2014.

2. The gender ratio of the Australian National Commission for UNESCO at 23 October 2014 was 42.9 per cent female (not including ex-officio members or parliamentary observers).

Council for Australian-Arab Relations

1. No new board member appointments were made from Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 23 October 2014.

. The gender ratio of the Council for Australian-Arab Relations as at 23 October 2014 was 33.3 per cent female (not including ex-officio members).

Council on Australia Latin America Relations (COALAR)

1. No new board member appointments were made from Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 23 October 2014.

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2. The gender ratio of the Council on Australia Latin America Relations (COALAR) at 23 October 2014 was 42.9 per cent female (not including ex-officio members).

Editorial Advisory Board

1. No new board member appointments were made from Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 23 October 2014.

2. The gender ratio of the Editorial Advisory Board at 23 October 2014 was 42.9 per cent female (not including ex-officio members).

Export Finance and Insurance Corporation (EFIC)

1. No new board member appointments were made from Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 23 October 2014.

2. The gender ratio of the Export Finance and Insurance Corporation (EFIC) at 23 October 2014 was 2 female members to 5 male members (not including ex-officio members), which equates to 28.6 per cent female (not including ex-officio members).

New Colombo Plan Reference Group

1. No new board member appointments were made from Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 23 October 2014.

2. The gender ratio of the New Colombo Plan Reference Group at 23 October 2014 was 33.3 per cent female (not including ex-officio members).

Trade and Investment Policy Advisory Council (TIPAC)

1. No new board member appointments were made from Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 23 October 2014.

2. The gender ratio of the Trade and Investment Policy Advisory Council (TIPAC) at 23 October 2014 was 30 per cent (not including ex-officio members).

Tourism Australia Board

Austrade is responding to a similar question (see QoN 17 from Austrade)

Tourism Research and Advisory Board

Austrade is responding to a similar question (see QoN 17 from Austrade).

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 134

Program: DFAT

Topic: Stationery requirements

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. How much has been spent by each department and agency on the government (Ministers / Parliamentary Secretaries) stationery requirements in your portfolio to date?***
 - a. Detail the items provided to the minister's office.***
 - b. Please specify how many reams of paper have been supplied to the Minister's office.***
- 2. How much has been spent on departmental stationery requirements to date.***
- 3. Has any customised stationery been requested or provided to the Minister or Ministerial Staff? If yes, please include a photo/scan, detail the type of stationery, date it was requested, date it was provided and the cost.***

Answer

1. For the period 6 June 2014 to 23 October 2014, the total amount spent by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade on stationery requirements supplied by its contracted stationery supplier for portfolio Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries was \$12,098.
 - a) To answer this would be a significant and unreasonable diversion of resources.
 - b) 240.
2. \$1,192,108 for the period 6 June 2014 to 23 October 2014.
3. No.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 135

Program: DFAT

Topic: Electronic equipment

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. *Other than phones, ipads or computers – please list the electronic equipment provided to the Minister’s office.***
 - a. List the items***
 - b. List the items location or normal location***
 - c. List if the item is in the possession of the office or an individual staff member of minister, if with an individual list their employment classification level***
 - d. List the total cost of the items***
 - e. List an itemised cost breakdown of these items***
 - f. List the date they were provided to the office***
 - g. Note if the items were requested by the office or proactively provided by the department.***

Answer

1a. DFAT also provided laptops, wireless modems and RSA Tokens to Ministerial offices.

1b. Portfolio-related ICT services and equipment are provided for the Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries as follows;

- Offices in **Parliament House** Canberra.
- **Electorate Offices** in Subiaco, Bentleigh and North Mount Gravatt.
- **Commonwealth Parliamentary Offices** in Brisbane and Sydney.

1c. ICT equipment is held in the possession of Ministerial Offices.

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1d. The total cost for procuring ICT equipment for Ministerial offices, which includes, laptops, modems, RSA Tokens is; \$9419.92 (Exclusive GST).

1e. As at 23 October 2014, the cost of purchasing each device is:

Device	Cost per device
Lightweight laptop	\$2151.80 (Exclusive GST)
USB 4G Modem	\$138.18 (Exclusive GST)
RSA Token	\$65.00 (Exclusive GST)

1f. ICT equipment was provided to Ministerial offices between June 2014 and 23 October 2014.

1g. The ICT equipment listed is provided to Ministerial offices as a standard offering by the Department and is determined by business need, typically related to specific job functions such as laptops for travelling Ministerial officers.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 136

Program: DFAT

Topic: Media subscriptions

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. *What pay TV subscriptions does your department/agency have?***
 - a. Please provide a list of channels and the reason for each channel.***
 - b. What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?***
 - c. What is provided to the Minister or their office?***
 - d. What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?***

- 2. *What newspaper subscriptions does your department/agency have?***
 - a. Please provide a list of newspaper subscriptions and the reason for each.***
 - b. What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?***
 - c. What is provided to the Minister or their office?***
 - d. What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?***

- 3. *What magazine subscriptions does your department/agency have?***
 - a. Please provide a list of magazine subscriptions and the reason for each.***
 - b. What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?***
 - c. What is provided to the Minister or their office?***
 - d. What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?***

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- 4. What publications does your department/agency purchase?**
- a. Please provide a list of publications purchased by the department and the reason for each.**
 - b. What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?**
 - c. What is provided to the Minister or their office?**
 - d. What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?**

Answer

1.

a & b. TV subscriptions are decentralised and are managed and budgeted across 95 posts overseas, by seven state and territory offices as well as in Canberra according to varying requirements. Aggregating TV subscriptions and their costs across all DFAT offices, both overseas and in Australia, would represent an unreasonable diversion of resources.

c & d. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade paid \$311.82 ex GST during the period 5 June to 23 October 2014 for basic Foxtel subscriptions in respect of the Office of the Minister for Trade and Investment.

2 & 3.

a & b. Newspaper and magazine subscriptions are decentralised and managed and budgeted by individual work units in Canberra, across 95 posts overseas and by seven state and territory offices, according to their varying requirements. Aggregating subscriptions and their costs across all DFAT offices, both overseas and in Australia, would represent an unreasonable diversion of resources.

c. Given the relevance of their coverage to the Foreign Affairs portfolio, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade has provided the following newspapers and magazines to the Office of the Minister for Foreign Affairs: The Age, The Australian, The Australian Financial Review, The Canberra Times, The Daily Telegraph, The Economist, The Financial Times, The Herald Sun, The Sydney Morning Herald, The West Australian.

Given the relevance of their coverage to the Trade and Investment portfolio, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade has provided the following newspapers and magazines to the Office of the Minister for Trade and Investment: The Adelaide Advertiser, The Age, The Australian, The Australian Financial Review, The Canberra Times, The Courier Mail, The Daily Telegraph, The Economist, The Herald Sun, The Land, The Sydney Morning Herald, The Weekly Times, World Trade Online.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- d. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade paid \$6,314.44 ex GST from 5 June to 23 October 2014 for newspaper and magazine subscriptions for the Offices of the Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Minister for Trade and Investment.
- 4.
- a & b. Purchases of publications are decentralised and managed and budgeted by individual work units in Canberra, across 95 posts overseas and by seven state and territory offices, according to their varying requirements. Aggregating purchases and their costs across all DFAT offices, both overseas and in Australia, would represent an unreasonable diversion of resources.
- c & d. Nil.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 137

Program: DFAT

Topic: Media monitoring

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. *What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office during the specified period?***
 - a. Which agency or agencies provided these services?***
 - b. What has been spent providing these services during the specified period?***
 - c. Itemise these expenses.***
- 2. *What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency during the specified period?***
 - a. Which agency or agencies provided these services?***
 - b. What has been spent providing these services during the specified period?***
 - c. Itemise these expenses.***

Answer

- 1.** Between 5 June and 23 October 2014 the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade paid invoices totaling \$1,497.96 ex GST for the Office of the Minister for Foreign Affairs and \$669.99 ex GST for the Office of the Minister for Trade and Investment for iSentia media monitoring services (transcripts and associated copyright).
- 2.** The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade paid for the following iSentia media monitoring services used by the Department from 5 June to 23 October 2014:
 - i.** Media monitoring and associated copyright: \$111,480.79 ex GST
 - ii.** Transcripts and associated copyright: \$5,814.87 ex GST

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iii. Mediaportal access:	\$4,815.99 ex GST
Total	\$122,111.65 ex GST

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 138

Program: DFAT

Topic: Media training

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. In relation to media training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information:**
 - a. Total spending on these services**
 - b. An itemised cost breakdown of these services**
 - c. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification**
 - d. The number of employees who have utilised these services and their employment classification**
 - e. The names of all service providers engaged**
 - f. The location that this training was provided**

- 2. For each service purchased from a provider listed under (1), please provide:**
 - a. The name and nature of the service purchased**
 - b. Whether the service is one-on-one or group based**
 - c. The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)**
 - d. The total number of hours involved for all employees (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)**
 - e. The total amount spent on the service**
 - f. A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)**

- 3. Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:**
 - a. The location used**
 - b. The number of employees who took part on each occasion**
 - c. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)**
 - d. Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location.**

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Answer

1.
 - a. From 6 June 2014 to 23 October 2014, the Department spent \$7,800 (GST exclusive) on media training services.
 - b. Three training sessions were held; two full-day sessions and one half-day session. The cost of the full-day sessions was \$3,000 (GST exclusive) each and the half-day session was \$1,800 (GST exclusive).
 - c. Media skills training is offered to all SES and EL2 DFAT officers going on posting.
 - d. One SES Band 2, three SES Band 1, four Executive Level 2 and one Executive Level 1 officer.
 - e. Laurie Wilson and Associates was engaged to deliver media training.
 - f. Training was held on-site at the RG Casey Building.

2.
 - a. The media training is titled 'SES Media Skills'.
 - b. The training is delivered in both one-on-one and group-based format, covering media theory and practical interview skills.
 - c. One SES Band 2, three SES Band 1, four Executive Level 2 and one Executive Level 1 officer.
 - d. Training provided totalled approximately 75.5 hours. 7.5 hours SES Band 2, 26.5 hours SES Band 1, 34 hours Executive Level 2 and 7.5 hours Executive Level 1.
 - e. The total amount spent on the service was \$7,800 (GST exclusive)
 - f. The fees were charged as a complete package.

3. No external facilities were used.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 139

Program: DFAT

Topic: G20 - Experience

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Please provide an itemised table of all expenses incurred by the department since September 7, 2013 associated with official G20 and related working group, taskforce, roundtable, Sherpa meetings, workshop and study groups) events, including but not limited to hospitality, accommodation, transport, recreation, merchandise, meals/drinks, catering, security.

For each item, please provide:

- a. The name of the event/meeting that the expense related to.*
- b. The location of the event.*
- c. The date of the event.*
- d. The name and ABN of the service provider.*
- e. Advise whether the contract was awarded through an open tender process.*
- f. The total value of the contract/invoice.*
- g. The date the contract was executed by the Department.*
- h. The number of attendees at the event, if applicable.*
- i. Advise whether an Australian Government Minister was in attendance. Please detail.*
- j. Advise whether foreign delegates were in attendance. Please detail.*

Advise whether the contract/expenditure was approved by the Prime Minister's Office, and if so the date that approval was sought and granted.

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The Department's systems are not structured to provide the level of details sought and to do this manually would be an unreasonable diversion of resources. A summary response is provided in the following table.

The expenditure for the events listed was approved by the appropriate delegate in accordance with the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act (PGPA). No contracts for activities arranged by the Department were approved by the Prime Minister's Office.

A.	B.	C.	D.	E.	F.	G.	H.	I.	J.
Name of the Event	Location of the event	Date of the Event	Name of the service provider	Contract Awarded through an open tender process	The total value of the Event	The date the contract was awarded	The number of attendees at the event	Australian Minister in attendance	Foreign delegates in attendance
First G20 Development Working Group (DWG) Meeting	Sydney	16-17 Dec 2013	Relevant details of all contracts worth more than \$10,000, including service providers and their ABNs, were disclosed on AusTender.	Contracts were awarded in accordance with the Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines for service providers engaged in Australia's G20 host year.	\$91,708	Relevant details of all contracts worth more than \$10,000, including date of contract or invoice, were disclosed on AusTender.	98	No	Yes - 83
Commonwealth & Francophonie G20 Function	Washington DC, US	7 Apr 2014			\$3,961		63	No	Yes - 60
Informal G20 DWG	Washington DC, US	14 Apr 2014			\$3,838		79	No	Yes - 74
Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion (GPII) Workshop	Hobart	5-6 May 2014			The total cost of the GPII, PDADF and the second DWG meeting, which had common service providers, was \$213,516.		62	No	Yes - 53
Post-2015 Development Agenda Discussion Forum (PDADF)	Hobart	7 May 2014					103	No	Yes - 83
Second G20 DWG meeting	Hobart	8-9 May 2014					97	No	Yes - 81

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A.	B.	C.	D.	E.	F.	G.	H.	I.	J.
Name of the Event	Location of the event	Date of the Event	Name of the service provider	Contract Awarded through an open tender process	The total value of the Event	The date the contract was awarded	The number of attendees at the event	Australian Minister in attendance	Foreign delegates in attendance
G20 Roundtable with C20 Representatives	Canberra	7 Jul			\$182		40	Yes - The Hon Julie Bishop and the Hon Kevin Andrews	No
G20 Trade Ministers meeting	Sydney	18-19 Jul			\$1,613,806		267	Yes - The Hon Andrew Robb AO MP	Yes - 216
Development Roundtable with the C20, Y20 and T20	Canberra	13 Aug			\$511		20	No	No
GPMI Forum	Perth	1 Sep 2014			The total cost of the GPMI Forum, the GPMI Plenary meeting and the third DWG meeting, which had common service providers was \$253,310		107	No	Yes - 92
GPMI Plenary meeting	Perth	2 Sep 2014					74	No	Yes - 64
Third G20 DWG meeting	Perth	3-5 Sep 2014					99	No	Yes - 81
Foreign Minister's program at the G20 Summit	Brisbane	15-16 Nov 2014			\$140,337.16		78	Yes – The Hon Julie Bishop	Yes - 38

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 140

Program: DFAT

Topic: Market research

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. *List any market research conducted by the department/agency:***
 - a. *List the total cost of this research***
 - b. *List each item of expenditure and cost, broken down by division and program***
 - c. *Who conducted the research?***
 - d. *How were they identified?***
 - e. *Where was the research conducted?***
 - f. *In what way was the research conducted?***
 - g. *Were focus groups, round tables or other forms of research tools used?***
 - h. *How were participants for these focus groups et al selected?***
 - i. *How was the firm or individual that conducted the review selected?***
 - j. *What input did the Minister have?***
 - k. *How was it approved?***
 - l. *Were other firms or individuals considered? If yes, please detail***

Answer

Market research was conducted between May and July 2014 to inform development of the Smartraveller public information campaign Phase IV, on overseas safety and security. This research was reported in our response to a QON from the June 2014 Budget Estimates (refer to QON 281).

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 141

Program: DFAT

Topic: FOI requests

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

1. How many requests for documents under the FOI Act have been received?

122 requests have been received since 30 June 2014.

a) Of these, how many documents have been determined to be deliberative documents?

Of the 122 FOI requests, two requests have included documents which have involved redactions on grounds of s47C (deliberative matter).

2. Of those assessed as deliberative documents:

a) For how many has access to the document been refused on the basis that it would be contrary to the public interest?

One document has been refused under s47C on the basis that disclosure would reveal deliberative matter.

b) For how many has a redacted document been provided?

Of the two requests identified in Question 1(a), one captured 56 documents. A number of these documents included deliberative material. The department does not record this information at this granularity. These documents were released in part.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 142

Program: DFAT

Topic: Ministerial Motor vehicles

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. *Has the minister been provided with or had access to a motor vehicle?
If so:***
 - a. What is the make and model?***
 - b. How much did it cost?***
 - c. When was it provided?***
 - d. Was the entire cost met by the department? If not, how was the cost met?***
 - e. What, if any, have been the ongoing costs associated with this motor vehicle? Please include costs such as maintenance and fuel.***
 - f. Are these costs met by the department? If not, how are these costs met?***
 - g. Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine if a minister is entitled to a motor vehicle.***
 - h. Have these guidelines changed since Additional Estimates in February, 2014? If so, please detail.***
 - i. Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine how a minister is to use a motor vehicle they have been provided with. Please include details such as whether the motor vehicle can be used for personal uses.***
 - j. Have these guidelines changed since Additional Estimates in February, 2014? If so, please detail.***

Answer

(a), (c) Mr Robb has leased a 2012 Holden Calais since June 2012. As at 23 October 2014, Ms Bishop and Senator Mason were not provided with motor vehicles.

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(b), (d), (e),(f) Between 5 June and 23 October 2014 the department paid \$4,589.52 for the ongoing costs of Mr Robb's vehicle. DFAT did not pay the costs prior to him becoming the Minister for Trade and Investment. In accordance with Part 4.4.5 of the Ministers of State Entitlements Handbook (Travel), DFAT meets the costs of all official Ministerial car transport.

(g)-(h) Ministerial and Parliamentary Services in the Department of Finance issues guidelines relating to ministerial entitlements. The Ministers of State Entitlements Handbook (Travel) was last updated in August 2014.

(i) The use of a vehicle provided to a Minister or Parliamentary Secretary is governed by the Department of Finance's Guidelines on Provision of Private-Plated Vehicles for Senators and Members 2012.

(j) No.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 143

Program: DFAT

Topic: Ministerial Staff vehicles (non-MoPS)

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. *Outside of MoPS Act entitlements, have any of the Minister's staff been provided with a motor vehicle? If so:***
 - a. What is the make and model?***
 - b. How much did it cost?***
 - c. When was it provided?***
 - d. Was the entire cost met by the department? If not, how was the cost met?***
 - e. What, if any, have been the ongoing costs associated with this motor vehicle? Please include costs such as maintenance and fuel.***
 - f. Are these costs met by the department? If not, how are these costs met?***
 - g. Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine this entitlement to a motor vehicle.***
 - h. Have these guidelines changed during the specified period? If so, please detail.***
 - i. Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine how a motor vehicle is to be used that they have been provided with. Please include details such as whether the motor vehicle can be used for personal uses.***
 - j. Have these guidelines changed during the specified period? If so, please detail.***

Answer

No.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 144

Program: DFAT

Topic: Ministerial Staff vehicles

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. *Have any of the Minister's staff been provided with a motor vehicle under the MoPS Act entitlements? If so:***
 - a. What is the make and model?***
 - b. How much did it cost?***
 - c. When was it provided?***
 - d. Was the entire cost met by the department? If not, how was the cost met?***
 - e. What, if any, have been the ongoing costs associated with this motor vehicle? Please include costs such as maintenance and fuel.***
 - f. Are these costs met by the department? If not, how are these costs met?***
 - g. Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine this entitlement to a motor vehicle.***
 - h. Have these guidelines changed during the specified period? If so, please detail.***
 - i. Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine how a motor vehicle is to be used that they have been provided with. Please include details such as whether the motor vehicle can be used for personal uses.***
 - j. Have these guidelines changed during the specified period? If so, please detail.***

Answer

DFAT does not administer or fund entitlements under the MoPS Act. Questions relating to entitlements under the MoPS Act should be directed to the Department of Finance.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 145

Program: DFAT

Topic: Building Lease Costs

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. *What has been the total cost of building leases for the agency / department?***
- 2. *Please provide a detailed list of each building that is currently leased. Please detail by:***
 - a. Date the lease agreement is active from.***
 - b. Date the lease agreement ends.***
 - c. Is the lease expected to be renewed? If not, why not?***
 - d. Location of the building (City and state).***
 - e. Cost of the lease.***
 - f. Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department.***
- 3. *Please provide a detailed list of each building that had a lease that was not renewed during the specified period. Please detail by:***
 - a. Date from which the lease agreement was active.***
 - b. Date the lease agreement ended.***
 - c. Why was the lease not renewed?***
 - d. Location of the building (City and state).***
 - e. Cost of the lease.***
 - f. Why the building was necessary for the operations of the agency / department.***

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- 4. Please provide a detailed list of each building that is expected to be leased in the next 12 months. Please detail by:**
- a. Date the lease agreement is expected to become active.*
 - b. Date the lease agreement is expected to end.*
 - c. Expected location of the building (City and state).*
 - d. Expected cost of the lease.*
 - 1. Has this cost been allocated into the budget?**
 - e. Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department.*
- 5. For each building owned or leased by the department:**
- a. What is the current occupancy rate for the building?*
 - b. If the rate is less than 100%, detail what the remaining being used for.*

Answer

Q No.	Area	Senator	Broad Topic	Question
145	DFAT – OPO	LUDWIG	Building Lease Costs	Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014: 1. What has been the total cost of building leases for the agency / department?
			Answer:	\$13,634,871
145	DFAT – OPO	LUDWIG	Building Lease Costs	2. Please provide a detailed list of each building that is currently leased. Please detail by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Date the lease agreement is active from. b. Date the lease agreement ends. c. Is the lease expected to be renewed? If not, why not? d. Location of the building (City and state).

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						e. Cost of the lease.		f. Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department.		
Response:	Street Address	State	Date Lease agreement is active from	Date the lease agreement ends	Is the lease expected to be renewed?	Cost of lease	Note this cost is from June to Oct, taking into consideration lease of rent, storage, cleaning, car parking and outgoing).			
							Why the Building is necessary			
		RG Casey Building John McEwen Crescent, Canberra	ACT	29/02/2012	28/02/2017	Yes	\$7,615,571.28	DFAT office environment		
		255 London Circuit, Canberra	ACT	04/09/2010	03/09/2022	Yes	\$1,793,266.99	DFAT office environment		
		40 Allara Street, Canberra	ACT	01/08/2011	30/06/2015	Yes	\$543,528.35	DFAT office environment		
		20 Allara Level 12, Canberra	ACT	01/12/2011	31/12/2014	Yes	\$117,680.92	DFAT office environment		
		20 Allara Level 11, Canberra	ACT	01/01/2013	31/12/2014	No – surplus to requirements under integrated Department	\$117,680.92	DFAT office environment		
		20 Allara Level 6,7,8,9, Canberra	ACT	01/01/2007	30/06/2015	To be Confirmed	\$480,825.91	DFAT office environment		
		20 Allara Suite 5.01, Canberra	ACT	22/04/2009	30/06/2015	To be Confirmed	\$177,869.44	DFAT office environment		

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	20 Allara Level 10, Canberra	ACT	01/12/2009	30/06/2015	Yes	\$119,751.52	DFAT office environment
	20 Allara Level 4, Canberra	ACT	01/02/2012	30/06/2015	No – surplus to requirements under integrated Department	\$116,713.88	DFAT office environment
	20 Allara Suite 5.02, Canberra	ACT	01/01/2012	30/06/2015	To be Confirmed	\$186,471.52	DFAT office environment
	20 Allara Level 14, Canberra	ACT	15/08/2007	30/06/2015	No – surplus to requirements under integrated Department	\$86,619.61	DFAT office environment
	40 Macquarie Street, Canberra	ACT	01/07/2013	31/12/2014	No – surplus to requirements under integrated Department	\$127,690.24	DFAT office environment
	44 Sydney Avenue, Canberra	ACT	01/06/2014	31/05/2017	Yes	n/a – current incentive	DFAT office environment
	Level 10 Angel Place 123 Pitt Street	NSW	01/08/2011	31/07/2017	Yes	\$248,681.73	DFAT office environment
	Level 7 26 Lee Street	NSW	01/11/2007	31/10/2017	Yes	\$409,829.54	DFAT office environment
	Sydney International Airport	NSW	01/03/2013	28/02/2018	Yes	\$23,396.93	DFAT safe hand mail

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							storage
Level 1 Deutsche Bank Building 77-79 Hunter Street	NSW	01/06/2014	31/05/2015	Yes	\$31,304.00		DFAT office environment
Levels 16 & 17 150 Charlotte Street	QLD	01/07/2012	30/06/2022	Yes	\$379,421.09		DFAT office environment
Torres Strait Treaty Liaison Office Commonwealth Centre Victoria Parade	QLD	01/03/2012	28/02/2017	Yes	\$13,457.96		DFAT office environment
5th Floor Allianz House 55 Currie Street	SA	01/03/013	28/02/2018	Yes	\$112,614.68		DFAT office environment
5th Floor Northern Territory House 22 Mitchell Street	NT	01/05/2013	30/04/2023	Yes	\$62,779.96		DFAT office environment
Level 1 111 Macquarie Street, Hobart	SA	01/05/2013	30/04/2023	Yes	\$1,052.00		DFAT office environment
Levels 13 & 14 Casselden Place 2 Lonsdale Street	VIC	01/03/2013	31/12/2014	No – Lessor has not agreed to renewal	\$410,679.62		DFAT office environment
747 Collins Street, Docklands	VIC	01/04/2014	04/04/2027	Yes	\$5,563.91		DFAT office environment
Level 17 Exchange Plaza 2 The Esplanade	WA	14/12/201	13/12/2017	No. Likely market will deliver improved accommodation standards at conclusion of existing	\$343,306.42		DFAT office environment

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					lease		
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145	DFAT – OPO	LUDWIG	Building Lease Costs	<p>3. Please provide a detailed list of each building that had a lease that was not renewed during the specified period. Please detail by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Date from which the lease agreement was active. b. Date the lease agreement ended. c. Why was the lease not renewed? d. Location of the building (City and state). e. Cost of the lease. f. Why the building was necessary for the operations of the agency / department. 			
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Response	Street Address	City & State	Date the lease agreement was active	Date the lease agreement ended	Why the lease was not renewed	Why the building was necessary for the operations of the agency/department	Cost of the lease
	York Park Block 2 Section 1 Barton	Canberra ACT	01/12/2002	30/09/2014	Licence agreement terminated by Department of Finance	APS Parking	\$43,857.00 – June to October Only.

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Q No.	Area	Senator	Broad Topic	Question										
145	DFAT – OPO	LUDWIG	Building Lease Costs	<p>4. Please provide a detailed list of each building that is expected to be leased in the next 12 months. Please detail by:</p> <p>a. Date the lease agreement is expected to become active. b. Date the lease agreement is expected to end. c. Expected location of the building (City and state). d. Expected cost of the lease. 1. Has this cost been allocated into the budget? e. Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department.</p>										
Response:				<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Date the lease agreement is expected to become active.</th> <th>Date the lease agreement is expected to end.</th> <th>Expected location of the building (City and state).</th> <th>Has this cost been allocated into the budget?</th> <th>Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Nil</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>Nil</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Date the lease agreement is expected to become active.	Date the lease agreement is expected to end.	Expected location of the building (City and state).	Has this cost been allocated into the budget?	Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Date the lease agreement is expected to become active.	Date the lease agreement is expected to end.	Expected location of the building (City and state).	Has this cost been allocated into the budget?	Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department.										
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil										

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Q No.	Area	Senator	Broad Topic	Question
145	DFAT – OPO	LUDWIG	Building Lease Costs	5. For each building owned or leased by the department: a. What is the current occupancy rate for the building? b. If the rate is less than 100%, detail what the remaining being used for.
Response				
		Building	Occupancy Rate	<100%, what the remaining is being used for
		Canberra - RG Casey Building, John McEwen Cres	93.06%	Non-contiguous work points
		Canberra - 40 Macquarie Street	88.30%	Non-contiguous work points
		Canberra - 255 London Circuit	74.50%	Non-contiguous work points
		Canberra - 20 Allara Street	64.00%	Non-contiguous work points
		Canberra - 40 Allara Street	84.10%	Non-contiguous work points
		Canberra - Walter Turnbull Building, 44 Sydney Avenue	0%	Building not yet occupied, occupation date expected late December 14.
		Newcastle - 77 Hunter Street, Level 1	90%	Non-contiguous work points
		Sydney - Sydney International Airport	100%	
		Sydney - 123 Pitt Street, Level 10	94.10%	Non-contiguous work points
		Sydney - 26 Lee Street, Level 7 & 8	96.10%	Non-contiguous work points

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Brisbane - Level 16 &17, 150 Charlotte Street	95.60%	Non-contiguous work points
Thursday Island - Victoria Parade	100%	
Thursday Island - 33 Chester Street	n/a	Residence.
Melbourne - Level 2, 747 Collins Street	87.1%	Non-contiguous work points
Melbourne - 55 Collins Street	0%	Building not yet occupied, occupation date early December 14.
Melbourne - Levels 13 & 14 Casselden place, 2 Lonsdale St	10%	Melbourne Passport Office has moved to 747 Collins Street and the Victorian State Office are in the process of transitioning to 55 Collins Street ahead of the vacating of this tenancy by 31/12/2014.
Darwin - 22 Mitchell Street - Level 5	93.30%	Non-contiguous work points
Adelaide - 55 Currie Street - Level 5	90.00%	Non-contiguous work points
Hobart - Level 1, 111 Macquarie Street	100%	
Perth - Level 17, Exchange Plaza, 2 The Esplanade	98.30%	Non-contiguous work points

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 146

Program: DFAT

Topic: Government advertising

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. *How much has been spent on government advertising (including job ads)?***
 - a. List each item of expenditure and cost***
 - b. List the approving officer for each item***
 - c. Detail the outlets that were paid for the advertising***

- 2. *What government advertising is planned for the rest of the financial year?***
 - a. List the total expected cost***
 - b. List each item of expenditure and cost***
 - c. List the approving officer for each item***
 - d. Detail the outlets that have been or will be paid for the advertising.***

Answer

1. Between 6 June 2014 and 23 October 2014, the department has spent approximately \$1.23 million on government advertising. This includes advertising for job vacancies (mainly overseas locally engaged staff positions), Smarttraveller, white pages and other public notices.

The above figure includes a large number of transactions and it would entail significant diversion of resources to collate and report individual transaction details. In the circumstances, we do not consider that additional work can be justified.

2. The department's planned government advertising expenditure for 2014-15 is \$2.87 million.

Details and breakup of costs are maintained on individual files across the department's overseas network. To provide these details would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, we do not consider the additional work can be justified.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 147

Program: DFAT

Topic: Workplace assessments

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. How much has been spent on workplace ergonomic assessments?
 - a. List each item of expenditure and cost****
- 2. Have any assessments, not related to an existing disability, resulted in changes to workplace equipment or set up?**
- 3. If so, list each item of expenditure and cost related to those changes.**

Answer

1. Total expenditure on workplace ergonomic assessments since 1 June 2014 is \$22,379.25

a. Monthly totals are as follows:

June 2014	(11 assessments)	\$2,616.25
July 2014	(10 assessments)	\$2,035.00
August 2014	(26 assessments)	\$5,021.00
September 2014	(23 assessments)	\$4,113.00
October 2014	(23 assessments)	\$5,120.00
November 2014	(19 assessments)	\$3,474.00

Total \$22,379.25

2. Assessments, not related to an existing disability, have resulted in changes to workplace equipment or setup. Providing a costing against each item of equipment is an unreasonable diversion of resources.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 148

Program: DFAT

Topic: Ministerial website

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

1. *How much has been spent on the Minister's website?
a. List each item of expenditure and cost*
2. *Who is responsible for uploading information to the Minister's website?*
3. *Have any departmental staff been required to work outside regular hours to maintain the Minister's website? Please detail.*

Answer

1. From 5 June 2014 to 31 October 2014, the Department expended \$11,100 on the Ministers' and Parliamentary Secretary's websites to deliver improved web functionality.

Expenditure is as follows:

Development:	\$7,500
Testing:	\$2,400
Release Management:	\$1,200
Total :	\$11,100

2. No amendment required.
3. The Online Communication Section maintains an out-of-hours staff duty roster to ensure timely updates of material on the departmental, Ministers' and Parliamentary Secretaries' websites.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 149

Program: DFAT

Topic: Existing Resources Program

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. How many projects, work, programs or other tasks has the department started as a consequence of government policies or priorities that are required to be funded 'within existing resources'?***
- 2. List each.***
- 3. List the staffing assigned to each task.***
- 4. What is the nominal total salary cost of the officers assigned to the project?***
- 5. What resources or equipment has been assigned to the project?***

Answer

The department regularly adjusts resource levels across the department according to the Government's priorities, international events, and in response to consular emergencies.

To attempt to provide this level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 150

Program: DFAT

Topic: Multiple tenders

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. *List any tenders that were re-issued or issued multiple times:***
 - a. Why were they re-issued or issued multiple times?***
 - b. Were any applicants received for the tenders before they were re-issued or repeatedly issued?***
 - c. Were those applicants asked to resubmit their tender proposal?***

Answer

1. No tenders have been re-issued or issued multiple times on AusTender since Budget Estimates in June 2014.
 - a. N/A.
 - b. N/A.
 - c. N/A.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 151

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing - Staff Transfers

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. How many people does your department employ?**
- 2. What is the number of staff employed in each state and Territory as at 30 June 2013, and what is their age, gender and classification level?**
- 3. What is the number of staff currently employed in each state and territory, and what is their age, gender and classification level?**
- 4. What functions have been transferred between transferred from one state or territory to another since the federal election in 2013?**
- 5. Can you please provide details by function of the, number of staff employed, the age, gender and classification of staff employed in the function that was transferred, where it was based prior to the transfer and where it was transferred to?**
- 6. with co**
- 7. How many of these people are employed in Canberra?**
- 8. How many people did your department employ in Canberra immediately prior to the 2013 federal election?**
- 9. How many employees have been transferred out of Canberra since the 2013**
- 10. How many of your employees have been transferred to Canberra since the 2013 federal election?**
- 11. For all employees transferred to or from Canberra since the 2013 federal election, please provide their age.**
- 12. For all employees transferred to or from Canberra since the 2013 federal election, please provide their wage. Please provide the figure for before their transfer and after their transfer.**
- 13. For all employees transferred to or from Canberra since the 2013 federal election, please provide their gender.**
- 14. For all employees transferred to or from Canberra since the 2013 federal election, please provide the area of the department they worked in. Please provide this detail for before their transfer and after their transfer.**
- 15. For all employees transferred to or from Canberra since the 2013 federal election, please provide a description of their position. Please provide this detail for before their transfer and after their transfer.**

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- 16. For every transferred employee please provide and explanation for their transfer?**
- 17. For every transferred employee please provide any other cost incurred by the department because of that transfer?**
- 18. Please provide all relevant dates.**

Answer

1. As at 30 September 2014, DFAT employed 3,821 APS staff.
2. As at 30 June 2013, DFAT employed 2,506 APS staff per the following tables:
 - i. Staff headcount by state and territory

Location	APS staff
Canberra	1,551
Overseas Posts	597
State and territory offices	
Queensland	61
Victoria	92
Western Australia	37
New South Wales	82
South Australia	19
Tasmania	7
Northern Territory	9
State & Territory Total	307
Total APS staff	2,506

- ii. Staff headcount by age, gender and classification level

Age	BB1/2	APS6/EL1	EL2	SES	Total
<25	49	1	0	0	50
25-34	369	248	15	0	632
35-44	189	369	147	37	742
45-54	172	267	145	102	686
55 and over	131	142	47	76	396
Total APS staff	910	1,027	354	215	2,506

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Age	Female	Male	Total
<25	28	22	50
25-34	340	292	632
35-44	408	334	742
45-54	354	332	686
55 and over	190	206	396
Total APS Staff	1,320	1,186	2,506

3. As at 30 September 2014, DFAT employed 3,821 APS staff per the following tables:
- i. Staff headcount by state and territory

Location	APS staff
Canberra	2,677
Overseas Posts	844
State and territory offices	
Queensland	57
Victoria	89
Western Australia	44
New South Wales	77
South Australia	18
Tasmania	9
Northern Territory	6
State & Territory Total	300
Total APS staff	3,821

- ii. Staff headcount by age, gender and classification level

Age	BB1/2	APS6/EL1	EL2	SES	Total
<25	49	0	0	0	49
25-34	546	533	19	1	1,099
35-44	230	738	253	47	1,268
45-54	196	406	227	133	962
55 and over	122	174	70	77	443
Total APS staff	1,143	1,851	569	258	3,821

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Age	Female	Male	Total
<25	32	17	49
25-34	667	432	1,099
35-44	748	520	1,268
45-54	506	456	962
55 and over	218	225	443
Total APS staff	2,171	1,650	3,821

4. DFAT has not transferred any of its functions between states or territories since the federal election in 2013.
5. Not applicable.
6. Not applicable.
7. Not applicable.
8. DFAT employed 1,552 staff in Canberra immediately prior to the 2013 federal election.

Questions 9 through to 18 are not applicable as DFAT has not transferred any functions.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 152

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing - Redundancies

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Redundancies

- 1. How many positions have been made redundant in your department since the 2013 federal election?**
 - a) How many of these positions were ongoing?**
 - b) How many of these positions were non-ongoing?**
 - c) How many of these positions were situated in the Australian Capital Territory?**

- 2. How many of the employees filling these redundant positions were redeployed since the 2013 federal election?**
 - a) How many of these employees were ongoing?**
 - b) How many of these employees were non-ongoing?**
 - c) How many of these employees were situated in the Australian Capital Territory?**

- 3. How many of these employees were offered voluntary redundancies since the 2013 federal election?**
 - a) How many of these employees were ongoing?**
 - b) How many of these employees were non-ongoing?**
 - c) How many of these employees were situated in the Australian Capital Territory?**

- 4. How many accepted voluntary redundancies since the 2013 federal election?**
 - a) How many of these employees were ongoing?**
 - b) How many of these employees were non-ongoing?**

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- c) **How many of these employees were situated in the Australian Capital Territory?**
5. **How many employees were offered the choice between a voluntary redundancy and redeployment since the 2013 federal election?**
- a) **How many of these employees were ongoing?**
b) **How many of these employees were non-ongoing?**
c) **How many of these employees were situated in the Australian Capital Territory?**
6. **For all employees who accepted voluntary redundancies since the 2013 federal election please:**
- a) **Provide a dollar figure of their pay out, their age, gender and a description of their position including APS level, contract type (non-ongoing versus ongoing), responsibilities and where they were located.**
b) **Please specify what component of that figure was paid out entitlements (annual leave etc).**
c) **Please specify any other costs incurred by the department because of this redundancy.**
d) **Please provide the reason a voluntary redundancy was offered for their position.**
e) **Please provide all relevant dates.**
7. **For all employees who were redeployed please provide:**
- a) **Their age, gender and a description of their position prior to and after redeployment, including the wages of these positions, the APS level of these positions, the contract type (non-ongoing versus ongoing) and where they were located.**
b) **Please specify any other costs incurred by the department because of this redeployment.**
c) **Please provide the reason for that redeployment.**
d) **Please provide all relevant dates.**
8. **Since the 2013 federal election, how many employees in your department have been made forcibly redundant?**
- a) **How many of these employees were ongoing?**
b) **How many of these employees were non-ongoing?**
c) **How many of these employees were situated in the Australian Capital Territory?**
9. **How many of these employees were offered voluntary redundancies or redeployments prior to being made forcibly redundant?**

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- a) **How many of these employees were ongoing?**
 - b) **How many of these employees were non-ongoing?**
 - c) **How many of these employees were situated in the Australian Capital Territory?**
- 10. For employees who were made forcibly redundant since the 2013 federal election please provide:**
- a) **Their age, gender, the dollar figure of their pay out and a description of their position including APS level, contract type (non-ongoing versus ongoing) responsibilities and where they were located.**
 - b) **Please specify what component of that figure was paid out entitlements (annual leave etc).**
 - c) **Please specify any other costs incurred by the department because of this redundancy.**
 - d) **Please provide the reason for that redundancy.**
 - e) **Please provide all relevant dates.**

Answer

1. The department has committed to reducing by approximately 500 positions from 1 July 2013 to 1 July 2015. This will be achieved through natural attrition, cessation of non-ongoing contracts, and voluntary redundancy. As at 31 October 2014, 334 employees exited the department through voluntary redundancies. The department transitioned progressively to integrated structures for both Australia and overseas posts during the period 31 October 2013 and 1 July 2014.
 - a. All positions were ongoing.
 - b. Nil were non-ongoing.
 - c. The majority of positions were located in Canberra.
2. All employees were encouraged to apply in the placements round if affected by restructures within their work units.
 - a. All positions were ongoing.
 - b. Nil were non-ongoing.
 - c. The majority of positions were located in Canberra.
3. A total of 334 non-SES employees were formally offered voluntary redundancy and 18 SES employees were offered an incentive to retire.
 - a. all employees were ongoing
 - b. nil non-ongoing employees
 - c. a total of 287 were situated in the Australian Capital Territory

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4. A total of 332 non-SES employees accepted voluntary redundancy and 18 SES employees accepted an incentive to retire.
5. The voluntary redundancy program has been running in conjunction with internal placement rounds where employees are encouraged to apply for vacant positions within the department.
6. (a) For privacy reasons, individual details are not provided for each employee. As at 31 October 2014, redundancy payments to non-SES employees and incentive to retire payments to SES employees totalled \$22,295,206 (not including payments for accrued leave entitlements). The average redundancy payment to non-SES employees was \$66,520 and the average incentive to retire payment to SES employees was \$125,412.

The employees taking redundancies came from a wide range of areas across the department. Given the large number, it is not possible to provide individual job descriptions for each employee. All employees who accepted a voluntary redundancy were employed on an ongoing basis.

Classification level	Male	Female	Total
SES	12	6	18
EL2	26	27	53
EL1	53	89	142
APS6	21	48	69
APS4 & 5	14	49	63
APS 1 – 3	3	2	5
Total	129	221	350

Age-group (years)	No. of Employees
20 <30	24
30<40	80
40<50	61
50<60	117
60<70	68
Total	350

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Location	No. of Employees
Canberra	287
Other Australian Capital Cities	22
Overseas	41
Total	350

b) A total of \$12,338,227 payments have been made to employees for accrued entitlements (annual leave and long service leave).

c) The department provides employees with reimbursement of up to \$517 to assist employees to access financial advice when considering a voluntary redundancy. As at 31 October 2014, a total of 87 employees accessed this assistance at a total cost of \$41,000.

d) The aim of the department's VR program is to supplement natural attrition in order to achieve a staffing profile that will support the integration of foreign affairs, trade and development functions.

e) The voluntary redundancy program was launched in November 2013 and future calls for expressions of interest were made in April 2014 and June 2014.

7. N/A.

8. Nil.

9. N/A.

10. N/A.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 153

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing - Hiring

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Hiring

- 1. *How many people are employed in your department on non-ongoing contracts?***
- 2. *How many people are employed in your department on ongoing contracts?***
- 3. *How many non-ongoing contracts has your department extended since the 2013 federal election?***
- 4. *How many non-ongoing contract extensions did your department submit the Public Service Commission for approval?***
- 5. *How many of these extensions were approved by the Public Service Commission?***
 - a. *For every approved extension please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, their length of continuous employment by the APS, the length of approved extension, the reasons why the extensions was submitted and the reasons why the extension was approved by the Public Service Commission, as well as all relevant dates.***
- 6. *How many of these extensions were rejected by the Public Service Commission?***
 - a. *For every rejected extension please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, their length of continuous employment by the APS, the length of extension sought by the department, the reasons why the extensions was submitted and the reasons why the extension was rejected by the Public Service Commission, as well as all relevant dates.***

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

7. ***How many non-ongoing contracts have been extended by your department without the Public Service Commission's approval?***
 - a. ***For every unapproved extension please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, their length of continuous employment by the APS, the length of the unapproved extension, the reasons why the extension was granted, whether the extension was submitted to the Public Service Commission for approval, and the reasons why the extension was granted without the approval of the Public Service Commission, as well as all relevant dates.***
8. ***How many non-ongoing contracts have expired without extension since the 2013 federal election?***
 - a. ***For every expired non-ongoing contract please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, their length of continuous employment by the APS, the reason why an extension was not sought, as well as all relevant dates.***
9. ***How many new employees have been engaged by your department on non-ongoing contracts since the 2013 federal election?***
10. ***How many new non-ongoing engagements were submitted to the Public Service Commission for approval since the 2014 federal election?***
11. ***How many of these new non-ongoing engagements were approved by the Public Service Commission?***
 - a. ***For every approved new engagement of a non-ongoing employee please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, the length of their non-ongoing contract, whether this position was advertised externally, the reason for engaging this new employee and the reason given by the Public Service Commission for approving this engagement, as well as all relevant dates relating to this application.***
12. ***How many of these new non-ongoing employee applications were rejected by the Public Service Commission?***
 - a. ***For every new non-ongoing engagement rejected by the Public Service Commission please provide the following details: APS level, a description of their job, the length of their non-ongoing contract, the reason for engaging the new employee and the reason given by the Public Service Commission for rejecting this engagement, as well as all relevant dates relating to this application.***

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13. ***How many new employees have been engaged on non-ongoing contracts without the approval of the Public Service Commission?***
 - a. ***For every non-ongoing employee engaged without the Public Service Commission's approval please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, the length of their non-ongoing contract, whether this position was advertised externally, the reason for engaging this new employee and the reason for engaging this employee without the Public Service Commission's approval, as well as all relevant dates.***
14. ***How many new employees have been engaged by your department on ongoing contracts since the 2013 federal election?***
15. ***How many new ongoing engagements were submitted to the Public Service Commission for approval since the 2013 federal election?***
16. ***How many of these new ongoing engagements were approved by the Public Service Commission?***
 - a. ***For every approved new engagement of a ongoing employee please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, the length of their ongoing contract, whether this position was advertised externally, the reason for engaging this new employee and the reason given by the Public Service Commission for approving this engagement, as well as all relevant dates relating to this application.***
17. ***How many of these new ongoing employee applications were rejected by the Public Service Commission?***
 - a. ***For every new ongoing engagement rejected by the Public Service Commission please provide the following details: APS level, a description of their job, the length of their ongoing contract, the reason for engaging the new employee and the reason given by the Public Service Commission for rejecting this engagement, as well as all relevant dates relating to this application.***
18. ***How many new employees have been engaged on ongoing contracts without the approval of the Public Service Commission?***
 - a. ***For every ongoing employee engaged without the Public Service Commission's approval please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, the length of their ongoing contract, whether this position was advertised externally, the reason for engaging this new employee and the reason for engaging this employee without the Public Service Commission's approval, as well as all relevant dates.***

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Answer

1. At 30 September 2014, the department had 91 APS staff on non-ongoing contracts.
2. At 30 September 2014, the department had 3,730 ongoing APS staff.
3. 63 non-ongoing APS contracts have been extended since the 2013 federal election.
4. Not applicable. The revised guidelines for APS recruitment issued by the APSC requires extensions of non-ongoing APS contracts to be approved by the department's Secretary.
5. Not applicable.
6. Not applicable.
7. Not applicable.
8. 143 non-ongoing APS contracts have expired, without extension, since the 2013 federal election.
9. 43 new employees have been engaged by the department on non-ongoing contracts since the 2013 federal election.
10. Not applicable.
11. Not applicable.
12. Not applicable.
13. Not applicable.
14. 58 new employees have been engaged by the department on ongoing contracts since the 2013 federal election.
15. Not applicable.
16. Not applicable.
17. Not applicable.
18. Not applicable.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 154

Program: DFAT

Topic: Departmental upgrades

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. *Has the department/agency engaged in any new refurbishments, upgrades or changes to their building or facilities?***
 - a. If so, list these***
 - b. If so, list the total cost for these changes***
 - c. If so, list the itemised cost for each item of expenditure***
 - d. If so, who conducted the works?***
 - e. If so, list the process for identifying who would conduct these works***
 - f. If so, when are the works expected to be completed?***

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Answer

Answer:	Project Description <small>(If so, list these)</small>	Project Cost exc. GST <small>(If so, list the total cost for these changes)</small>	Cost Breakup exc. GST - costs are estimated for projects not yet completed <small>(If so, list the itemised cost for each item of expenditure)</small>	Project Management Company <small>(If so, who conducted the works?)</small>	Tender/Quotation Process <small>(If so, list the process for identifying who would conduct these works)</small>	Completion Date <small>(If so, when are the works expected to be completed?)</small>
	Brisbane Customer Service Area Refurbishment	\$344,756.00	Architect & Services Consultants - \$20,000, Head Contractor - \$320,000 Project Management Fees - \$24,756	DTZ	Quotation Process	Anticipated completion by June 2015
	Secondary Crisis Centre Upgrade	\$ 291,199.47	Architect & Service Consultants - \$34,270.00 Head Works Contractor - \$236,461.21 Project Management Fees - \$ 20,468.26	DTZ	Quotation Process	Anticipated completion by Dec 2015
	Adelaide Passport Office Alter	\$52,194.00	Design & Construct Head Works Contractor - \$47,492.00 Project Management Fees - \$ 4,702.00	DTZ	Quotation Process	Anticipated completion by Dec 2014
	Darwin State office Refurbishment	Estimated \$800,000	Architect & Services Consultants - \$65,000 Head Works Contractor - \$655,000 Project Management Fees – \$80,000	DTZ	Quotation process	Anticipated Completion March 2015

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	Perth SO Office 9 Alteration	\$36,049.40BO	Design & Construct Head Works Contractor - \$32,802.00 Project Management Fees - \$ 3,247.40	DTZ	Quotation Process	Anticipated completion by Jan 2015
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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 155

Program: DFAT

Topic: Wine coolers / Fridges

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. Has the department/agency purchased or leased any new wine coolers, or wine fridges or other devices for the purpose of housing alcohol beverages, including Eskies?***
 - a. If so, list these***
 - b. If so, list the total cost for these items***
 - c. If so, list the itemised cost for each item of expenditure***
 - d. If so, where were these purchased***
 - e. If so, list the process for identifying how they would be purchased***
 - f. If so, what is the current location for these items?***
 - g. If so, what is the current stocking level for each of these items?***

Answer

The Department purchases wine coolers, wine fridges and other devices for the purpose of housing alcohol beverages in the overseas network for representational and entertainment purposes. Details of these purchases are maintained on individual files across the Department's overseas network. To provide these details would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, we do not consider the additional work can be justified.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 156

Program: DFAT

Topic: Office plants

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. Has the department/agency purchased or leased any office plants?***
 - a. If so, list these***
 - b. If so, list the total cost for these items***
 - c. If so, list the itemised cost for each item of expenditure***
 - d. If so, where were these purchased***
 - e. If so, list the process for identifying how they would be purchased***
 - f. If so, what is the current location for these items?***

Answer

Information on DFAT expenditure on new office plants is not separately recorded. To provide details of new plants that have been purchased or leased would entail an unreasonable diversion of resources.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 157

Program: DFAT

Topic: Office recreational facilities

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. Has the department/agency purchased or leased or constructed any office recreation facilities, activities or games (including but not limited to pool tables, table tennis tables or others)?***
 - a) If so, list these***
 - b) If so, list the total cost for these items***
 - c) If so, list the itemised cost for each item of expenditure***
 - d) If so, where were these purchased***
 - e) If so, list the process for identifying how they would be purchased***
 - f) If so, what is the current location for these items?***
 - g) If so, what is the current usage for each of these items?***

Answer

The department has not constructed any office recreational facilities since June 2014. The department does not keep centralised records for the purchase or lease of recreational facilities, activities or games. To gather this information would involve a lengthy process and would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 158

Program: DFAT

Topic: Vending machines

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

1. *Has the department/agency purchased or leased or taken under contract any vending machine facilities?*
 - a) *If so, list these*
 - b) *If so, list the total cost for these items*
 - c) *If so, list the itemised cost for each item of expenditure*
 - d) *If so, where were these purchased*
 - e) *If so, list the process for identifying how they would be purchased*
 - f) *If so, what is the current location for these items?*
 - g) *If so, what is the current usage for each of these items?*

Answer

No.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 159

Program: DFAT

Topic: Legal costs

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. List all legal costs incurred by the department or agency***
- 2. List the total cost for these items, broken down by source of legal advice, hours retained or taken to prepare the advice and the level of counsel used in preparing the advice, whether the advice was internal or external***
- 3. List cost spend briefing Counsel, broken down by hours spent briefing, whether it was direct or indirect briefing, the gender ratio of Counsel, how each Counsel was engaged (departmental, ministerial)***
- 4. How was each piece of advice procured? Detail the method of identifying legal advice.***

Answer

1, 2 & 3. The Department is obliged under s11.1 (da) of the *Legal Services Directions 2005* to report to the Office of Legal Services Coordination (OLSC), within 60 days after the end of each financial year, about the legal services expenditure and legal work of the agency.

The total expenditure by the Department for the 1 July 2014 – 31 October 2014 period is \$572,809.

It would be an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources to separately task relevant areas of the Department and external law firms in order to answer this question beyond what is already being done in order to meet OLSC reporting requirements.

To the extent that the Question on Notice requires information beyond that provided in OLSC reporting, such information will be collected as part of the exercise described above and provided when available.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

4. From 1 June 2013 the Department has been utilising the Commonwealth whole-of-government Legal Services Multi-Use List for the procuring of external legal advice in Australia.

External legal service providers are selected on the basis of best value for money, including relevant expertise.

The Legal Services Directions state that legal work is tied to the Australian Government Solicitor and the Attorney-General's Department if it involves:

- constitutional law issues
- national security issues, or
- Cabinet work.

Overseas posts obtain external legal advice from those local firms which have established the necessary expertise and level of service.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 160

Program: DFAT

Topic: Lobbyist Register Meetings

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. List all interactions between the department/agency with any representative listed on the lobbyist register*
- 2. List the participants in the meeting, the topic of the discussion, who arranged or requested the meeting, the location of the meeting*
- 3. List all interactions between the Minister/parliamentary Secretary and/or their offices with any representative listed on the lobbyist register during the specified period. List the participants in the meeting, the topic of the discussion, who arranged or requested the meeting, the location of the meeting.*

Answer

1-2. The Department does not have, and is not required to maintain, a list including all interactions with individual lobbyists listed on the Register of Lobbyists maintained by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

3. Details of meetings attended by Ministers or the Parliamentary Secretary are a question for Ministers or the Parliamentary Secretary.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 161

Program: DFAT

Topic: Provision equipment - departmental

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. Has electronic equipment (such as ipad, laptop, wireless card, vasco token, blackberry, mobile phone (list type if relevant), thumb drive, video cameras) been provided by the department/agency to departmental staff? If yes provide a list of:***
- 2. What has been provided?***
- 3. The purchase cost.***
- 4. The ongoing cost.***
- 5. A list of any accessories provided for the equipment and the cost of those accessories. (e.g. iPad keyboards, laptop carry bags, additional chargers etc).***
- 6. A breakdown of what staff and staff classification receives each item.***

Answer

1. Yes.
2. See: Table .1. column 1;
3. See: Table .1. column 2;
4. See: Table .1. column 3;
5. See: Table .1. column 4;
6. The department has supplied (in column 5) the eligibility requirements for access to departmental electronic equipment (such as: ipad, laptop, wireless card, vasco token, blackberry, mobile phone, thumb drive, video cameras).

It is not possible to provide a more detailed breakdown of what staff and staff classification receives each item. This would constitute an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.

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Table 1.

Question 2 Device	Question 3 Purchase Cost	Question 4 Ongoing Cost	Question 5 Accessories	Question 6 Staff that are eligible to receive equipment
iPad	\$749.00	None, usage only if Data SIM installed.	iPad covers are issued with the iPad (using old stock for AusAID). No new purchases have been made of accessories since June 2014	SES and above eligible. Staff at others level require business case
iPhone (5)	\$875.00	Usage costs only	No accessories provided.	SES and above eligible. Staff at others level require business case
Blackberry's (Z30)	\$ 649.00	Usage costs only	No accessories provided.	SES and above eligible. Staff at others level require business case
USB Modem	\$138.18	Usage costs only	No accessories provided.	SES and above eligible. Staff at others level require business case
Satellite Phones	\$1,194.46	Usage costs only	No accessories provided.	Supplied to post depending on size of the post.
Laptop - Samsung Series 9 Ultrabook	\$2,151.80	None	Accessories will be provided on request.	All staff with an approved business case

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 162

Program: DFAT

Topic: Ministerial staff turnover

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. List the current staffing allocation for each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary**
- 2. For each Minister or Parliamentary Secretary list the number of staff recruited, broken down by their staffing classification**
- 3. For each Minister or Parliamentary Secretary list the number of staff that have resigned, broken down by their staffing classification**
- 4. For each Minister or Parliamentary Secretary list the number of staff that have been terminated, broken down by their staffing classification**
- 5. For each Ministerial staff position, please provide a table of how many individual people have been engaged against each position since the swearing in of the Abbott Government, broken down by employing member and the dates of their employment.**

Answer

Ministerial staff are employed under the *Members of Parliament Staff Act 1984* (MoPS Act) which is administered by the Department of Finance. Enquiries on the status of employees should be directed to the Department of Finance.

Departmental Liaison Officers (DLOs) are also included in the staffing allocation for each office. As at 23 October 2014 the offices of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Minister for Trade and Investment and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Foreign Affairs had the following DLO allocations:

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Office	Position	Employing member	Commencement Date	End Date
Office of the Minister for Foreign Affairs	DLO	DFAT	16 September 2013	-
	DLO	DFAT	14 October 2013	-
Office of the Minister for Trade and Investment	DFAT DLO	DFAT	4 November 2013	-
		DFAT	18 September 2013	4 November 2013
	Austrade DLO	Austrade	2 December 2013	-
		Austrade	18 September 2013	29 November 2013
Office of the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Foreign Affairs	DLO	DFAT	28 May 2014	-
		DFAT	04 October 2013	28 May 2014
		DFAT	25 September 2013	16 October 2013

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 163

Program: DFAT

Topic: Unallocated Equipment

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. Please detail how much electrical equipment, phones and computers the department/agency has in storage or unallocated to staff***
- 2. Please detail the purchase, storage and ongoing costs associated with equipment, phones and computers in storage or unallocated.***

Answer

1. As at 17 November 2014 DFAT held 452 pallets of ICT equipment in an off-site storage facility, comprising: satellite dishes, racks and enclosures, servers, printers, multi-function devices, uninterruptable powers supplies, routers and switches, desktop personal computers and cabling. No phones are held in storage.

The breakdown of ICT equipment captures the department's current fleet management requirements for upcoming deployments and critical replacement components to maintain a secure global network supporting 172 sites and over 47 other government agencies.

The breakdown of equipment and associated costs is spread across a wide range of project and maintenance activity, funding lines and asset management cycles. Some of the pallets represent depreciated ICT equipment returned from overseas and are being prepared for disposal.

2. The total annual cost for the off-site storage facility in 2013-14 was \$0.153m.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 164

Program: DFAT

Topic: Communications staff

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

1. *For all departments and agencies, please provide – in relation to all public relations, communications and media staff – the following:*
 1. *How many ongoing staff, the classification, the type of work they undertake and their location.*
 2. *How many non-ongoing staff, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location*
 3. *How many contractors, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location*
 4. *How many are graphic designers?*
 5. *How many are media managers?*
 6. *How many organise events?*

Answer

1. The table below details the number of ongoing staff in the Department's Public Diplomacy and Communications Division (PCD), as at 30 September 2014 by classification, who spent the majority of their time on public relations, communications and media functions. They supported activities which included website management, media liaison, public outreach and advocacy, historical publications and event management. Staff who work in parliamentary engagement, who have been previously included in these totals, are no longer included.

APS Classification	Ongoing staff
SES	1
EL2	4
EL1	9
APS6	12
BB2 (APS4/5)	7
Total	33

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2. Nil.

3. Nil.

4. Nil.

5. As at 30 September 2014, there were six media liaison officers in PCD.

6. Departmental staff in Australia and across the Department's overseas network undertake a range of duties which may include organisation of events as part of the Department's diplomatic and public-diplomacy functions. To quantify the number of staff who help organise events would represent an unreasonable diversion of resources.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 165

Program: DFAT

Topic: Red tape reduction

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. Please detail what structures, officials, offices, units, taskforce or other processes has the department dedicated to meeting the government's red tape reduction targets?*
- 2. What is the progress of that red tape reduction target*
- 3. How many officers have been placed in those units and at what level?*
- 4. How have they been recruited?*
- 5. What process was used for their appointment?*
- 6. What is the total cost of this unit?*
- 7. What is the estimated total salary cost of the officers assigned to the unit. _*
- 8. Do members of the unit have access to cabinet documents?*
- 9. Lease list the security classification and date the classification was issued for each officer, broken down by APS or SES level, in the red tape reduction unit or similar body._*
- 10. What is the formal name given to this unit/taskforce/team/workgroup or agency within the department?*

Answer

1. The Department has established a deregulation unit (DU) for the foreign affairs and trade portfolio. The DU is the central contact point within the portfolio for guidance on the deregulation agenda and regulatory impact analysis processes, and has responsibility for driving red tape reduction across the portfolio. The DU conducts regular meetings with portfolio regulators to consult on progress towards meeting the Government's red tape reduction target.
2. The Department is making progress towards the Government's red tape reduction target.
3. Four officers (one SES Band 1, one EL2, one EL1, one APS4).
4. No additional recruitment was undertaken.

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5. Officers were drawn from existing resources within the Department's Executive Branch, which is responsible for portfolio coordination.
6. Funded from within existing resources.
7. Officers undertake work for the DU in addition to their other duties.
8. Yes.
9. All staff have appropriate security clearances.
10. Deregulation Unit.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 166

Program: DFAT

Topic: Land costs

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. *How much land (if any) does the Department or agencies or authorities or Government corporation within each portfolio own or lease?***
- 2. *Please list by each individual land holding, the size of the piece of land, the location of that piece of land and the latest valuation of that piece of land, where that land is owned or leased by the Department, or agency or authority or Government Corporation within that portfolio? (In regards to this question please ignore land upon which Australian Defence force bases are located. Non Defence Force base land is to be included)***
- 3. *List the current assets, items or purse (buildings, facilities or other) on the land identified above.***
 - a) *What is the current occupancy level and occupant of the items identified in (3)?***
 - b) *What is the value of the items identified in (3)?***
 - c) *What contractual or other arrangements are in place for the items identified in (3)?***

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

4. *How many buildings (if any) does the Department or agencies or authorities or Government Corporation within each portfolio own or lease?*
5. *Please list by each building owned, its name, the size of the building in terms of square metres, the location of that of that building and the latest valuation of that building, where that building is owned by the Department, or agency or authority or Government corporation within that portfolio? (In regards to this question please ignore buildings that are situated on Australian Defence force bases. Non Defence Force base buildings are to be included).*
6. *In regards to any building identified in Q4, please also detail, the occupancy rate as expressed as a percentage of the building size. If occupancy is identified as less than 100%, for what is the remaining space used?*

Answer

Q No.	Area	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Response
166	DFAT – OPO	LUDWIG	Land costs	1. How much land (if any) does the Department or agencies or authorities or Government corporation within each portfolio own or lease?	1 owned land with residence.
				2. Please list by each individual land holding, the size of the piece of land, the location of that piece of land and the latest valuation of that piece of land, where that land is owned or leased by the Department, or agency or authority or Government Corporation within that portfolio? (In regards to this question please ignore land upon which Australian Defence force bases are located. Non Defence Force base land is to be included)	33 Chester Street, Thursday Island
					Size
				Valuation	Land Valuation \$325,000.00

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				<p>3. List the current assets, items or purse (buildings, facilities or other) on the land identified above.</p> <p>a. What is the current occupancy level and occupant of the items identified in (3)?</p> <p>b. What is the value of the items identified in (3)?</p> <p>c. What contractual or other arrangements are in place for the items identified in (3)?</p>	<p>33 Chester Street, Thursday Island</p>	
					Occupancy Level:	4 Bedroom House, 1 Occupant
					Value:	\$525,000
					Contractual Arrangements:	DTZ is contractor as an outsourced property management provider. No further contracts are in place.
				4. How many buildings (if any) does the Department or agencies or authorities or Government Corporation within each portfolio own or lease?	18 leased, 1 owned.	
				5. Please list by each building owned, its name , the size of the building in terms of square metres, the location of that of that building and the latest valuation of that building, where that building is owned by the Department, or agency or authority or Government corporation within that portfolio? (In regards to this question please ignore buildings that are situated on Australian Defence force bases. Non Defence Force base buildings are to be included).	Name/Location	33 Chester Street, Thursday Island, QLD
					Size	300m2
					Valuation	\$525,000
				6. In regards to any building identified in Q4, please also detail, the occupancy rate as expressed as a percentage of the building size. If occupancy is identified as less than 100%, for what is the remaining space used?	n/a – residence.	

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

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Question No 167

Program: DFAT

Topic: Ministerial Staff Code of Conduct

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

1. *Have there been any identified breaches of the Ministerial Staff Code of Conduct by the Minister, their office or the department?*
 - a) *If so, list the breaches identified, broken by staffing classification level*
 - b) *If so, what remedy was put in place to manage the breach? If no remedy has been put in place, why not?*
 - c) *If so, when was the breach identified? By whom? When was the Minister made aware?*
2. *Can the Minister confirm that all ministerial and electorate officers in their office comply fully with the ministerial staff code of conduct?*
 - a) *If not, how many staff don't comply, broken down by classification level?*
 - b) *How long have they worked for the Minister?*
3. *Can you confirm they all complied with the code on the date of their employment?*
 - a) *If not, on what date did they comply?*
4. *Can you confirm that all disclosures as required by the code were made to the government staffing committee?*

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- a) If so, on what date were those disclosure made?*
- 5. *By position title list the date each staff member was approved by government staff committee***
- 6. *Can you confirm all staff have divested themselves of any and all relevant shares as of the date of their appointment***
- 7. *Can you list by number if any staff have been granted exception by the SMOS to remain a director of a company as allowed by the Ministerial Staff Code of Conduct, break down by position level.***

Answer

Ministerial staff are employed under the Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984 which is the responsibility of the Department of Finance.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 168

Program: DFAT

Topic: Boards (for Departments or agencies with boards)

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014 for each board in the portfolio or agencies:

- 1. how often has each board met, break down by board name;*
- 2. what travel expenses have been incurred;*
- 3. what has been the average attendance at board meetings;*
- 4. List each member's attendance at meetings;*
- 5. how does the board deal with conflict of interest;*
- 6. what conflicts of interest have been registered;*
- 7. what remuneration has been provided to board members;*
- 8. how does the board dismiss board members who do not meet attendance standards?*
- 9. Have any requests been made to ministers to dismiss board members?*
- 10. Please list board members who have attended less than 51% of meetings*
- 11. what have been the catering costs for the board meetings held during this period? Please break down the cost list.*

Answer

Answers are based on meetings held between 6 June and 23 October 2014 and are broken down by board name below:

Australia Awards

Body ceased on 1 July 2014.

Australia International Cultural Council

The abolition of the AICC was announced as part of the MYEFO budget process on 15 December 2014.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Australia-China Council (ACC)

1. The Australia-China Council Board has met once since 6 June 2014, on 17 September 2014.
2. Secretariat covers flights, accommodation, meals and taxi/transfers to meetings for board members.
3. 86 per cent average attendance at board meetings.
4. Each Board Member's attendance at meetings since 6 June is as follows:
Present at Meeting on 17 September 2014
Warwick Smith (Chair)
Stephanie Fahey (Deputy Chair)
Suhanya Raffel
Vicki Thomson
Frank Tudor
David Olsson
Apologies: Sandra Harding
5. Refer to response to June 2014 Budget Estimates QoN 287.
6. No conflicts of interest were recorded at the meeting held on 17 September 2014.
7. Sitting fees, travel and accommodation expenses in accordance with Australian Government Remuneration Tribunal Determinations (currently 2014-08) for part-time holders of public offices. Ex officio members do not receive sitting fees and are paid the travel allowance they would normally receive in the course of their work.
8. Refer to response to June 2014 Budget Estimates QoN 287.
9. Refer to response to June 2014 Budget Estimates QoN 287.
10. Sandra Harding was not able to attend the meeting held on 17 September 2014.
11. Catering cost was \$1,091.86 for the meeting held on 17 September 2014 covering morning/afternoon tea and lunch with soft drinks.

Australia-Korea Foundation (AKF)

1. The Australia-Korea Foundation Board has not met since 6 June 2014.
2. Secretariat covers flights, accommodation, meals and taxi/transfers to meetings for board members.
3. Not applicable.
4. Not applicable.
5. Refer to response to June 2014 Budget Estimates QoN 287.
6. Not applicable.
7. Sitting fees, travel and accommodation expenses in accordance with Australian Government Remuneration Tribunal Determinations (currently

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2014-08) for part-time holders of public offices. Ex officio members do not receive sitting fees and are paid the travel allowance they would normally receive in the course of their work.

8. Refer to response to June 2014 Budget Estimates QoN 287.
9. Refer to response to June 2014 Budget Estimates QoN 287.
10. Not applicable.
11. Not applicable.

Australia-Japan Foundation (AJF)

1. The Australia-Japan Foundation Board has not met since 6 June 2014.
2. Secretariat covers flights, accommodation, meals and taxi/transfers to meetings for board members.
3. Not applicable.
4. Not applicable.
5. Refer to response to June 2014 Budget Estimates QoN 287.
6. Not applicable.
7. Sitting fees, travel and accommodation expenses in accordance with Australian Government Remuneration Tribunal Determinations (currently 2014-08) for part-time holders of public offices. Ex officio members do not receive sitting fees and are paid the travel allowance they would normally receive in the course of their work.
8. Refer to response to June 2014 Budget Estimates QoN 287.
9. Refer to response to June 2014 Budget Estimates QoN 287.
10. Not applicable.
11. Not applicable.

Australia-Indonesia Institute (AII)

1. The Australia-Indonesia Institute Board has met once since 6 June 2014, on 10 September 2014.
2. Secretariat covers flights, accommodation, meals and taxi/transfers to and from meetings for board members.
3. 80 per cent average attendance at board meetings.
4. Each Board Member's attendance at meetings since 6 June is as follows:
Present at Meeting on 10 September 2014
Prof Tim Lindsey, Chair
Prof Clare Martin
Mr Andrew Donovan
Mr Greg Sheridan
Apologies: Prof Bruce Robinson
5. Refer to response to June 2014 Budget Estimates QoN 287.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

6. One conflict of interest was recorded at the meeting held on 10 September 2014. The Chair declared a conflict of interest with the selection of the Muslim Exchange Program manager due to a previous working relationship.
7. Sitting fees, travel and accommodation expenses in accordance with Australian Government Remuneration Tribunal Determinations (currently 2014-08) for part-time holders of public offices. Ex officio members do not receive sitting fees and are paid the travel allowance they would normally receive in the course of their work.
8. Refer to response to June 2014 Budget Estimates QoN 287.
9. Refer to response to June 2014 Budget Estimates QoN 287.
10. Prof Bruce Robinson was not able to attend the meeting held on 10 September 2014.
11. Catering cost was \$520 for the meeting held on 10 September 2014, covering morning/afternoon tea and lunch with soft drinks.

Australia-India Council (AIC)

1. The Australia-India Council Board has met once since 6 June 2014, on 19 September 2014.
2. The Secretariat covers flights, accommodation, meals and taxi/transfers to meetings for board members.
3. 83 per cent average attendance at board meetings.
4. Each Board Member's attendance at meetings since 6 June is as follows:
Present at Meeting on 19 September 2014

Mr Ashok Jacob (Chair)
Professor Robin Batterham
Ms Neema Premji
Professor Gillian Whitlock
Ms Payal Mahindroo

Apologies: Mr Michael Kasprowicz

5. Refer to response to June 2014 Budget Estimates QoN 287.
6. No conflicts of interest were reported at the meeting held on 19 September 2014.
7. Sitting fees, travel and accommodation expenses in accordance with Australian Government Remuneration Tribunal Determinations (currently 2014-08) for part-time holders of public offices. Ex officio members do not receive sitting fees and are paid the travel allowance they would normally receive in the course of their work.
8. Refer to response to June 2014 Budget Estimates QoN 287.
9. Refer to response to June 2014 Budget Estimates QoN 287.
10. Mr Michael Kasprowicz was not able to attend the meeting held on 19 September 2014.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

11. Catering cost was \$371.25 for the meeting held on 19 September 2014, covering morning tea, sandwiches and fruit for lunch.

Australia-Malaysia Institute (AMI)

1. The Australia-Malaysia Institute Board has met twice since 6 June 2014, on 12 June 2014 and via teleconference on 23 September 2014.
2. Secretariat covers flights, accommodation, meals and taxi/transfers to meetings for board members.
3. 62.5 per cent average attendance at board meetings.
4. Each Board Member's attendance at meetings since 6 June is as follows:

Present at Meeting on 12 June 2014

Prof Lance Twomey AO, Chair

Mr Christian Bennett

Ms Geraldine Doogue AO

Ms Kathe Kirby

Dr Gaik Cheng Koo

Apologies: Mr Talal Yassine OAM; Mr Kee Wong; Ms Rechelle Hawkes OAM

Present at Meeting (teleconference) on 23 September 2014

Prof Lance Twomey AO, Chair

Ms Geraldine Doogue AO

Ms Kathe Kirby

Ms Rechelle Hawkes OAM

Mr Kee Wong

Apologies: Mr Talal Yassine OAM; Mr Christian Bennett; Dr Gaik Cheng Koo

5. Refer to response to June 2014 Budget Estimates QoN 287.
6. Two conflicts of interest were recorded at the meeting held on 23 September 2014. Kathe Kirby and Kee Wong declared a conflict of interest regarding the Review of the Australian-ASEAN Emerging Leaders Program (A2ELP) due to their association with the previous A2ELP contractor.
7. Sitting fees, travel and accommodation expenses in accordance with Australian Government Remuneration Tribunal Determinations (currently 2014-08) for part-time holders of public offices. Ex officio members do not receive sitting fees and are paid the travel allowance that they would normally receive in the course of their work.
8. Refer to response to June 2014 Budget Estimates QoN 287.
9. Refer to response to June 2014 Budget Estimates QoN 287.
10. Mr Talal Yassine OAM was not able to attend the meetings held on 12 June 2014 and 23 September 2014. Mr Kee Wong and Ms Rechelle Hawkes OAM were not able to attend the meeting held on 12 June 2014. Mr Christian

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Bennett and Dr Gaik Cheng Koo were not able to attend the meeting held on 23 September 2014.

11. Catering cost was \$766 for the meeting held on 12 June 2014, covering morning/afternoon tea and lunch with soft drinks.

Australia-Thailand Institute (ATI)

1. The Australia-Thailand Institute Board has met twice since 6 June 2014, via teleconference on 16 June 2014 and on 22 August 2014.
2. Secretariat covers flights, accommodation, meals and taxi/transfers to meetings for Board members.
3. 87.5 per cent average attendance at board meetings.
4. Each Board Member's attendance at meetings since 6 June is as follows:

Present at Meeting on 16 June 2014

Mr Mike Courtnall, Chair

Dr Kaye Eldridge

Ms Annette Ellis

Ms Dusadee Coulson

Mr John Hancock

Mr Jim Middleton

Ms Margie West AM

Apologies: Mr Michael Laverty

Present at meeting on 22 August 2014

Mr Mike Courtnall, Chair

Dr Kaye Eldridge

Ms Annette Ellis

Mr Michael Laverty

Mr John Hancock

Mr Jim Middleton

Ms Margie West AM

Apologies: Ms Dusadee Coulson

5. Refer to response to June 2014 Budget Estimates QoN 287.
6. One conflict of interest was recorded at the meeting held on 16 June 2014 and also on 22 August 2014. (At both meetings Mike Courtnall, Chair declared a conflict of interest with the BRIDGE program, due to his appointment as a member of the advisory board of the BRIDGE program).
7. Sitting fees, travel and accommodation expenses in accordance with Australian Government Remuneration Tribunal Determinations (currently 2014-08) for part-time holders of public offices. Ex officio members do not receive sitting fees and are paid the travel allowance they would normally receive in the course of their work.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

8. Refer to response to June 2014 Budget Estimates QoN 287.
9. Refer to response to June 2014 Budget Estimates QoN 287.
10. Mr Michael Laverty was not able to attend the meeting held on 16 June 2014. Ms Dusadee Coulson was not able to attend the meeting held on 22 August 2014.
11. Catering cost was \$1,759 for for the meeting held on 22 August 2014, covering morning/afternoon tea, and a working lunch with soft drinks was provided for the Board and guests (25 teachers and Thai Ministry Education officials from the BRIDGE program).

Council on Australia Latin America Relations (COALAR)

1. The COALAR Board has met once since 6 June 2014, on 2 September 2014.
2. Secretariat covers flights, accommodation, meals and taxi/transfers to meetings for board members.
3. 80 per cent average attendance at board meetings.
4. Each Board Member's attendance at meetings since 6 June is as follows:
Present at meeting on 2 September 2014

Mr Chris Gale, Chair

Ms Robyn Archer

Ms Jane McKeon

Mr Tim McLennan

Mr Victor Pertou

Apologies: Mr Christian Bennett, Dr Anna Ciccarelli

5. Refer to response to June 2014 Budget Estimates QoN 287.
6. One conflict of interest was reported at the meeting held on 2 September 2014. It was in relation to assessment of a grant application and the Board member did not contribute to the assessment of that application.
7. Sitting fees, travel and accommodation expenses in accordance with Australian Government Remuneration Tribunal Determinations (currently 2014-08) for part-time holders of public offices. Ex officio members do not receive sitting fees and are paid the travel allowance they would normally receive in the course of their work.
8. Refer to response to June 2014 Budget Estimates QoN 287.
9. Refer to response to June 2014 Budget Estimates QoN 287.
10. Mr Christian Bennett and Dr Anna Ciccarelli were not able to attend the meeting held on 2 September 2014.
11. Catering cost was \$362.96 for the meeting held on 2 September 2014, covering tea/coffee/juice, sandwiches, fruit and morning/afternoon tea (provided for 10 persons, including ex-officio board members and invited guest speakers).

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Council for Australia-Arab Relations (CAAR)

1. The CAAR Board has met twice since 6 June 2014, on 20 June 2014 and 18 September 2014.
2. Secretariat covers flights, accommodation, meals and taxi/transfers to meetings for board members.
3. 88.19 per cent average attendance at board meetings.
4. Each Board Member's attendance at meetings since 6 June is as follows:

Present at meeting on 20 June 2014

Mr Talal Yassine OAM

Dr Glen Simpson

Roland Jabbour Esq JP

Dr Anne Aly

Hon Mark Vaile AO

Ms Debra Counsell

Mr Grame Barty (ex-officio)

Ms Susan Grace (A/g ex-officio)

Apologies: Mrs Aziza Abdel Halim AM

Present at meeting on 18 September 2014

Mr Talal Yassine OAM

Dr Glen Simpson

Dr Anne Aly

Hon Mark Vaile AO

Ms Debra Counsell

Mr Grame Barty (ex-officio)

Ms Susan Grace (A/g ex-officio)

Apologies: Roland Jabbour Esq JP

5. Refer to response to June 2014 Budget Estimates QoN 287.
6. One conflict of interest was reported at the meeting held on 20 June 2014. Mr Roland Jabbour noted that he sat on the board of the Australia Arab Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Two conflicts of interest were noted for the 18 September Board meeting. The Chair declared a conflict of interest regarding a grant application from the Australia-Saudi Business Council (ASBC). The Chair explained the ASBC was seeking funding from CAAR to support numerous events, including one that his company (Crescent Wealth) was involved with. The Deputy Chair declared a conflict of interest regarding a grant application from Adelaide University due to his seat on the Adelaide University Commercialisation Board.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

7. Sitting fees, travel and accommodation expenses in accordance with Australian Government Remuneration Tribunal Determinations (currently 2014-08) for part-time holders of public offices. Ex officio members do not receive sitting fees and are paid the travel allowance they would normally receive in the course of their work.
8. Refer to response to June 2014 Budget Estimates QoN 287.
9. Refer to response to June 2014 Budget Estimates QoN 287.
10. Roland Jabbour Esq JP was not able to attend the meeting held on 18 September 2014. Mrs Aziza Abdel Halim AM attended less than 50per cent of the meetings held. Mrs Abdel Halim tendered her resignation from the Board to the Foreign Minister prior to the Board meeting held 18 September 2014.
11. Catering cost was \$272.63 for the meeting held on 20 June 2014, covering morning tea platter, fruit platter, sandwiches and juice.
Catering cost was \$175.40 for the meeting held on 18 September 2014, covering coffee/juice, sandwiches and afternoon tea platter.

Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research – Commission for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR Commission)

ACIAR is responding to a similar question (see QoN 48 from ACIAR)

Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research – Policy Advisory Council (PAC)

ACIAR is responding to a similar question (see QoN 48 from ACIAR)

Australian National Commission for UNESCO

1. The UNESCO Board has met once since 6 June 2014, on 20 June 2014.
2. Secretariat covers flights, accommodation, meals and taxi/transfers to meetings for board members.
3. There was 85.7 per cent attendance at the board meeting on 20 June 2014 (excluding ex officio members and parliamentary observers).
4. Each Board Member's attendance at meetings since 6 June is as follows:
Ms Annmaree O'Keeffe (one meeting); Mr Martin Hadlow (one meeting); Ms Chrissy Grant (one meeting); Professor Abdullah Saeed (one meeting); Professor Margaret Sheil (one meeting); Mr Craig Roy (one meeting); Mr Benson Saulo (no meetings)
5. Refer to response to June 2014 Budget Estimates QoN 287.
6. No conflicts of interest were recorded at the meeting held on 20 June 2014.

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7. Travel and accommodation expenses and annual fee for chair in accordance with Australian Government Remuneration Tribunal Determinations (currently 2014-08) for part-time holders of public offices.
8. Refer to response to June 2014 Budget Estimates QoN 287.
9. Refer to response to June 2014 Budget Estimates QoN 287.
10. Not applicable
11. Catering cost was \$495.22 for meeting held on 20 June 2014 covering food, tea/coffee/juice and linen.

Editorial Advisory Board

1. The Editorial Advisory Board has not met since 6 June 2014.
2. Secretariat covers flights, accommodation, meals and taxi/transfers to meetings for board members.
3. Not applicable.
4. Not applicable.
5. Refer to response to June 2014 Budget Estimates QoN 287.
6. Not applicable.
7. Travel and accommodation expenses and annual fee for chair in accordance with Australian Government Remuneration Tribunal Determinations (currently 2014-08) for part-time holders of public offices.
8. Refer to response to June 2014 Budget Estimates QoN 287.
9. Refer to response to June 2014 Budget Estimates QoN 287.
10. Not applicable
11. Not applicable.

Export Finance and Insurance Corporation (EFIC)

See EFIC response to QoN 257.

New Colombo Plan Reference Group

1. The NCP Reference Group has met twice since June 2014, on 14 July 2014 and 20 October 2014.
2. Secretariat covers flights, accommodation and taxi/transfers to meetings for board members.

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3. 76.5 per cent average attendance at board meetings
4. Each Board Member's attendance at meetings since 6 June is as follows:
Present at meeting on 14 July 2014
Mr Robert Griew, Prof. Sandra Harding, Mr Kevin McCann, Ms Suzette Corr, Mr Trevor Goddard, The Hon Phil Honeywood, Mr Rob Malicki, Mr Tom Williams, Prof Krishna Sen
Apologies: Ms Vicki Thomson, Prof Kent Anderson, Prof Paul Wellings, The Hon. Warwick Smith
Present at meeting on 20 October 2014
Mr Robert Griew (by proxy), Prof Sandra Harding, Mr Kevin McCann, Ms Suzette Corr, Mr Trevor Goddard, The Hon Phil Honeywood, Mr Rob Malicki, Mr Tom Williams, Ms Vicki Thomson, Prof Kent Anderson, Prof Paul Wellings
Apologies: The Hon Warwick Smith, Prof Krishna Sen
5. Refer to response to June Budget Estimates QoN 287.
6. Nil
7. Travel and accommodation expenses and annual fee for chair in accordance with Australian Government Remuneration Tribunal Determinations (currently 2014-08) for part-time holders of public offices.
8. Refer to response to June Budget Estimates QoN 287.
9. Refer to response to June Budget Estimates QoN 287.
10. Since June 2014 Budget Estimates, The Hon Warwick Smith has been unavailable to attend both meetings, and Professor Krishna Sen has been unavailable for one meeting.
11. Catering cost was \$27.50 for the meeting held on 14 July 2014 and \$40.00 for the meeting held on 20 October. Both covered coffee/tea only.

Trade and Investment Policy Advisory Council (TIPAC)

- 1 The Trade and Investment Policy Advisory Council (TIPAC) has not met since Budget Estimates in June 2014. Refer to response to June Budget Estimates QoN 287 for meeting held on 6 June, 2014.
- 2 The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) can reimburse members' domestic travel costs on request. Any costs will be covered in accordance with Departmental Guidelines.
- 3 Not applicable.
- 4 Not applicable.
- 5 Refer to response to June Budget Estimates QoN 287.
- 6 All TIPAC members have registered conflicts of interest regarding their membership of other boards or organisations.
- 7 Refer to response to June Budget Estimates QoN 287.

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8 Refer to response to June Budget Estimates QoN 287.

9 Refer to response to June Budget Estimates QoN 287.

10 Not applicable.

11 Not applicable.

Tourism Australia Board

Austrade is responding to a similar question (see QoN 52 from Austrade)

Tourism Research and Advisory Board

Austrade is responding to a similar question (see QoN 52 from Austrade)

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 169

Program: DFAT

Topic: Shared resources following MOG changes

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. Following the Machinery of Government changes does the department share any goods/services/accommodation with other departments?***
- 2. What resources/services does the department share with other departments; are there plans to cease sharing the sharing of these resources/services?***
- 3. What were the costs to the department prior to the Machinery of Government changes for these shared resources? What are the estimated costs after the ceasing of shared resource arrangements?***

Answer

1. The department provides management and administrative services to other Australian Government agencies at our overseas missions. This ensures consistency and efficient use of resources and avoids duplication of effort in accordance with the Prime Minister's Directive: Guidelines for the Management of the Australian Government Presence Overseas.
2. The main services the department shares with other departments are management and administrative services, information and communications technology (ICT) services, and property. There are no plans to cease delivery of these services.
3. Nil in both cases.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 170

Program: DFAT

Topic: Departmental Rebranding

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

1. *Has the department/Agency undergone a name change or any other form of rebranding since Additional Estimates in February, 2014? If so:*
 - a) *Please detail why this name change / rebrand were considered necessary and a justified use of departmental funds?*
 - b) *Please provide a copy of any reports that were commissioned to study the benefits and costs associated with the rebranding.*
 - c) *Please provide the total cost associated with this rebrand and then break down by amount spent replacing:*
 - i. *Signage.*
 - ii. *Stationery (please include details of existing stationery and how it was disposed of).*
 - iii. *Logos*
 - iv. *Consultancy*
 - v. *Any relevant IT changes.*
 - vi. *Office reconfiguration.*
2. *How was the decision reached to rename and/or rebrand the department?*
 - a) *Who was involved in reaching this decision? ii. Please provide a copy of any communication (including but not limited to emails, letters, memos, notes etc) from within the department, or between the department and the government regarding the rename/rebranding.*

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Answer

1. No. The name of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade has not changed, nor have any other forms of re-branding taken place, since February 2014.
2. Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 171

Program: DFAT

Topic: Contracts under \$10,000

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

Please provide a detailed list of all contracts entered into that are worth between \$4,000 and \$10,000.

Answer

To provide details of consultancies and contracts awarded valued at less than \$10,000 would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, we do not consider the additional work can be justified. Details of contracts valued at or above \$10,000 are available on AusTender.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question: 172

Program: DFAT

Topic: Freedom of Information

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

The following questions relate to requests made pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (the Act):

Consultations with other Departments, Agencies and the Minister

- 1. Other than for the purpose of discussing a transfer under section 16 of the Act, does the Department consult or inform other Departments or Agencies when it receives Freedom of Information requests?**

In line with FOI legislation, the Department consults as necessary with other departments or agencies where (a) the subject matter of the request is closely connected to the functions of another department or agency or (b) where relevant material identified within the department has been generated by another department or agency.

- 2. If so, for each instance provide a table setting out the following information:**

- a) The Department or Agency which was consulted;**
- b) The document;**
- c) The purpose of the consultation;**
- d) Whether an extension of time was sought from the applicant to allow time for the consultation, including whether it was granted and the length of the extension;**
- e) Whether an extension of time was sought from the Information Commissioner to allow time for the consultation, including whether it was granted and the length of the extension**

The Department does not record this information. To attempt to provide this level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.

- 3. Other than for the purposes of discussing a transfer under section 16 of the Act, has the Department consulted or informed the Minister's office about Freedom of Information requests it has received?**

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The Department consults portfolio Ministers where the subject matter of the FOI request involves the portfolio Minister's personal information or where documents originate from their office.

Ministers may be informed of FOI cases considered sensitive and likely to attract media interest. In those instances where Ministers are informed of the Department's decision, the advice is given after the access decision has been made but prior to the release of documentation to the applicant.

4. If yes, provide a table setting out the following information:

- a) The requests with respect to which the Minister or Ministerial office was consulted;**
- b) The Minister or Ministerial office which was consulted;**
- c) The purpose of the consultation;**
- d) Whether an extension of time was sought from the applicant to allow time for the consultation, including whether it was granted and the length of the extension;**
- e) Whether an extension of time was sought from the Information Commissioner to allow time for the consultation, including whether it was granted and the length of the extension**
- f) Whether any briefings (including formal briefs, email briefings and verbal briefings) were provided to the Minister's office**

Response to question 4	
A	Nil – The department has not consulted either minister since June 2014
B	Nil
C	Nil
D	Nil
E	Nil
F	<i>See question 3</i>

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Staffing resources

The following questions relate to the period from 18 September 2013:

- 5. For the period of time from 18 September 2013, what was the average FTE is allocated to processing FOI requests?**

The Department combines its FOI and privacy legislation responsibilities in the Freedom of Information and Privacy Law Section. The section is supervised by an Assistant Secretary and currently has the equivalent of 8 full time staff. Decision-making responsibilities are shared by SES officers in line areas responsible for the subject matter captured by a particular request.

FOI Disclosure Log

- 6. For the purposes of meeting its obligations under 11C of the Act, does the Department or Agency:**

- a) Maintain a webpage allowing download of documents released under section 11A (direct download)?**

Yes.

- b) Require individuals to contact the Department or Agency to ask for the provision of those documents (request for provision)?**

In some limited cases, such as court case documents from another country which does not routinely make them public

- c) Facilitate to those documents in a different manner (if so, specify).**

N/A.

- 7. If the Department or Agency has moved from a system of meetings its 11C obligations by direct download, to a system of meeting those obligations by request for provision, provide the following information:**

The Department publishes documents released under FOI on its FOI disclosure log, except those containing personal or business information.

- a) The dates for which documents were made available for direct download, and the dates for which documents were made available through request for provision;**

Date of access for direct download					
13-Nov-14	3-Oct-14	29-Jul-14	6-Mar-14	19-Dec-13	16-Oct-13
31-Oct-14	25-Sep-14	28-Jul-14	21-Feb-14	18-Dec-13	
31-Oct-14	22-Sep-14	11-Jul-14	20-Feb-14	11-Dec-13	
24-Oct-14	4-Sep-14	3-Jul-14	4-Feb-14	9-Dec-13	
17-Oct-	15-Aug-14	10-Apr-	3-Feb-14	22-Nov-13	

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14		14			
9-Oct-14	4-Aug-14	2-Apr-14	24-Jan-14	11-Nov-13	
8-Oct-14	30-Jul-14	7-Mar-14	2-Jan-14	24-Oct-13	

Documents were made available through request for provision
22-Sep-14

b) The total number of direct downloads of documents released under 11A the Departmental or Agency website;

Direct download											
14/2054 6	11	14/2805 6	48	14/1309 0	88	13/2036 5	30 2	13/2023 8	271	12/1608	28 3
14/3627 7	43	14/2045 8	72	14/2051 4	83	14/1052	18 1	1310- F687	300		
14/2934 9	36	14/1462 8	52	14/1480 1	112	13/1983 4	43 6	13/1937 7	329		
14/3573 9	34	14/1596 5	19 6	14/2091 1	109	13/1898 2	66 3	13/1910 5	376		
14/3206 9	285	14/2139 4	10 0	14/5553	159	13/1870 9	46 4	13/1562 6	648		
14/2621 3	42	14/1370 8	14 8	13/1831 1	266	13/1877 2	41 8	13/1756 2	541		
14/2647 2	46	14/1666 4	72	14/4161	170	13/1592 4	28 1	13/1688 8	246		

Documents were made available through request for provision
1

c) The total number of requests for provision to documents that had been directly received, and how many had been processed by [date]?

Not applicable.

d) What was the average FTE allocated to monitoring incoming email, collating and forwarding documents providing under a request for provision?

Not applicable.

e) What was the approximate cost for salaries for the FTE staff allocated to this task?

Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

8. Has the Department or Agency charged any for access to a document under section 11C(4)?

No.

9. If so, please provide the following information in a table:

- a) On how many occasions charges have been imposed;**
- b) The amount charged for each document**
- c) The total amount charged;**
- d) What is the highest charge that has been imposed.**

N/A.

With respect to FOI requests:

10. How many documents were assessed (at internal review or - if internal review was not requested - by the original decision maker) as conditionally exempt?

The Department does not record this information. To attempt to provide this level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.

11. Of those, how many were:

- a) Released in full**
- b) Released in part**
- c) Refused access on the grounds that release of the document would be contrary to the public interest**

The Department does not record this information. To attempt to provide this level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 173

Program: DFAT

Topic: Prequalified, Multi-use list tenders

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. Does the Department/Agency have existing prequalified or multi-use list panels for tenders?**
- 2. Please list all Prequalified or Multi-use list panels, and the firms on them, compiled or used by the department/agency?**
- 3. Do any of your EL or higher staff have interest- financial or otherwise - in any of the firms on your panels?**
- 4. Do any Ministerial staff have directorships in any of the firms on your panels?**
- 5. Do any Ministerial staff have interest- financial or otherwise in any of the firms on your panel?**
- 6. Have the minister or ministerial staff made representations concerning the panels?**
- 7. Is Australian Public Affairs on any of your panels?**

Answer

1. No.
2. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) uses the Legal Services MUL managed by Attorney-General's Department, the Communications MUL managed by the Department of Finance and the Design, Production and Distribution Services MUL managed by the Department of Human Services. Details of these MULs and firms on them can be found on AusTender.
3. There are a range of firms on the panels listed above. APS employees must disclose, and take reasonable steps to avoid, any conflict of interest (real or apparent) in connection with APS employment. DFAT has systems in place which require SES Employees and higher duty EL2s to submit an annual disclosure of private, financial and other interests form. Other EL employees are required to

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submit a disclosure form annually if occupying a “designated position”. For all other staff, a declaration is required where staff consider their private, financial or other interests might influence or be seen to influence the decisions or actions they take or the advice they provide in connection with their official duties. Any conflict of interest is considered on a case-by-case basis.

4-5. DFAT does not collect declarations of private, financial or other interests from Ministerial staff on the basis they are not DFAT employees.

6. DFAT is not aware of any.

7. No.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 174

Program: DFAT

Topic: Senate estimates briefing

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. How many officers have been responsible for preparing the department, agency, Minister or representing Minister's briefing pack for the purposes of senate estimates?*
- 2. How many officer hours were spent on preparing that information?
a. Please break down the hours by officer APS classification*
- 3. Were drafts shown to the Minister or their office before senate estimates? a. If so, when did this occur? b. How many versions of this information were shown to the minister or their office?*
- 4. Did the minister or their office make any contributions, edits or suggestions for departmental changes to this information?
a. If so, when did this occur?
b. What officer hours were spent on making these edits? Please break down the hours by officer APS classification.
c. When were the changes made?*
- 5. Provide each of the contents page of the Department/Minister/representing Minister's Senate Estimates folder prepared by the department for the Additional Estimates hearings in February 2014.*

Answer

1. Officers across the Department prepared briefing material for the Supplementary Senate Estimates hearing. No briefing pack was prepared solely for ministerial use. Briefing material prepared for the Secretary of the Department was provided to Senator the Hon George Brandis QC, who represented the Minister for Foreign

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Affairs, and to Senator the Hon Mathias Cormann, who represented the Minister for Trade and Investment.

2. As foreign and trade policy matters vary from day to day and briefing material was prepared by officers across the Department, there is no way of calculating time spent preparing Senate Estimates briefing material.

3. In the days preceding the Supplementary Estimates hearing, briefing material prepared for the Secretary was provided to Senator the Hon George Brandis QC, who represented the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and to Senator the Hon Mathias Cormann, who represented the Minister for Trade and Investment.

4. No.

5. In accordance with long standing practice, it is not appropriate to provide briefing material prepared for the Secretary.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 175

Program: DFAT

Topic: Advertising

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. How much has the Department/Agency spent on Advertising? Including through the use of agencies.*
- 2. Please detail each advertising campaign including its cost, where the advertising appeared, production costs, who approved, ministerial or ministerial staff involvement in commissioning.*
- 3. Provide copies of approvals, including but not limited to, approvals made by the Prime Minister or his delegate, the Minister of their delegate or the department or their delegate.*

Answer

Refer to QON 146.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 176

Program: DFAT

Topic: Departmental Staff Misconduct

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. Please provide a copy of the departmental staff code of conduct.***
- 2. Have there been any identified breaches of this code of conduct by departmental staff?***
 - a. If yes, list the breaches identified, broken by staffing classification level.***
 - b. If yes, what remedy was put in place to manage the breach? If no remedy has been put in place, why not?***
 - c. If yes, when was the breach identified? By whom? When was the Minister made aware?***
 - d. If yes, were there any legal ramifications for the department or staff member? Please detail.***

Answer

1. Link to Departmental Staff Code of Conduct: <http://www.dfat.gov.au/publications/conduct-ethics/#intro>
2. There have been no identified breaches of this code of conduct by departmental staff since June 2014.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 177

Program: DFAT

Topic: Cloud Services and Storage

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. Is the department using or planning to use cloud digital services (e.g. storage, computer software access etc)? If yes:**
- 2. What date did/will cloud services be deployed in the department?**
- 3. Please provide a list of all cloud services in use or being considered for use.**
- 4. How much do these services cost? Please break down by service.**
- 5. How much cloud storage (in gigabytes) is available for departmental use? What percentage of the available total is in use?**
- 6. How much does this cloud storage cost per month?**
- 7. What security arrangements are in place to protect cloud based services and storage?**
- 8. Have any security analysts been employed / contracted to advise on the implementation and upkeep of these security arrangements?**
- 9. What has been the cost of security for the cloud? Please provide a breakdown.**

Answer

1. Yes.
2. The department commenced using cloud services in 2014.
3. Three cloud services are currently in use or being considered by the department:
 - WordPress; and
 - VioCorp digital asset management solution.

The department has also recently released a tender on AusTender for services that includes a cloud component.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

4. WordPress: \$99 for an annual subscription.

VioCorp digital asset management solution: Initial account establishment fee \$12,500. Annual subscription \$55,000.

Costs for the tender are not known yet as the tender is currently.

5. WordPress: 13 GB total capacity, minimal usage as the service has just been acquired.

6. VioCorp digital asset management solution: 3 TB total capacity, minimal usage as the service has just been acquired.

Cloud storage capacity will be determined for the tendered requirement in conjunction with the finalisation of contractual arrangements and therefore is not yet defined.

7. WordPress and VioCorp digital asset management service is an annual subscription

The tendered cloud storage costs per month are not yet defined.

8. WordPress and VioCorp digital asset management solution have a corresponding security risk management plan.

Security arrangements for the open tender will be determined in conjunction with the finalisation of contractual arrangements.

9. Security analysts have not been employed / contracted for the cloud solutions.

10. Internal ICT security resourcing was leveraged to conduct product security assessments, at a cost of less than \$5,000.

Please provide a list of all premises owned, leased or otherwise operated by the department / agency which do not yet comply with the Disability Discrimination Act (through The Disability (Access to Premises - Buildings) Standards 2010)				The year in which it was purchased / leased / rented (and if lease / rental agreement, when it expires)		What plans are in place to make the premises compliant with the act.	When these plans will commence and when they are expected to be complete	Has the Minister or the minister's office been informed of these plans	What is the expected cost of making the premises compliant? Please breakdown the costs	Have any plans to make any premises compliant been cancelled, put on hold or delayed since September 7, 2013?	Have any complaints been lodged with regard to the premises not being compliant?	
City	Address	Building Name	Level	Current Lease Start	Lease Finish	DDA Compliance Status						
Canberra	John McEwen Crescent	RG Casey Building	all	29/02/2012	28/02/2017	Complied with the requirements under Disability Discrimination Act 1992 at the time DFAT undertook the original fitout				No	No notice of complaint has been received	
	255 London Circuit		all	4/09/2010	3/09/2022	Complied with the requirements under Disability Discrimination Act 1992 at the time DFAT undertook the original fitout				No	No notice of complaint has been received	
	20 Allara Street			12	1/01/2011	31/12/2014	Complied with the requirements under Disability Discrimination Act 1992 at the time DFAT undertook the original fitout				No	No notice of complaint has been received
				11	1/01/2013	31/12/2014						
				6,7,8&9	1/01/2007	30/06/2015						
				5.01	22/04/2009	30/06/2015						
				10	1/12/2009	30/06/2015						
				4	1/02/2012	30/06/2015						
5.02	1/01/2012	30/06/2015										
14	15/08/2007	30/06/2015										
40 Allara Street				1/08/2011	30/05/2015	Complied with the requirements under Disability Discrimination Act 1992 at the time DFAT undertook the original fitout				No	No notice of complaint has been received	
44 Sydney Avenue	Walter Turnbull Building			1/06/2014	31/05/2017	The tenancy will comply with legislative requirements under The Disability Standards 2010 on completion of the fitout works currently being undertaken prior to DFAT commencing occupancy. Expected completion of fitout works is 31/12/2014.				No	No notice of complaint has been received	
40 Macquarie Street	Maddocks House			1/07/2013	31/12/2014	DFAT occupied these premises having an existing fitout. The status under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 is not known.	These premises are surplus to requirements under the Integrated Department. The lease, which expires on 31/12/2014, will not be renewed			No	No notice of complaint has been received	
Sydney	123 Pitt Street	Angel Place	10	1/08/2011	31/07/2017	Complied with the requirements under Disability Discrimination Act 1992 at the time DFAT undertook the original fitout				No	No notice of complaint has been received	
	26-30 Lee Street	Gateway House	7&8	1/11/2007	31/10/2017	Complied with the requirements under Disability Discrimination Act 1992 at the time DFAT undertook the original fitout				No	No notice of complaint has been received	
	Sydney International Airport			1/03/2013	28/02/2018	Complied with the requirements under Disability Discrimination Act 1992 at the time DFAT undertook the original fitout				No	No notice of complaint has been received	
Newcastle	77-79 Hunter Street		1	1/06/2014	31/03/2015	Complied with the requirements under Disability Discrimination Act 1992 at the time DFAT undertook the original fitout				No	No notice of complaint has been received	
Brisbane	150 Charlotte Street		16&17	1/07/2012	30/06/2022	Complies with legislative requirements under The Disability Standards 2010				No	No notice of complaint has been received	
Darwin	22 Mitchell Street	Northern Territory House	5	1/05/2013	30/04/2023	Complied with the requirements under Disability Discrimination Act 1992 at the time DFAT undertook the original fitout	Refurbishment of the tenancy is planned for this financial year (FY14/15). The work undertaken will be compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act Standards 2010.	30 June 2015	No	Included in cost of refurbishment. Unable to ascribe specific compliance cost	No	No notice of complaint has been received
Thursday Island	4 Victoria Parade	Commonwealth Centre	G	1/03/2012	28/02/2017	Complied with the requirements under Disability Discrimination Act 1992 at the time DFAT undertook the original fitout				No	No notice of complaint has been received	
	33 Chester Street		all			Complied with the requirements under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 at the time DFAT took ownership				No	No notice of complaint has been received	
Perth	2 The Esplanade	Exchange Plaza	17	14/12/2012	13/12/2017	Complied with the requirements under Disability Discrimination Act 1992 at the time DFAT undertook the original fitout				No	No notice of complaint has been received	
Adelaide	55 Currie Street	Allianz House	5	1/03/2013	28/02/2018	Complied with the requirements under Disability Discrimination Act 1992 at the time DFAT undertook the original fitout				No	No notice of complaint has been received	
Melbourne	747 Collins Street			1/04/2014	4/04/2027	Complies with legislative requirements under The Disability Standards 2010				No	No notice of complaint has been received	
	55 Collins Street			1/11/2014	31/10/2024	The tenancy will comply with legislative requirements under The Disability Standards 2010 on completion of the fitout works currently being undertaken prior to DFAT commencing occupancy. Expected completion of fitout works in early December 2014.				No	No notice of complaint has been received	
	2 Lonsdale Street	Casseldon Place	13 & 14	1/03/2013	31/12/2014	Complied with the requirements under Disability Discrimination Act 1992 at the time DFAT undertook the original fitout				No	No notice of complaint has been received	
Hobart	111 Macquarie Street		1	1/05/2013	30/04/2023	Complied with the requirements under Disability Discrimination Act 1992 at the time DFAT undertook the original fitout				No	No notice of complaint has been received	

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 178

Program: DFAT

Topic: Disability Access

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. Please provide a list of all premises owned, leased or otherwise operated by the department / agency which do not yet comply with the Disability Discrimination Act (through The Disability (Access to Premises - Buildings) Standards 2010). For each, please provide:***
- 2. The year in which it was purchased / leased / rented (and if lease / rental agreement, when it expires).***
- 3. What plans are in place to make the premises compliant with the act.***
- 4. When these plans will commence and when they are expected to be complete.***
- 5. Has the minister or the minister's office been informed of these plans? Please provide a copy of any communication (including but not limited to emails, letters, memos, notes etc) between the minister's office and the department regarding this issue.***
- 6. What is the expected cost of making the premises compliant? Please break down the costs.***
- 7. Have any plans to make any premises compliant been cancelled, put on hold or delayed since September 7, 2013? If yes, please detail, including the reasons for which they were cancelled, put on hold or delayed and how the decision was reached.***
- 8. Have any complaints been lodged with regard to the premises not being compliant? If yes, please detail.***

Answer

Please refer attached spreadsheet.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 179

Program: DFAT

Topic: Fee for services

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since September 7, 2013:

- 1. Have any existing services provided by the department / agency moved from being free to a user-pay service? Have any additional fees been placed on existing services? If yes please provide a list and include:*
- 2. Name of the fee and a short description of what it covers.*
- 3. How much is the fee (and is it a flat fee or a percentage of the service).*
- 4. The date the fee came into place.*
- 5. Were any reviews requested, commenced or complemented into the benefits and drawbacks of attaching the fee to the service? If yes, please detail and provide a copy of the review.*
- 6. What consultation was carried out before the fee was put into place?*
- 7. How was the fee put into place (e.g. through legislation, regulation changes etc)?*
- 8. What justification is there for the fee?*

Answer

1. No.
- 2-8. Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 180

Program: DFAT

Topic: Documents provided to Minister

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. Excluding policy or correspondence briefs, how many documents are provided to the Minister's office on a regular and scheduled basis? Including documents that are not briefs to the minister and do not require ministerial signature.***
- 2. List those documents, their schedule and their purpose (broken down by ministerial signature and office for noting documents)***
- 3. How are they transmitted to the office?***
- 4. What mode of delivery is used (hardcopy, email) for those documents?***
- 5. What level officer are they provided to in the minister's office?***

Answer

1-2. The department provides a number of regular reports to both Ministers' offices (Foreign Affairs and Trade and Investment). These reports fall into two categories: forecasts of future workflow and reporting on activities in the past. In the former category, the department provides regular forecasts of likely policy submissions and upcoming events. Reporting on past activities includes both administrative reporting (such as on expenditure and the numbers of ministerial correspondence and submissions handled) as well as reporting on the department's progress in implementing key ministerial commitments.

3, 4 and 5. These regular reports are transmitted by classified or unclassified email (as appropriate). The audience for these reports within ministers' offices varies, depending upon the nature of the report.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 181

Program: DFAT

Topic: Merchandise or promotional material

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since 7 September 2013:

- 1. Has the department purchased any merchandise or promotional material?*
- 2. List by item, and purpose for each item, including if the material is for a specific policy or program or for a generic purpose (note that purpose)*
- 3. List the cost for each item*
- 4. List the quantity of each item*
- 5. Who suggested these materials be created?*
- 6. Who approved its creation?*
- 7. Provide copies of authorisation*
- 8. When was the Minister informed of the material being created?*
- 9. Who created the material?*
- 10. How was that person selected?*
- 11. How many individuals or groups were considered in selecting who to create the material?*

Answer

Procurement of such material in the Department can occur at the unit level, including across our global network. To provide this level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 182

Program: DFAT

Topic: FOI requests - Stats

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

- 1. How many FOI requests were received between 7 September 2013 to 16 November 2014.***
- 2. How many of those requests were finalised within the regular timeframes provided under the FOI Act?***
- 3. How many of those requests were granted an extension of time under s 15AA of the FOI Act?***
- 4. How many of those requests were granted an extension of time under s 15AB of the FOI Act?***
- 5. How many of those requests were finalised out of time?***

Answer

1. 360.
2. 358 of 360 FOI requests were finalised within regular timeframes. Two were one day late due to human error.
3. 36.
4. 6.
5. Nil.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 183

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing - Contracts for Temporary Staff

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. How much did the department/agency spend on temporary or contract staff?*
- 2. How many temporary or contract staff have been employed?*
- 3. What is the total number of temporary or contract staff currently employed?*
- 4. How much was paid for agencies/companies to find temporary/contract staff?*
- 5. Have there been any changes to the policies/criteria that govern the appointment of contract staff?*

Answer

The department is unable to provide requested detail without substantial diversion of resources. Temporary contracts are engaged by line areas of the organisation as required, and in accordance with Commonwealth procurement practices. The department does not maintain central repositories of information on individuals conducting work for the department on commercial contract arrangements.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 184

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing - Staffing profile

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. Has there been any change to the staffing profile of the department/agency?*
- 2. Provide a list of changes to staffing numbers, broken down by classification level, division, home base location (including town/city and state).*

Answer

1. The staffing profile has **decreased by 295 staff** between 30 June 2014 and 30 September 2014.

- A reduction of 129 **APS** staff and;
- A reduction of 166 **locally engaged** staff.

Location by headcount	30 June 2014	30 September 2014
Canberra	2,784	2,677
State / Territory Offices	302	300
Overseas	864	844
Total APS staff	3,950	3,821
Locally Engaged Staff	2,451	2,285
Total Workforce	6,401	6,106

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2. The DFAT staffing profile is provided in the tables below, as at 30 September 2014.

i. Staff headcount by location

Location	30 September 2014		
	APS	LES	Total DFAT
Canberra	2,677	0	2,677
Americas	71	183	254
Asia			
<i>North Asia</i>	83	215	298
<i>South Asia</i>	79	218	297
<i>South East Asia</i>	211	691	902
Total Asia	373	1,124	1,497
Europe	94	276	370
Middle East and Africa	100	274	374
Multilateral ¹	51	58	109
New Zealand and the South Pacific	155	370	525
Overseas Posts Total²	844	2,285	3,129
Queensland	57		57
Victoria	89		89
Western Australia	44		44
New South Wales	77		77
South Australia	18		18
Tasmania	9		9
Northern Territory	6		6
State & Territory Total³	300	0	300
Total Staff Numbers	3,821	2,285	6,106

¹Posts in this category are Geneva UN, Geneva WTO, New York UN, Paris OECD and Vienna.

²Overseas posts includes staff on language training, in transit to/from post, short term missions and short term assignments.

³State and Territory total includes 258 Australian Passport Office staff (69 NSW, 3 NT, 48 QLD, 13 SA, 6 TAS, 82 VIC and 37 WA).

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ii. Staff headcount by classification level

DFAT had **2,087** APS employees at the **EL and SES levels**. This represents 54.6% of the total APS workforce and 34.2% of the total workforce (APS and locally engaged staff).

- In addition to the APS workforce of 3,821; DFAT employs 2,285 locally engaged staff who generally performs work value within the APS1-6 range.

Headcount by Level	30 September 2014		
	Total	% of Staff by level	% of <i>TOTAL workforce (APS and LES)</i>
SES	258	6.8%	4.2%
EL2	562	14.7%	9.2%
EL1	1,260	33.0%	20.6%
APS6	591	15.5%	9.7%
BB2 (APS4/5)	950	24.9%	15.6%
BB1 (APS1/2/3)	193	5.1%	3.2%
Medical Officers	7	0.2%	0.1%
Total APS	3,821	100.0%	62.6%
Total Locally Engaged Staff	2,285	~	37.4%
Total Workforce	6,106	~	100.0%

iii. Staff headcount by division

Division	APS staff headcount
Contracting and Aid Management Division	89
Americas Division	20
Australian Passport Office	390
Australian Safeguards & Non-Proliferation Office	16
Internal Audit Branch	18
Consular & Crisis Management Division	57
Capability and Change Management Team	4
Corporate Management Division	302
Development Policy Division	96
Europe Division	23
Executive, Planning and Evaluation Branch	48
Free Trade Agreement Division	51
Humanitarian Division	53

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Information Management and Technology Division	240
International Security Division	47
Legal Division	76
Middle East & Africa Division	47
Multilateral Development and Partnerships Division	69
Multilateral Policy Division	94
North Asia Division	37
New Colombo Plan Secretariat	13
Office of Development Effectiveness	16
Overseas Property Office	47
Overseas Posts	824
Office of Trade Negotiations	75
Pacific Division	111
Parliamentary Offices	4
Public Diplomacy and Communications Division	89
Policy Planning Branch	10
Protocol Branch	14
South-East Asia Maritime Division	46
South-East Asia Mainland and Regional Division	50
State and Territory Offices	40
South and West Asia Division	64
Trade and Economic Diplomacy Division	101
Corporate Overheads (salaried)	331
Corporate Overheads (non-salaried)	209
Total APS staff	3,821

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 185

Program: DFAT

Topic: Savings and Efficiency Measures

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the Appropriate Bills 2014 were passed by the parliament:

- 1. How many measures, savings tasks or efficiency measures contained in the Appropriations bills have not been actioned or have had no guidance instructions issued?*
- 2. For each measure or task identified in question 1:*
 - a) What is the timeframe for implementation?*
 - b) Who is the responsible agency for actioning these measures, guidelines or tasks?*
 - c) When was the Minister last briefed on this item? Was this briefing requested by the minister or initiated by the department?*
 - d) What action has the minister asked be done on this policy?*

Answer

DFAT has actioned all savings tasks and efficiency measures contained in the Appropriation Bills.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 186

Program: DFAT

Topic: Computers

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. List the current inventory of computers owned, leased, stored, or able to be accessed by the Ministers office as provided by the department, listing the equipment cost and location and employment classification of the staff member that is allocated the equipment, or if the equipment is currently not being used**
- 2. List the current inventory of computers owned, leased, stored, or able to be accessed by the department, listing the equipment cost and location**
- 3. Please detail the operating systems used by the departments computers, the contractual arrangements for operating software and the on-going costs**

Answer

1. DFAT supply computers to Ministerial offices in Canberra, Perth, Melbourne and Mt Gravatt. The cost of a desktop is \$1,223.00 ex GST. Computers are provided for the 27 staff employed under the Members of Parliament (Staff) Act and 5 Departmental Liaison Officers employed by DFAT.

This is a standard ICT offering to all staff and is not determined by staff classification.

2. The baseline ICT service package provided to DFAT staff consists of a desktop computer, 22" monitor and desk phone.

Device	Cost per device
Standard desktop (pc plus monitor)	\$1,223.00 ex GST
Standard laptop	\$1595.30 (Exclusive GST)
Lightweight laptop	\$2151.80 (Exclusive GST)
iPad	\$749 (Exclusive GST)

Note: All equipment is procured under the Desktop and Major Office Machines (MOM) whole of government panel arrangements.

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3. DFAT utilises the MS Windows operating environment as mandated for use under the Microsoft Volume Sourcing Agreement (VSA II):

<http://www.finance.gov.au/blog/2013/07/22/renewal-microsoft-volume-sourcing-agreement-vsa-ii/>

The nominated Large Account Reseller for the VSA II is Data#3 (ABN: 31 010 545 267). Further information can be sourced from the Department of Finance (DoF):

<http://www.finance.gov.au/policy-guides-procurement/mvsa/>

The 2014-15 annual cost to DFAT for Microsoft Windows operating systems licensing is \$1,445,730.09 ex GST, and comprises:

- \$1,431,822.28 for software assurance and/or subscription costs; \$20,787.00 for VSA contract administration; and
- \$6,879.19 credit for VSA renegotiations based on DFAT's 2013/14 invoices.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 187

Program: DFAT

Topic: Travel costs - department

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. Is the minister or their office or their delegate required to approve all departmental and agency international travel?***
- 2. If so, under what policy?***
- 3. Provide a copy of that policy.***
- 4. When was this policy implemented?***
- 5. List all occurrences of travel that this has occurred under.***
- 6. Detail the process.***
- 7. When is the minister notified, when is approval provided?***
- 8. Detail all travel (domestic and international) for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary on their travel. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals).***
- 9. Detail all travel for Departmental officers. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals). Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.***
- 10. What date was the minister or their office was notified of the travel?***
- 11. What date did the minister or their office approve the travel?***
- 12. What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.***

Answer

1. to 4. Under the Department of Finance's Resource Management Guide 405 "Official International Travel - Approval and Use of the Best Fare of the Day".

Official international travel must be approved in accordance with the following requirements.

Where the total estimated cost (GST inclusive) of international travel, either individually or for a delegation or group activity, is:

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- a) *\$20,000 or less, the travel must be approved by the relevant Secretary or Accountable Authority*
- b) *more than \$20,000 and less than \$50,000, the travel must be approved by the relevant Cabinet Minister*
- c) *\$50,000 or more, the relevant Cabinet Minister must consult with the Prime Minister in writing before approving the travel.*

If officials from more than one entity are part of the same delegation or group activity, the lead entity should obtain approval in accordance with these requirements for the total estimated cost of the travel on behalf of all entities involved.

The policy on travel approvals came into effect on 16 December 2013.

- 5. See answer to question 9 below.
- 6. DFAT processes follow the guidance issued by the Department of Finance.
- 7. The relevant Minister or delegate is notified as soon as practicable of the proposed travel and approval is sought through a Ministerial submission. Approval is provided as soon as practicable.
- 8. a. Travel costs for departmental staff accompanying the Minister for Foreign Affairs. All air travel was in business class except where noted.
 - 1. Japan: 10 to 14 June 2014: three departmental officers
 - i. Travel: \$19,258.88
 - ii. Accommodation: \$3,905.90
 - iii. Travel Allowance: \$1,134.83
 - iv. Other expenses: \$971.25
 - 2. Burma and Laos: 1 to 6 July 2014: one departmental officer
 - i. Travel: \$8,668.39
 - ii. Accommodation: \$1,026.49
 - iii. Travel Allowance: \$365.36
 - iv. Other expenses: \$99.51
 - 3. Sydney: 7 to 8 August 2014: one departmental officer
 - i. Travel: \$241.07 (economy class)
 - ii. Accommodation: \$226.07
 - iii. Travel Allowance: \$29.86
 - iv. Other expenses: \$0.00
 - 4. Burma: 8 to 11 August 2014: three departmental officers
 - i. Travel: \$10,960.12
 - ii. Accommodation: \$838.43
 - iii. Travel Allowance: \$986.78
 - iv. Other expenses: \$180.33
 - 5. Singapore: 21 to 23 August 2014: two departmental officers
 - i. Travel: \$9,098.70

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- ii. Accommodation: \$1,675.56
 - iii. Travel Allowance: \$508.76
 - iv. Other expenses: \$43.18
6. Indonesia: 28 to 29 August 2014: one departmental officer
- i. Travel: \$5,215.56
 - ii. Accommodation: \$656.59
 - iii. Travel Allowance: \$303.78
 - iv. Other expenses: \$111.02
7. Samoa: 31 August to 2 September 2014: two departmental officers
- i. Travel: \$5,445.78
 - ii. Accommodation: \$5,581.66*
 - iii. Travel Allowance: none recorded at this time
 - iv. Other expenses: \$279.04*
- *the two Departmental officers arrived in Samoa before and remained beyond Minister Bishop's and Parliamentary Secretary Mason's visit. The high accommodation costs reflect a fixed price accommodation rate during the UN SIDS conference in Samoa, which hosted around 3,000 delegates. These figures cover the entire period of the officers' visit.
8. UK: 3 to 6 September 2014: one departmental officer
- i. Travel: \$14,391.92
 - ii. Accommodation: \$701.45
 - iii. Travel Allowance: \$256.11
 - iv. Other expenses: \$45.52
9. South Africa, Madagascar and Mauritius: 10 to 16 September 2014: one departmental officer
- i. Travel: \$11,546.10
 - ii. Accommodation: \$1,411.99
 - iii. Travel Allowance: \$93.96
 - iv. Other expenses: \$100.98
10. USA: 18 to 25 September 2014: four departmental officers
- i. Travel: \$51,981.09
 - ii. Accommodation*: \$15,574.31
 - iii. Travel Allowance*: \$6,487.15
 - iv. Other expenses*: \$1,572.23
- *three of the four Departmental officers remained in the USA on official business beyond the Minister's visit; these figures cover the entire period of the officers' visit.
11. Italy and Iraq: 15 to 20 October 2014: two departmental officers
- i. Travel: \$25,028.05
 - ii. Accommodation: \$1,454.05
 - iii. Travel Allowance: \$1,238.64
 - iv. Other expenses: \$186.17

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b. Travel costs for departmental staff accompanying the Minister for Trade and Investment. All air travel was in business class.

1. Canada and USA: 8 to 16 June 2014: one departmental officer
 - i. Travel: \$16,843.61
 - ii. Accommodation: \$1790.62
 - iii. Travel Allowance: \$382.85
 - iv. Other expenses: \$250.00
2. China: 22 to 25 June 2014: one departmental officer
 - i. Travel: \$6,878.96
 - ii. Accommodation: \$618.52
 - iii. Travel Allowance: \$518.83
 - iv. Other expenses: \$62.98
3. Germany, Switzerland and Spain: 28 June to 6 July 2014:
one Departmental officer
 - i. Travel: \$15,381.20
 - ii. Accommodation: \$5,883.58
 - iii. Travel Allowance: \$2,462.38
 - iv. Other expenses: \$159.85
4. Burma: 25 to 30 August 2014: one departmental officer
 - i. Travel: \$15,475.10
 - ii. Accommodation: \$2,700.00
 - iii. Travel Allowance: \$902.34
 - iv. Other expenses: \$1,865.91
5. USA and Republic of Korea: 28 September to 6 October 2014:
one departmental officer
 - i. Travel: \$16,193.26
 - ii. Accommodation: \$978.87
 - iii. Travel Allowance: \$799.88
 - iv. Other expenses: \$72.30

c. Travel costs for departmental staff accompanying the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Foreign Affairs. All air travel was in business class.

1. Netherlands, Belgium and Switzerland: 23 June to 3 July 2014:
three departmental officers
 - i. Travel: \$23,466.41
 - ii. Accommodation: \$3,928.40
 - iii. Travel Allowance: \$2,367.28
 - iv. Other expenses: \$441.37
2. Palau: 28 July to 1 August 2014 : two departmental officers
 - i. Travel: \$835.34
 - ii. Accommodation: \$1,138.90

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- iii. Travel Allowance: \$1,508.49
 - iv. Other expenses: \$201.02
3. Samoa: 31 August to 2 September 2014: two departmental officers
 Note: the below expenses are the same as those appearing under Minister Bishop’s travel above as Minister Bishop and Parliamentary Secretary Mason made this visit jointly.
- i. Travel: \$5,445.78
 - ii. Accommodation: \$5,581.66*
 - iii. Travel Allowance: none recorded at this time
 - iv. Other expenses: \$279.04*

*the two Departmental officers arrived in Samoa before and remained beyond Minister Bishop’s and Parliamentary Secretary Mason’s visit. The high accommodation costs reflect a fixed price accommodation rate during the UN SIDS conference in Samoa, which hosted around 3,000 delegates. These figures cover the entire period of the officers’ visit.

9. From 5 June 2014 to 31 October 2014, DFAT spent \$11.44 million on international and domestic travel. This figure includes airfares, accommodation, meals and incidentals and other travel expenses. The Department does not record travel data in a way that readily allows all travel costs to be separately captured to provide a detailed breakdown for each trip. To provide such detail would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, the additional work cannot be justified.

05 June 2014 - 31 October 2014	
Airfares	\$ 7.60m
Accommodation	\$ 1.23m
Travel Allow.	\$ 1.48m
Other	\$ 1.13m
Total Expenditure	\$ 11.44m

10. and 11. The relevant Minister is not required to approve all international travel as per Department of Finance guidelines.

12. DFAT’s global responsibilities create a high demand for travel throughout the year, often at short notice. To provide details of individual travel plans and reasons for travel would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, we do not consider that the additional work can be justified.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 188

Program: DFAT

Topic: Travel costs - ministerial

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. Please detail all travel conducted by the Minister/parliamentary secretary*
- 2. List each location, method of travel, itinerary and purpose of trip;*
- 3. List the total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals), and;*
- 4. List the number of staff that accompanied the Minister/parliamentary secretary, listing the total costs per staff member, the class of airplane travelled, the classification of staff accompanying the Minister/parliamentary secretary.*
- 5. What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.*

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Answer

(1), (2) and (4) – Details of Ministerial and Parliamentary Secretary overseas travel from 5 June 2014 to 23 October 2014:

Ms Bishop travelled to the following locations. The mode of transport to each country listed has been by airplane.

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying Staff
Italy (Milan) Iraq (Baghdad)	15 to 20 October 2014	6	<u>Milan</u> : 15 to 17 October 2014 <u>Baghdad</u> : 18 to 19 October 2014 Number of Advisers: Two Departmental officers: Mr Jeremy Newman (Italy) Mr Marc Innes-Brown (Iraq)
Attended Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) in Milan. Bilateral visit to Iraq.			

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying Staff
United States (New York)	18 to 25 September 2014	8	<u>New York</u> : 18 to 23 September Number of Advisers: Two Departmental officers: Mr Paul Grigson, Dr Harinder Sidhu, Ms Clare Walsh, Mr Miles Armitage
Attended United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Leaders' Week meetings.			

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Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying Staff
South Africa (Pretoria and Johannesburg), Madagascar (Antananarivo) and Mauritius (Port Louis)	10 to 16 September 2014	7	<u>Pretoria</u> : 11 to 12 September <u>Antananarivo</u> : 12 to 13 September <u>Port Louis</u> : 13 to 15 September Number of Advisers: Two Departmental officers: Mr Adam McCarthy
Bilateral visit to South Africa, Madagascar and Mauritius.			

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying Staff
United Kingdom (Bristol and Newport)	3 to 6 September 2014	4	<u>Bristol/Newport</u> : 3 to 5 September Number of Advisers: One Departmental officer: Mr Richard Feakes
Attended Australia-United Kingdom (AUKMIN) ministerial meeting.			

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying Staff
Samoa (Apia)	31 August to 2 September 2014	3	<u>Apia</u> : 31 August to 2 September Number of Advisers: One Departmental officers: Mr Ewen McDonald and Ms Elizabeth Wilde
Led Australia's delegation to the United Nations Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) Conference.			

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Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying Staff
Indonesia (Bali)	28 to 29 August 2014	2	<u>Denpasar</u> : 28 August Number of Advisers: One Departmental officers: Mr David Binns
Bilateral visit and signing of Joint Understanding with Indonesia.			

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying Staff
Singapore	21 to 23 August 2014	3	<u>Singapore</u> : 21 to 23 August Number of Advisers: Two Departmental officers: Mr Peter Varghese and Ms Susan Moore
To attend the Singapore-Australia Joint Ministerial Committee (SAJMC) meeting and bilateral visit.			

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying Staff
Burma (Nay Pyi Taw)	8 to 11 August 2014	4	<u>Nay Pyi Taw</u> : 8 to 11 August Number of Advisers: Two Departmental officers: Ms Gillian Bird and Ms Vanessa Wood
To attend the East Asia Summit (EAS) Foreign Ministers' Meeting.			

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Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying Staff
United States (Washington and New York), Netherlands (The Hague) and Ukraine (Kiev)	19 July to 2 August	15	<u>Washington</u> : 20 to 21 July <u>New York</u> : 21 to 22 July <u>The Hague</u> : 23 to 24 July and 25 to 27 July <u>Kiev</u> : 24 to 25 July and 27 July to 1 August Number of Advisers: Three Departmental Officers: Nil
To meet with officials in the United States following the downing of MH17 and address an emergency session of the United Nations Security Council. In the Ukraine visit the site of MH17 crash and meetings with Ukraine Officials.			

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying Staff
Burma (Rangoon and Nay Pyi Taw) and Laos (Vientiane)	1 to 6 July 2014	5	<u>Rangoon</u> : 2 to 4 July <u>Nay Pyi Taw</u> : 3 July <u>Vientiane</u> : 4 to 5 July Number of Advisers: Two Departmental officer: Mr Keith Scott
Bilateral visit to Burma and Laos.			

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Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying Staff
Japan (Tokyo, Akashi, and Osaka)	10 to 14 June 2014	5	<u>Tokyo</u> : 11 to 13 June <u>Akashi</u> : 13 June <u>Osaka</u> : 13 June Number of Advisers: Two Departmental officers: Mr Peter Varghese Mr Peter Rowe Mr Neil Buckland
To attend the 2+2 ministerial meeting.			

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Mr Robb has travelled to the following locations. The mode of transport to each country listed has been aeroplane.

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying Staff
USA and Republic of Korea	28 September to 6 October 2014	8	<u>Washington</u> : 28 to 30 September 2014 <u>Seoul</u> : 1 to 4 October 2014 <u>Busan</u> : 4 to 6 October 2014 Number of Advisers: One Departmental officers: Ms Jan Adams
To attend the Coalition of Services Industries (CSI) Global Services Summit and lead a business delegation.			

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying Staff
India	3 to 7 September 2014	4	<u>Mumbai</u> : 3 to 4 September 2014 <u>New Delhi</u> : 5 to 6 September 2014 Number of Advisers: One Departmental officers: N/A
To lead the Prime Minister's CEO business delegation.			

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying Staff
Burma	25 to 30 August 2014	6	<u>Nay Pyi Taw</u> : 25 to 27 August 2014 <u>Rangoon</u> : 28 to 30 August 2014 Number of Advisers: One Departmental officers: Ms Jan Adams
To attend the ASEAN Economic Ministers' meetings.			

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Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying Staff
Singapore	19 to 22 August 2014	3	<u>Singapore</u> : 19 to 22 August 2014 Number of Advisers: One Departmental officers: N/A*
To attend the Singapore-Australia Joint Ministerial Committee (SAJMC) meeting and lead a business delegation.			

* Departmental staff are listed as accompanying the Foreign Minister.

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying Staff
Germany, Switzerland and Spain	28 June to 6 July 2014	7	<u>Lindau</u> : 29 to 30 June 2014 <u>Zurich</u> : 1 to 2 July 2014 <u>Madrid</u> : 3 to 5 July 2014 Number of Advisers: One Departmental officers: Mr Jeremy Newman
To lead a business delegation.			

Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying Staff
China	22 to 25 June 2014	2	<u>Beijing</u> : 23 to 24 June 2014 Number of Advisers: One Departmental officers: Mr Graham Fletcher
Strategic Economic Dialogue in China.			

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Visit	Dates	Days Away	Locations Accompanying Staff
Canada and USA	8 to 16 June 2014	9	<u>Ottawa</u> : 8 to 9 June 2014 <u>New York</u> : 10 to 11 June 2014 <u>Toronto</u> : 12 June 2014 <u>Houston</u> : 13 to 14 June 2014 Number of Advisers: One Departmental officers: Dr Brendon Hammer
To accompany the Prime Minister and lead a business delegation.			

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Senator Mason has travelled to the following locations. The mode of transport to each country listed has been aeroplane.

Country	Dates	Days Away	Locations Travelling Party
Netherlands, Belgium and Switzerland	23 June to 3 July 2014	11	<u>Amsterdam</u> : 24 June 2014 <u>Brussels</u> : 24 to 26 June 2014 <u>Geneva</u> : 26 to 29 June 2014 <u>Zurich</u> : 29 June to 1 July 2014 Number of Advisers: One Departmental officers: Mr Chris Tinning, Ms Rose Roxburgh, Ms Alison Matthews
To attend the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) meeting in Belgium and the Tidewater meeting in Switzerland. Meeting with Europol in the Netherlands.			

Country	Dates	Days Away	Locations Travelling Party
Palau	28 July to 1 August 2014	5	<u>Koror</u> : 28 July to 1 August 2014 Number of Advisers: One Departmental officers: Ms Elizabeth Wilde and Mr Peter Rayner
To attend the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) meeting.			

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Country	Dates	Days Away	Locations Travelling Party
Samoa	31 August to 5 September	6	<p><u>Apia</u>: 31 August to 4 September 2014</p> <p>Number of Advisers: One</p> <p>Departmental officers: Ms Elizabeth Wilde and Mr Peter Rayner</p>
To attend the United Nations Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) Conference.			

(3) The Department of Finance covers the cost of ministerial travel overseas. The last report tabled covered the period 1 July 2013 to 31 December 2013.

(5) Forward travel plans are a question for the Minister or Parliamentary Secretary.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 189

Program: DFAT

Topic: Grants

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. What guidelines are in place to administer grants?***
- 2. How are grants applied for?***
- 3. Are there any restrictions on who can apply for a grant? If yes, please detail.***
 - 1. Can these restrictions be waved? If yes, please detail the process for waving them and list any grants where the restrictions were waved.***
- 4. What is the procedure for selecting who will be awarded a grant?***
- 5. Who is involved in this selection process?***
- 6. Does the minister or the minister's office play any role in awarding grants? If yes, please detail.***
 - 1. Has the minister or the minister's office exercised or attempted to exercise any influence over the awarding of any grants? If yes, please detail.***
- 7. Provide a list of all grants, including ad hoc, one-off discretionary grants awarded to date. Provide the recipients, amount, intended use of the grants, what locations have benefited from the grants and the electorate and state of those locations.***
- 8. Update the status of each grant that was approved prior to the specified period, but did not have financial contracts in place at that time. Provide details of the recipients, the amount, the intended use of the grants, what locations have benefited from the grants and the electorate and state of those grants.***

Answer

1. DFAT grants are managed in accordance with the *Commonwealth Grant Rules and Guidelines*, the department's financial policy and the grant program guidelines.

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2. Applicants can apply using a web-based grant management system or submit an application by email or mail.
3. Grant program guidelines include eligibility criteria. Generally grant applicants must be Australian citizens or permanent residents or an Australia-based entity.
 1. No.
4. Grant applicants are selected through a merit-based process where applications are assessed against the program guidelines, including the eligibility and assessment criteria.
5. DFAT officials or members of DFAT Foundations, Councils and Institutes advisory boards assess grant applications and submit the proposed grant recipients for approval by a DFAT official delegated under the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act*.
6. No.
7. A list of approved grants for 2013-14 to date is publicly available on the department's website at <http://www.dfat.gov.au/dept/grants/> which includes details of the amount, purpose and location.
8. To review the status of every grant that was approved before June 2014 but did not have a grant agreement in place at that time will entail significant diversion of resources and in these circumstances we do not consider the additional work can be justified.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 190

Program: DFAT

Topic: Government payment of accounts

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. What has been the average time period for the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors, consultants or others?*
- 2. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in under 30 days?*
- 3. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 30 and 60 days?*
- 4. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 60 and 90 days?*
- 5. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 90 and 120 days? f) How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in over 120 days?*
- 6. For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency since Estimates, 2014?*
- 7. Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?*

Answer

The answers provided below cover the 2013/2014 financial year period.

	Paid within 30 days	Paid within 31-44 days	Paid within 45-60 days	Not paid within 60 days	Total
1 July 2013 – 30 June 2014	(paid on time)	(up to 14 days late)	(up to 30 days late)	(30 or more days late)	
Number of invoices <i>(actual number)</i>	5617	144	65	38	5864
Value of invoices <i>(actual number)</i>	\$47,555,658.00	\$1,125,800.00	\$306,237.00	\$121,231.00	\$49,108,926.00

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1. Majority of the invoices were paid within the 30 day period, as per the Commonwealth standard (PGPA Act 2014).
2. 5617 invoices (95.79%) paid within 30 days.
3. 209 invoices (3.56%) paid between 31 to 60 days.
4. 38 invoices (0.65%) paid 60 days and over.
5. 6 invoices (0.10%) paid between 90 and 120 days (*this figure is included in answer 4 above – DFAT does not use classifications of 90 days, 120 days and 120 days and over are, anything over 60 days is classified as 60 days and over.*)
6. 2 invoices (0.03%) paid over 120 days (*this figure is included in answer 4 above – DFAT does not use classifications of 90 days, 120 days and 120 days and over are, anything over 60 days is classified as 60 days and over.*)
7. Departmental practices accord with the requirements outlined in Finance Circular 2012/02 Procurement On-Time Payment Policy for Small Business. The department is aware of late payment interest penalty being paid for 2013/14 is \$1,231.68.
8. The interest charge is calculated in accordance with the Finance Circular 2012/02 procurement On-Time Payment Policy for Small Business (and section 8.12 of the DFAT Financial Management Manual). The penalty interest rate was determined at the General Interest Charge (GIC) daily rate for the applicable quarter as detailed on the Australian Taxation Office website.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 191

Program: DFAT

Topic: Consultancies

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. How many consultancies have been undertaken? Identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc). Also include total value for all consultancies.***
- 2. How many consultancies are planned for this calendar year? Have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and if not why not? In each case please identify the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known.***
- 3. Have any consultancies not gone out for tender?***
 - 1. List each, including name, cost and purpose***
 - 2. If so, why?***

Answer

1. Details of contracts valued at or above \$10,000, including consultancies, are available on AusTender. Details of the consultancy arrangements entered into by the department each financial year are also published in the department's annual report available from the department's website.
2. Details of planned open approaches to market, including consultancies, are published in DFAT's Annual Procurement Plan on AusTender.
3. Details of contracts valued at or above \$10,000, including consultancies, are available on AusTender.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 192

Program: DFAT

Topic: Meeting costs

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. How much has the Department/Agency spent on meeting costs? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events, including any catering and drinks costs.***
- 2. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total meeting spend from Estimates, 2014 to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.***
- 3. What meeting spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.***
- 4. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what meeting spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.***

Answer

1. Owing to the large number of components that comprise 'meeting costs' (e.g. travel expenses, venue hire, equipment hire, catering expenses) and owing to the decentralised model used by the department for organising and holding meetings, determining the total amount spent on meeting costs for the period 6 June – 23 October 2014 would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, we do not consider the additional work can be justified.

Details of specific meetings are maintained on individual files across the department's domestic and overseas network. To provide these details would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, we do not consider the additional work can be justified.

2. Refer to question 1 answer.
3. Refer to question 1 answer.
4. Refer to question 1 answer.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 193

Program: DFAT

Topic: Functions

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. Provide a list of all formal functions or forms of hospitality conducted for the Minister. Include:
 - a) The guest list of each function*
 - b) The party or individual who initiated the request for the function*
 - c) The menu, program or list of proceedings of the function*
 - d) A list of drinks consumed at the function**
- 2. Provide a list of the current wine, beer or other alcoholic beverages in stock or on order in the Minister's office. Breakdown by item, quantity and cost.*

Answer

Hospitality and attending and hosting functions form an essential part of Ministerial responsibilities, including overseas visits. These services are managed by all areas across the Department including Australian Government Posts overseas. To provide further details would entail a significant and unreasonable diversion of resources.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 194

Program: DFAT

Topic: Executive coaching and leadership training

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

Please provide the following information in relation to executive coaching and/or other leadership training services purchased by each department/agency:

- 1. Total spending on these services***
- 2. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification***
- 3. The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)***
- 4. The names of all service providers engaged For each service purchased form a provider listed under (4), please provide:***
 - a) The name and nature of the service purchased***
 - b) Whether the service is one-on-one or group based***
 - c) The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification***
 - d) The total number of hours involved for all employees (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)***
 - e) The total amount spent on the service***
 - f) A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)***
- 5. Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:***
 - a) The location used***
 - b) The number of employees who took part on each occasion (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)***
 - c) The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)***
 - d) Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location***
- 6. In relation to education/executive coaching and/or other leadership training services paid for by the department what agreements are***

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

made with employees in regards to continuing employment after training has been completed?

7. For graduate or post graduate study, please breakdown each approved study leave by staffing allocation and degree or program title.

Answer

1. From 1 July 2014 to 31 October 2014, \$357,169.75 has been spent on leadership training and executive coaching.
2. Leadership training and executive coaching is available to all executive employees at SES, EL2 and EL1 levels.
3. A total of 93 executive employees (SES, EL2 and EL1) engaged in leadership training services and executive coaching during this period. No study leave was granted to these employees for training.
4.
 - a) Providers engaged for leadership training services were Australian Graduate School of Management; Australian National University; Australian New Zealand School of Government; Australian Public Service Commission; Centre for Public Management; Harvard Kennedy School; Melbourne Business School; SAID Business School Oxford University; Queensland University of Technology; and Yellow Edge PTY LTD.
 - b) Executive coaching services were provided on a one-on-one basis while all leadership training services were group based.
 - c) A total of 93 executive employees (SES, EL2 and EL1) engaged in leadership training services and executive coaching during this period.
 - d) 1732.50 hours. SES: 135 hours; EL2: 502.5 hours; EL1: 1095 hours.
 - e) From 1 July 2014 to 31 October 2014, \$357,169.75 was spent on leadership training services and executive coaching.
 - f) Leadership training services are provided as a package fee. Executive coaching is offered at an hourly rate.
5.
 - a) External training locations that were used were Australian Graduate School of Management; Australian National University; Australian New Zealand School of Government; Australian Public Service Commission; Centre for Public Management; Harvard Kennedy School; Melbourne Business School; SAID Business School Oxford University; Queensland University of Technology; and Yellow Edge PTY LTD.
 - b) 93 executive employees (SES, EL2 and EL1) participated in leadership training services at external training locations.
 - c) 93 executive employees, (SES, EL2 and EL1) participated in leadership training services at external training locations. This totalled 1732.50 hours

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for all executive employees. SES: 135 hours; EL2: 502.5 hours; EL1: 1095 hours.

d) Nil.

6. The terms of employment of a DFAT officer do not relate to the training they complete.
7. Masters of Public Administration (2 x EL2); Master of Public Policy (1 x EL1); Graduate Diploma Coaching (1 x EL1); Master of Business Administration (1 x EL1); Bachelor of Management (1 x EL1). All officers have been granted study leave to complete their post graduate study.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 195

Program: DFAT

Topic: Provision of equipment - ministerial

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. For departments/agencies that provide mobile phones to Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices, what type of mobile phone has been provided and the costs?***
 - 1. Itemise equipment and cost broken down by staff or minister classification***
- 2. Has electronic equipment (such as ipad, laptop, wireless card, vasco token, blackberry, mobile phone (list type if relevant), thumb drive, video cameras) been provided by the department/agency? If yes provide a list of:***
- 3. What is provided?***
- 4. The purchase cost.***
- 5. The ongoing cost.***
- 6. A list of any accessories provided for the equipment and the cost of those accessories. (e.g. iPad keyboards, laptop carry bags, additional chargers etc).***
- 7. A breakdown of what staff and staff classification receives each item.***

Answer

1. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) provides Information and Communications Technology (ICT) support for portfolio-related activities in accordance with Department of Finance guidelines for:
 - The Minister for Foreign Affairs;
 - The Minister for Trade and Investment;
 - The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Foreign Affairs;
 - Their offices.

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Included in this support is the provision of mobile phones to each Minister, Parliamentary Secretary and their staff. The phones are a mix of BlackBerry and iPhones.

1a. An itemised list of equipment provided to Ministerial offices is outlined below.

Current Ministers			
Title	Commencement Date	iPhone	Blackberry
Office of the Minister for Foreign Affairs	18-Sep-13	17	0
Office of the Minister for Trade and Investment	18-Sep-13	13	1
Office of the Parliamentary Secretary for Foreign Affairs	18-Sep-13	2	1
Total		32	2

As at 23 October 2014, the cost of purchasing each device is:

BlackBerry: \$649.00 ex GST

iPhone: \$875.00 ex GST

2. Yes, DFAT provides electronic equipment to Ministerial Offices. The provision of additional equipment such as mobile phones, BlackBerrys, iPad, laptops , USB modem, and RSA Token is determined by business need, typically related to specific job functions such as BlackBerrys for travelling Ministerial officers.

3 and 4. As at 23 October 2014, the cost of purchasing each device is:

Device	Cost per device
Lightweight laptop	\$2151.80 (Exclusive GST)
iPad	\$749.00 (Exclusive GST)
iPhone	\$875.00 (Exclusive GST)
BlackBerry	\$649.00 (Exclusive GST)
Nokia	\$63.63 (Exclusive GST)
USB 4G Modem	\$138.18 (Exclusive GST)
RSA Token	\$65.00 (Exclusive GST)

5. There are no ongoing costs associated with the supply of these device types to Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices.

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6. iPad keyboards are provided by the department to Ministerial offices. As at 23 October 2014, the cost of purchasing each device is: \$76.90 (Exclusive GST)
7. It is not possible to determine classification and level. Distribution of electronic equipment (such as ipad, laptop, wireless card, vasco token, blackberry, mobile phone (list type if relevant), thumb drive, video cameras) is determined by business case, not staffing classification. The table below provides a breakdown by Minister / Parliamentary secretary.

Current Ministers								
Title	Commencement Date	iPhone	iPad	Blackberry	Laptop	Modem	FOB	iPad keyboard
Office of the Minister for Foreign Affairs	18-Sep-13	17	10	0	12	12	13	10
Office of the Minister for Trade and Investment	18-Sep-13	13	10	1	6	1	6	10
Office of the Parliamentary Secretary for Foreign Affairs	18-Sep-13	2	1	1	3	3	4	1
Total		32	21	2	21	16	23	21

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 196

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing - reductions

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. How many staff reductions/voluntary redundancies have occurred?
1. What was the reason for these reductions?***
- 2. Were any of these reductions involuntary redundancies? If yes, provide details.***
- 3. Are there any plans for further staff reductions/voluntary redundancies? If so, please advise details including if there is a reduction target, how this will be achieved, and if any services/programs will be cut.***
- 4. If there are plans for staff reductions, please give the reason why these are happening.***
- 5. Are there any plans for involuntary redundancies? If yes, provide details.***
- 6. How many ongoing staff left the department/agency? What classification were these staff?***
- 7. How many non-ongoing staff left department/agency from? What classification were these staff?***
- 8. What are the voluntary redundancy packages offered? Please detail for each staff level and position***
- 9. How do the packages differ from the default public service package?***
- 10. How is the department/agency funding the packages?***

Answer

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

1. As at 31 October, 195 employees have separated from the department:
 - 111 staff have separated through voluntary redundancy;
 - 40 non-ongoing employment arrangements have ceased;
 - 26 staff have resigned or retired;

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- 14 staff have transferred to another APS agency;
 - 4 employees have terminated for other reasons (e.g. dismissal and death).
 1. The aim of the department's VR program is to supplement natural attrition in order to achieve a sustainable staffing profile that supports the integration of foreign affairs, trade and development functions.
2. No.
3. The current VR program is expected to achieve the results the department needed in the first half of 2015.
4. Any reductions would be made with a view to achieving a sustainable staffing profile that supports the integration of foreign affairs, trade and development functions.
5. No.
6. A total of 111 ongoing employees have left the department since 30 June 2014. The classification levels of the employees were:

Classification level	Total
SES	1
EL2	11
EL1	45
APS6	27
APS 4 & 5	24
APS 1 - 3	3
Total	111

7. During the period 1 July 2014 to 30 September 2014, 14 APS employees separated from the department as a result of non-ongoing contracts ceasing. The classification levels of the employees were:

Classification level	Total
SES	1
EL1	3
APS6	1
APS4 and 5	7
APS 1 - 3	2
Total	14

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

8. Voluntary redundancy packages are offered in line with the department's Enterprise Agreement provisions. An ongoing employee who elects for retrenchment with a redundancy benefit is entitled to payment of:
- redundancy benefit (2 – 48 weeks) depending on years of continuous APS service
 - accrued annual leave and long service leave entitlements, and
 - payment in lieu of notice (4 – 5 weeks).
9. The department's Enterprise Agreement provisions are consistent with the APS Bargaining Framework.
10. Voluntary redundancy payments have been funded from within existing resources. Savings have been found this year from reduced activity in several areas such as recruitment.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 197

Program: DFAT

Topic: Staffing - recruitment

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. How many ongoing staff have been recruited? What classification are these staff?*
- 2. How many non-ongoing positions exist or have been created? What classification are these staff?*
- 3. How many staff have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?*

Answer

1. During the period 1 July 2014 to 30 September 2014, **7 ongoing APS staff** have commenced with the department.
2. During the period 1 July 2014 to 30 September 2014, **10 non-ongoing APS staff** commenced contracts.

Table below provides a summary of commencements by classification.

Commencement type	BB2	APS6	EL1	SES	Total
New Engagements					0
Transfers / promotions from another agency	3		1		4
Temp transfers from another agency	2			1	3
Non-ongoing contract commencement	8	2			10
Total	13	2	1	1	17

3. **10 non-ongoing APS staff** commenced contracts, with an average employment period of 12 months.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 198

Program: DFAT

Topic: Coffee machines

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. Has the department/agency purchased, leased or rented any coffee machines for staff useage?***
 - a) If yes, provide a list that includes the type of coffee machine, the cost, the amount, and any ongoing costs such as purchase of coffee or coffee pods and when the machine was purchased?***
 - b) Why were coffee machines purchased?***
 - c) Has there been a noticeable difference in staff productivity since coffee machines were purchased? Are staff leaving the office premises less during business hours as a result?***
 - d) Where did the funding for the coffee machines come from?***
 - e) Who has access?***
 - f) Who is responsible for the maintenance of the coffee machines? How much was spent on maintenance, include a list of what maintenance has been undertaken. Where does the funding for maintenance come from?***
 - g) What are the ongoing costs of the coffee machine, such as the cost of coffee?***

Answer

It is not departmental practice to purchase or rent coffee machines for staff.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 199

Program: DFAT

Topic: Printing

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. How many documents (include the amount of copies) have been printed?
a) How many of these printed documents were also published online?***
- 2. Has the Department/Agency used external printing services for any print jobs?
a) If so, what companies were used?
b) How were they selected?
c) What was the total cost of this printing by item?***

Answer

1. Printing is decentralised and is managed and budgeted individually across each overseas post and by seven state and territory offices, according to their varying requirements.

Aggregating printing costs across all DFAT offices, both overseas and in Australia, would represent an unreasonable diversion of resources.

2. Yes
 - a. DFAT domestically leveraged the DHS “Print Services Panel” SON249685 until October 2014. From November 2014 the “Communication Products Management Panel” was used.
 - b. Companies were selected from the panel based on price, availability and delivery timeframe .
 - c. Aggregating printing costs by item would represent an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 200

Program: DFAT

Topic: Corporate cars

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. How many cars are owned by each department/agency?***
 - a) Where are the cars located?***
 - b) What are the cars used for?***
 - c) What is the cost of each car during the specified period?***
 - d) How far did each car travel during the specified period?***
- 2. How many cars are leased by each department/agency?***
 - a) Where are the cars located?***
 - b) What are the cars used for?***
 - c) What is the cost of each car during the specified period?***
 - d) How far did each car travel during the specified period?***

Answer

1. How many cars are owned by each department/agency?

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade owns 605 cars, which includes fleet vehicles overseas.

a) Where are the cars located?

The vehicles owned by DFAT are dispersed across our posts overseas.

b) What are the cars used for?

DFAT maintains vehicle fleets at its overseas posts to facilitate post operations and to meet the everyday official transport needs of the post. Vehicles are provided to facilitate effective discharge of the mission's operational requirements

c) What is the cost of each car during the specified period?

Details and breakup of costs are maintained on individual files across DFAT's overseas network. To provide these details would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, we do not consider the additional work can be justified.

d) How far did each car travel during the specified period?

Details of car mileage are maintained on individual files across DFAT's overseas network. To provide these details would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, we do not consider the additional work can be justified.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

2. How many cars are leased by each department/agency?

Seventy-five vehicles are leased by the department as part of the executive vehicle scheme. A further six vehicles are leased by DFAT.

a) Where are the cars located?

The 75 vehicles leased as part of the executive vehicle scheme are located primarily in Canberra. Of the six other leased vehicles, four are located in Canberra and two in New York.

b) What are the cars used for?

The vehicles are used for logistics, diplomatic and consular matters and Department business matters.

c) What is the cost of each car during the specified period?

Details and breakup of costs are maintained on individual files across DFAT. To provide these details would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, we do not consider the additional work can be justified.

d) How far did each car travel during the specified period?

Details and breakup of costs are maintained on individual files across DFAT. To provide these details would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, we do not consider the additional work can be justified.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 201

Program: DFAT

Topic: Taxi costs

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. How much did each department/agency spend on taxis during the specified period? Provide a breakdown for each business group in each department/agency.*
- 2. What are the reasons for taxi costs?*
- 3. How much did the department spend on taxis during the specified period for their minister or minister's office?*

Answer

1. Information on DFAT expenditure on taxis is not separately recorded. It would entail significant diversion of resources to collate this expenditure and to break it down into business groups.
2. Taxis are utilised by officers within Australia and overseas in undertaking official business and executing operational requirements.
3. Refer to 1.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 202

Program: DFAT

Topic: Hire cars

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. How much did each department/agency spend on hire cars during the specified period? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency.***
- 2. What are the reasons for hire car costs?***
- 3. How much did the department spend on hire cars during the specified period for their minister or minister's office?***

Answer

1. For the period 6 June 2014 to 23 October 2014, the department spent \$76,436 on car hire.

The department does not record travel data in a way that would readily allow for the breakdown of hire car costs for each business group. To provide details in this format would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, we do not consider the additional work can be justified.

2. Car hire is undertaken by officers within Australia and overseas in undertaking official business and executing operational requirements.

3. The department has not spent any money on hire cars for either the Ministers or Parliamentary Secretary or their respective offices.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 203

Program: DFAT

Topic: Credit cards

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. Provide a breakdown of any changes to employment classifications that have access to a corporate credit card.***
- 2. Have there been any changes to action taken in the event that the corporate credit card is misused?***
- 3. Have there been any changes to how corporate credit card use is monitored?***
- 4. Have any instances of corporate credit card misuse have been discovered during the specified period? If so:***
- 5. Please list staff classification and what the misuse was, and the action taken.***
- 6. Have there been any changes to what action is taken to prevent corporate credit card misuse?***
- 7. How many credit cards available to the Minister or their office? If so, please list by classification. Have there been any misuse of credit cards by the Minister or their office? Has any action been taken against the Minister or their office for credit card misuse? If so, list each occurrence, including the cost of the misuse.***

Answer

1. As of 10 November 2014, 1064 officers had an Australian Visa Corporate Credit Card and 3861 virtual Diners Corporate Credit Card through the Whole of Australian Government Travel arrangements. To provide information on the employment classification of corporate credit card holders would entail a significant diversion of resources. In these circumstances we do not consider the additional work can be justified.

2. There have been no changes to the policy in the event that the corporate credit card is misused.

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3. Credit card usage is now monitored via the departmental financial system, SAP. Credit card statements are reconciled and independently checked and reviewed through the SAP Expense Management System.
4. No instances reported so far for this financial year.
5. N/A.
6. There have been no changes to policy on action taken to prevent corporate credit card misuse.
7. The department has not issued Credit Cards to Ministers or their offices.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 204

Program: DFAT

Topic: Hospitality and entertainment

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. What has been the Department/Agency's hospitality spend including any catering and drinks costs.***
- 2. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total hospitality spend. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.***
- 3. What has been the Department/Agency's entertainment spend? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.***
- 4. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total entertainment spend. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.***
- 5. What hospitality spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.***
- 6. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what hospitality spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.***
- 7. What entertainment spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.***
- 8. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what entertainment spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.***
- 9. Is the Department/Agency planning on reducing any of its spending on these items? If so, how will reductions be achieved?***

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Answer

1. For the period 6 June 2014 to 23 October 2014, the total amount spent by the department on hospitality and entertainment was \$2.35 million. The department does not keep separate records for hospitality and entertainment and only the total cost is available. The bulk of this was expenditure by Heads of Mission and other DFAT officers at overseas posts. All entertainment expenditure at overseas posts is fully acquitted.

Details of specific hospitality and entertainment events are maintained on individual files across the department's domestic and overseas network. To provide these details would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, we do not consider the additional work can be justified.

2. The department's expenditure on hospitality and entertainment for Minister and Parliamentary Secretary offices for the period 6 June 2014 to 31 October 2014 is \$1,892.
3. Refer to 1.
4. Refer to 2.
5. The department's planned hospitality and entertainment expenditure for 2014-15 is \$7.77 million.

Details and breakup of costs are maintained on individual files across the department's overseas network. To provide these details would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, we do not consider the additional work can be justified.

6. Refer to 2.
7. Refer to 5.
8. Refer to 2.
9. The amount each work unit spends on hospitality and entertainment is determined by the work unit, based on their requirements.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 206

Program: DFAT

Topic: Trade - Trade remedies in general

Question in Writing

Senator Carr

Question

Has there been any discussion of a chapter on Trade Remedies in the Free Trade Agreement Negotiations between Australia and China?

Answer

Yes.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 207

Program: DFAT

Topic: Trade - Safeguards

Question in Writing

Senator Carr

Question

- 1. On how many goods does China currently maintain safeguard measures? Provide type and details.*
- 2. What is the competent authority in China for the purpose of safeguard investigations? Is the competent authority the same body as the body which undertakes anti-dumping and countervailing investigations in China?*
- 3. How many countries maintain safeguards on goods of Chinese origin? Provide country and type of good.*
- 4. Noting that in Australia the Productivity Commission must give particular consideration to the public interest requirements in clause 1 of the Competition Principles Agreement signed by the Commonwealth Government on 11 April 1995, do the other competent authorities in China and the nations which maintain safeguards on goods of Chinese Origin have a similar requirement on their competent authorities?*

Answer

1. China currently has no safeguard measures imposed on any product.
2. The Trade Remedy and Investigation Bureau of the Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM), the same body which undertakes anti-dumping and countervailing duty investigations.

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3. As at 24 October 2014, 58 Members have notified the World Trade Organization (WTO) that they have relevant safeguard legislation. As at 24 October 2014, there were 31 existing safeguard measures imposed by 14 WTO Members on a wide range of products, including metals, chemicals, plastics, textiles and foodstuffs.

4. Article 3.1 of the WTO Agreement on Safeguards requires that safeguard investigations allow for interested parties to present evidence and views including “as to whether or not the application of a safeguard measure would be in the public interest”.

China’s relevant legislation indicates that China’s investigating authorities take into account public interest in the application of safeguard measures.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 208

Program: Efic

Topic: Self Initiated work

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. Does the department have a program for staff to engage in self-initiated work (projects, plans etc that are devised by staff without being directed by the minister's office or department management)?***
- 2. Please list all ongoing projects. For each, please detail:***
- 3. When did the project commence?***
- 4. When is it expected to conclude?***
- 5. What will the total cost of the project be?***
- 6. Where did the money for the project come from?***
- 7. Where is the project based?***

Answer

Nil.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 209

Program: Efic

Topic: Conditions of Government Contracts and Agreements

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. Do any contracts managed by the Department/Agency contain any limitations or restrictions on advocacy or criticising Government policy? If so, please name each contact. When was it formed or created?**
- 2. What are the specific clauses and/or sections which state this, or in effect, create a limitation or restriction?**
- 3. Do any agreements managed by the Department/Agency contain any limitations or restrictions on advocacy or criticisms of Government policy? If so, please name each agreement. When was it formed or created?**
- 4. What are the specific clauses and/or sections which state this, or in effect, create a limitation or restriction?**
- 5. For each of the contracts and agreements, are there any particular reason, such as genuine commercial in confidence information, for this restriction?**
- 6. Have any changes to financial or resource support to services which advocate on behalf of groups or individuals in Australian society been made? If so, which groups? What was the change?**
- 7. Has any consultation occurred between the Department/Agency and any individuals and/or community groups about these changes? If so, what consultation process was used? Was it public? If not, why not? Are public submissions available on a website?**
- 8. If no consultation has occurred, why not?**
- 9. Did the Minister/Parliamentary Secretary meet with any stakeholders about changes to advocacy in their contracts and/or agreements? If so, when? Who did he/she meet with?**

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Answer

Efic routinely enters contracts in supporting Australian exporters, as well as in its business operations. It does so as principal and not as a Department or Agency managing third parties.

Efic does not require limitations or restrictions on advocacy or criticism of Government policy in the contracts it enters. Certain contracts Efic enters into contain confidentiality undertakings for genuine commercial in confidence information.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 210

Program: Efic

Topic: Non-Conventional Therapies

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since 7 September 2013:

- 1. Are non-conventional therapies, for staff or ministerial use, able to be provided by the department/agency? (Including, but not limited to: Music Therapy, Hypnosis, Acupuncture, Chiropractic, Homeopathy, Naturopathy, etc) If yes:***
 - a) What is the process by which these therapies can be approved?***
 - b) Who are they available to?***
 - c) Please detail the reasons the therapies able to be provided (e.g. Work Place Agreement, recommended by a report to the department, etc)?***

- 2. Has the department/agency paid for any non-conventional therapy for any Minister or staff? If yes:***
 - a) What therapies have been provided?***
 - b) What were they used to treat?***
 - c) What was the cost of the therapy***

Answer

Nil.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 211

Program: Efic

Topic: Statutory Review Provisions

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Please list all current legislation, covered by the department's portfolio, which contain a statutory review provision/s. For each, please provide:

- 1. What work has been done towards preparing for the review? If none, why not?*
- 2. Please provide a schedule or a workplan for the review*
- 3. When did/will this work begin?*
- 4. When is/was the review due to commence.*
- 5. What is the expected report date.*
- 6. Who is the minister responsible for the review*
- 7. What department is responsible for the review*
- 8. List the specific clauses or legislation under review caused by the statutory provision.*
- 9. List the terms of reference.*
- 10. What is the scope of the review.*
- 11. Who is conducting the review. How were they selected? What are the legislated obligation for the selection of the person to conduct the review?*
- 12. What is the budgeted, projected or expected costs of the review?*
- 13. When was the Minister briefed on this matter?*
- 14. What decision points are upcoming for the minister on this matter?*
- 15. List the number of officers, and their classification level, involved in conducting the review*
- 16. Will the the report will be tabled in parliament or made public. If so, when?*

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Answer

Not applicable to Efic.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 212

Program: Efic

Topic: Sunset Provisions

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. Please list all current legislation, covered by the department's portfolio, which contain a sunset provision/s. For each, please provide:**
 - a. What work has been done towards preparing for the activation of sunset provisions? If no work has commenced, why not?**
 - b. Has any consideration been given to delaying or alerting the sunset provisions?**
 - c. Please provide a schedule or a workplan for the sunset provisions becoming active**
 - d. When did/will this work begin?**
 - e. When is/was the review due to commence.**
 - f. What is the expected report date.**
 - g. Who is the minister responsible for the review**
 - h. What department is responsible for the review**
 - i. List the specific clauses or legislation under review caused by the statutory provision.**
 - j. List the terms of reference.**
 - k. What is the scope of the review.**
 - l. Who is conducting the review. How were they selected? What are the legislated obligation for the selection of the person to conduct the review?**
 - m. What is the budgeted, projected or expected costs of the review?**
 - n. When was the Minister briefed on this matter?**
 - o. What decision points are upcoming for the minister on this matter?**
 - p. List the number of officers, and their classification level, involved in conducting the review**

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- q. Will the the report will be tabled in parliament or made public. If so, when?*

Answer

Not applicable to Efic.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 213

Program: Efic

Topic: Domain Usage

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. *Please provide a breakdown of the domain usage for the 50 most utilised (by data sent and received), unique (internet) domains accessed by the minister's office. Please provide:***
 - a. Domain name of the website being accessed (or IP address if the Domain is unavailable in the tracking system).***
 - b. Amount of data downloaded and uploaded to the site.***
 - c. Number of times the site was accessed.***

Answer

Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 214

Program: Efic

Topic: Procedure Manuals (Departmental)

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. Does the department have a procedure manual for communication between the department and the minister? If yes, please provide a copy and:***
- 2. When was the manual last updated?***
- 3. Who is responsible for updating the manual?***
- 4. Has the minister's office had any input into the content of the manual? If so, please detail.***
- 5. Who is the manual distributed to?***
- 6. Is anyone responsible for clearing communications before they are sent to the minister or the minister's office***

Answer

See DFAT answer to QoN 125.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 215

Program: Efic

Topic: Procedure Manuals (Ministerial)

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. Does the minister's office have a procedure manual for communication between the minister's office and the department? If yes, please provide a copy and:*
- 2. When was the manual last updated?*
- 3. Who is responsible for updating the manual?*
- 4. Who is the manual distributed to?*
- 5. Is anyone responsible for clearing communications before they are sent to the department*

Answer

Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 216

Program: Efic

Topic: G20 - Brisbane

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. Which ministers from the portfolio attended the G20 conference in Brisbane? For each attending minister, please answer the following:**
- 2. How long will the minister be in Brisbane for?**
- 3. Please provide a copy of the minister's program and a list of any meetings that are scheduled.**
- 4. Did the minister requested any briefing material from the department in relation to the G20? Please provide a list of the briefing titles.**
- 5. How many ministerial staff will attended with the minister?**
- 6. How many departmental staff attended the G20?**
- 7. For each minister and staff member attending, how much was spent on airfares to and from Brisbane?**
- 8. For each minister and staff member attending, how much was spent on accommodation in Brisbane?**
- 9. For each minister and staff member attending, how much was spent on other associated expenses? Please detail.**
- 10. Has the department purchased any merchandise or promotional material for the G20? Please detail.**
- 11. Will the department be preparing a report following the G20? If yes:**
 - a. What will be the scope of the report?**
 - b. When will it be complete?**
 - c. Will it be available to the public?**

Answer

Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 217

Program: Efic

Topic: Report printing

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. Have any reports, budget papers, statements, white papers or report-like documents printed for or by the department been pulped, put in storage, shredded or disposed of?*
- 2. If so please give details; name of report, number of copies, cost of printing, who order the disposal, reason for disposal*

Answer

1. Nil as at 23 October 2014.
2. Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 218

Program: Efic

Topic: Graduate Intake

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. *What was the graduate intake for 2012-2013?***
- 2. *What was the graduate intake for 2013-2014?***
- 3. *What is the graduate intake for 2014-2015?***
- 4. *What will be the graduate intake for 2015-2016?***

Answer

1. Nil.
2. Nil.
3. 1.
4. Nil.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 219

Program: Efic

Topic: Enterprise Bargaining Agreements (EBAs)

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. Please list all related EBAs with coverage of the department.*
- 2. Please list their starting and expiration dates.*
- 3. What is the current status of negotiations for the next agreement/s? Please detail.*

Answer

1. Export Finance and Insurance Corporation (EFIC) Workplace Agreement 2008-2011.
2. 11 February 2008 to 11 February 2011.
3. Efic does not intend to negotiate a replacement enterprise agreement at this time.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 220

Program: Efic

Topic: Reviews

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. *How many new reviews (defined as review, inter-departmental group, inquiry, internal review or similar activity) have been commenced? Please list them including:***
 - a. the date they were ordered***
 - b. the date they commenced***
 - c. the minister responsible***
 - d. the department responsible***
 - e. the nature of the review***
 - f. their terms of reference***
 - g. the scope of the review***
 - h. Who is conducting the review***
 - i. the number of officers, and their classification level, involved in conducting the review***
 - j. the expected report date***
 - k. the budgeted, projected or expected costs***
 - l. If the report will be tabled in parliament or made public***
- 2. *For any review commenced or ordered since Budget Estimates in June, 2014, have any external people, companies or contractors being engaged to assist or conduct the review?***
 - a. If so, please list them, including their name and/or trading name/s and any known alias or other trading names***
 - b. If so, please list their managing director and the board of directors or equivalent***

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- c. If yes, for each is the cost associated with their involvement, including a break down for each cost item*
 - d. If yes, for each, what is the nature of their involvement*
 - e. If yes, for each, are they on the lobbyist register, provide details.*
 - f. If yes, for each, what contact has the Minister or their office had with them*
 - g. If yes, for each, who selected them*
 - h. If yes, for each, did the minister or their office have any involvement in selecting them,*
 - i. If yes, please detail what involvement it was*
 - ii. If yes, did they see or provided input to a short list*
 - iii. If yes, on what dates did this involvement occur*
 - iv. If yes, did this involve any verbal discussions with the department*
 - v. If yes, on what dates did this involvement occur*
- 3. Which reviews are on-going?**
- a. Please list them.*
 - b. What is the current cost to date expended on the reviews?*
- 4. Have any reviews been stopped, paused or ceased? Please list them.**
- 5. Which reviews have concluded? Please list them.**
- 6. How many reviews have been provided to Government? Please list them and the date they were provided.**
- 7. When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?**
- 8. What reviews are planned?**
- a. When will each planned review be commenced?*
 - b. When will each of these reviews be concluded?*
 - c. When will government respond to each review?*
 - d. Will the government release each review?*
 - e. If so, when? If not, why not?*

Answer

Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 221

Program: Efic

Topic: Commissioned reports

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. *How many reports (including paid external advice) have been commissioned by the Minister, department or agency?***
 - a) *Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.***
- 2. *How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost? How many departmental or external staff were involved in each report and at what level?***
- 3. *What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?***

Answer

1. Not applicable.

Responses to Question 229 (Market Research) and Question 248 (Legal Costs) detail these forms of reports and paid external advice.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 222

Program: Efic

Topic: Appointments

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. Please detail any board appointments made from to date.***
- 2. What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio?***
- 3. Has the department instigated of changed its gender ratio target and/or any other policy intended to increase the participation rate of women on boards? If yes, please specify what the target and policy is for each board.***
- 4. Please specify when these gender ratio or participation policies were changed.***

Answer

1. No new board member appointments were made from Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 23 October 2014.
2. The gender ratio of the Export Finance and Insurance Corporation (EFIC) at 23 October 2014 was 2 female members to 5 male members (not including ex-officio members)
3. See DFAT response to QoN 133. Efic board members are appointed by the Minister for Trade and Investment.
4. See DFAT response to QoN 133.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 223

Program: Efic

Topic: Stationery requirements

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. *How much has been spent by each department and agency on the government (Ministers / Parliamentary Secretaries) stationery requirements in your portfolio to date?***
 - a) *Detail the items provided to the minister's office.***
 - b) *Please specify how many reams of paper have been supplied to the Minister's office.***
- 2. *How much has been spent on departmental stationery requirements to date.***

Has any customised stationery been requested or provided to the Minister or Ministerial Staff? If yes, please include a photo/scan, detail the type of stationery, date it was requested, date it was provided and the cost.

Answer

1. Not applicable.
2. Stationery costs for the period 4-5 June 2014 to 23 October 2014 were \$5,123.46.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 224

Program: Efic

Topic: Electronic equipment

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. Other than phones, ipads or computers – please list the electronic equipment provided to the Minister’s office.***
 - a. List the items***
 - b. List the items location or normal location***
 - c. List if the item is in the possession of the office or an individual staff member of minister, if with an individual list their employment classification level***
 - d. List the total cost of the items***
 - e. List an itemised cost breakdown of these items***
 - f. List the date they were provided to the office***
 - g. Note if the items were requested by the office or proactively provided by the department.***

Answer

1. Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 225

Program: Efic

Topic: Media subscriptions

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. What pay TV subscriptions does your department/agency have?**
 - a. Please provide a list of channels and the reason for each channel.**
 - b. What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?**
 - c. What is provided to the Minister or their office?**
 - d. What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?**
- 2. What newspaper subscriptions does your department/agency have?**
 - a. Please provide a list of newspaper subscriptions and the reason for each.**
 - b. What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?**
 - c. What is provided to the Minister or their office?**
 - d. What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?**
- 3. What magazine subscriptions does your department/agency have?**
 - a. Please provide a list of magazine subscriptions and the reason for each.**
 - b. What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?**
 - c. What is provided to the Minister or their office?**
 - d. What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?**

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4. *What publications does your department/agency purchase?*
- a. *Please provide a list of publications purchased by the department and the reason for each.*
 - b. *What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?*
 - c. *What is provided to the Minister or their office?*
 - d. *What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?*

Answer

Note: EFIC does not provide any media subscriptions for the Minister's Office.

1. Efic has a subscription with pay TV provider Foxtel for units positioned in common staff areas of the building.

Efic subscribes to FOXTEL's Business Package. Subscription to this package is for the purpose of staff use and enables access to relevant current affairs, business, and financial and public affairs information relevant to Efic work.

The cost of Efic's pay-TV subscription since Estimates in June 2014 to October 2014 was \$1,025.

2. EFIC has subscriptions for the following newspapers:

- Sydney Morning Herald
- Australian Financial Review
- The Australian
- The Daily Telegraph
- The Financial Times

All newspaper subscriptions are for the purposes of staff use and enable access to relevant business, financial and other news relevant to EFIC work.

EFIC records newspaper and magazine subscription expenditure in aggregate. Newspaper and magazine subscription costs for the period June 2014 to October 2014 were \$16,021.

- 3-4. EFIC's magazine and other publication subscriptions include the following:

- Trade Finance
- The Economist
- Australian Journal of Mining
- Global Trade Review (GTR)
- IPI Euromoney
- Thomson Reuters IFR
- KangaNews

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- MiningNews.net
- Project Finance
- PFI
- Basis Point
- Mining Monthly
- Australian Taxation Reporter
- AB&F
- AFMA

All magazine/other publication subscriptions are for the purposes of staff use and enable access to business, financial and other news relevant to EFIC work.

See response to Question 2 for aggregate expenditure.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 226

Program: Efic

Topic: Media monitoring

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. *What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office during the specified period?***
 - a. *Which agency or agencies provided these services?***
 - b. *What has been spent providing these services during the specified period?***
 - c. *Itemise these expenses.***
- 2. *What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency during the specified period?***
 - a. *Which agency or agencies provided these services?***
 - b. *What has been spent providing these services during the specified period?***
 - c. *Itemise these expenses***

Answer

Since Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 18 November 2014:

1. Not applicable
2.
 - a. iSentia.
 - b. \$11,001.
 - c. Media monitoring and clipping service.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 227

Program: Efic

Topic: Media training

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. In relation to media training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information:***
 - a. Total spending on these services***
 - b. An itemised cost breakdown of these services***
 - c. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification***
 - d. The number of employees who have utilised these services and their employment classification***
 - e. The names of all service providers engaged***
 - f. The location that this training was provided***
- 2. For each service purchased from a provider listed under (1), please provide:***
 - a. The name and nature of the service purchased***
 - b. Whether the service is one-on-one or group based***
 - c. The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)***
 - d. The total number of hours involved for all employees (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)***
 - e. The total amount spent on the service***
 - f. A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)***
- 3. Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:***
- 4. The location used***
- 5. The number of employees who took part on each occasion***

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- 6. *The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)***
- 7. *Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location***

Answer

Efic is not an APS body and as such, APS employment classifications are not applicable to Efic staff.

1-2. As at 23 October 2014, Efic has not provided media training to any staff.

3. Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 228

Program: Efic

Topic: G20 - Expenses

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Please provide an itemised table of all expenses incurred by the department since September 7, 2013 associated with official G20 and related working group, taskforce, roundtable, Sherpa meetings, workshop and study groups) events, including but not limited to hospitality, accommodation, transport, recreation, merchandise, meals/drinks, catering, security.

For each item, please provide:

- a. The name of the event/meeting that the expense related to.*
- b. The location of the event.*
- c. The date of the event.*
- d. The name and ABN of the service provider.*
- e. Advise whether the contract was awarded through an open tender process.*
- f. The total value of the contract/invoice.*
- g. The date the contract was executed by the Department.*
- h. The number of attendees at the event, if applicable.*
- i. Advise whether an Australian Government Minister was in attendance. Please detail.*
- j. Advise whether foreign delegates were in attendance. Please detail.*

Advise whether the contract/expenditure was approved by the Prime Minister's Office, and if so the date that approval was sought and granted.

Answer

Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 229

Program: Efic

Topic: Market research

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. *List any market research conducted by the department/agency:***
 - a. *List the total cost of this research***
 - b. *List each item of expenditure and cost, broken down by division and program***
 - c. *Who conducted the research?***
 - d. *How were they identified?***
 - e. *Where was the research conducted?***
 - f. *In what way was the research conducted?***
 - g. *Were focus groups, round tables or other forms of research tools used?***
 - h. *How were participants for these focus groups et al selected?***
 - i. *How was the firm or individual that conducted the review selected?***
 - j. *What input did the Minister have?***
 - k. *How was it approved?***
 - l. *Were other firms or individuals considered? If yes, please detail.***

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Answer

Market research conducted by Efic since Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 18 November 2014, is as follows:

	EFIC SME Exporter Index (Quarter 3)	EFIC SME Exporter Index (Quarter 4)	Australian International Business Survey (2015)
Cost	\$37 500	\$37 500	\$40,000
Vendor	East & Partners	East & Partners	University of Sydney
Vendor Selection	Selected from shortlist based on competitive proposal.	Selected from shortlist based on competitive proposal.	Part of ECA proposal
Where	N/A	N/A	N/A
Method	Telephone Interviews	Telephone Interviews	Online
Participant selection	Random sampling from East & Partners database.	Random sampling from East & Partners database.	Convenience sampling by inviting qualified responses in partner databases

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 230

Program: Efic

Topic: FOI requests

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. How many requests for documents under the FOI Act have been received?*
- 2. Of these, how many documents have been determined to be deliberative documents?*
- 3. Of those assessed as deliberative documents:*
 - a. For how many has access to the document been refused on the basis that it would be contrary to the public interest?*
 - b. For how many has a redacted document been provided?*

Answer

1. No requests for documents under the FOI Act have been received from Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 23 October 2014.
2. Not applicable.
3. Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 231

Program: Efic

Topic: Ministerial Motor vehicles

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. *Has the minister been provided with or had access to a motor vehicle?
If so:***
 - a. What is the make and model?***
 - b. How much did it cost?***
 - c. When was it provided?***
 - d. Was the entire cost met by the department? If not, how was the cost met?***
 - e. What, if any, have been the ongoing costs associated with this motor vehicle? Please include costs such as maintenance and fuel.***
 - f. Are these costs met by the department? If not, how are these costs met?***
 - g. Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine if a minister is entitled to a motor vehicle.***
 - h. Have these guidelines changed since Additional Estimates in February, 2014? If so, please detail.***
 - i. Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine how a minister is to use a motor vehicle they have been provided with. Please include details such as whether the motor vehicle can be used for personal uses.***
 - j. Have these guidelines changed since Additional Estimates in February, 2014? If so, please detail.***

Answer

1. Not applicable

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 232

Program: Efic

Topic: Ministerial Staff vehicles - non-MoPS

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. *Outside of MoPS Act entitlements, have any of the Minister's staff been provided with a motor vehicle? If so:***
 - a. What is the make and model?***
 - b. How much did it cost?***
 - c. When was it provided?***
 - d. Was the entire cost met by the department? If not, how was the cost met?***
 - e. What, if any, have been the ongoing costs associated with this motor vehicle? Please include costs such as maintenance and fuel.***
 - f. Are these costs met by the department? If not, how are these costs met?***
 - g. Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine this entitlement to a motor vehicle.***
 - h. Have these guidelines changed during the specified period? If so, please detail.***
 - i. Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine how a motor vehicle is to be used that they have been provided with. Please include details such as whether the motor vehicle can be used for personal uses.***
 - j. Have these guidelines changed during the specified period? If so, please detail.***

Answer

1. Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 233

Program: Efic

Topic: Ministerial Staff vehicles

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. *Have any of the Minister's staff been provided with a motor vehicle under the MoPS Act entitlements? If so:***
 - a. What is the make and model?***
 - b. How much did it cost?***
 - c. When was it provided?***
 - d. Was the entire cost met by the department? If not, how was the cost met?***
 - e. What, if any, have been the ongoing costs associated with this motor vehicle? Please include costs such as maintenance and fuel.***
 - f. Are these costs met by the department? If not, how are these costs met?***
 - g. Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine this entitlement to a motor vehicle.***
 - h. Have these guidelines changed during the specified period? If so, please detail.***
 - i. Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine how a motor vehicle is to be used that they have been provided with. Please include details such as whether the motor vehicle can be used for personal uses.***
 - j. Have these guidelines changed during the specified period? If so, please detail.***

Answer

1. Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 234

Program: Efic

Topic: Building Lease Costs

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. What has been the total cost of building leases for the agency / department?*
- 2. Please provide a detailed list of each building that is currently leased. Please detail by:*
 - a. Date the lease agreement is active from.*
 - b. Date the lease agreement ends.*
 - c. Is the lease expected to be renewed? If not, why not?*
 - d. Location of the building (City and state).*
 - e. Cost of the lease.*
 - f. Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department.*
- 3. Please provide a detailed list of each building that had a lease that was not renewed during the specified period. Please detail by:*
 - a. Date from which the lease agreement was active.*
 - b. Date the lease agreement ended.*
 - c. Why was the lease not renewed?*
 - d. Location of the building (City and state).*
 - e. Cost of the lease.*
 - f. Why the building was necessary for the operations of the agency / department.*

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

4. *Please provide a detailed list of each building that is expected to be leased in the next 12 months. Please detail by:*
- a. *Date the lease agreement is expected to become active.*
 - b. *Date the lease agreement is expected to end.*
 - c. *Expected location of the building (City and state).*
 - d. *Expected cost of the lease.*
 - e. *Has this cost been allocated into the budget?*
 - f. *Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department.*
5. *For each building owned or leased by the department:*
- a. *What is the current occupancy rate for the building?*
 - b. *If the rate is less than 100%, detail what the remaining being used for.*

Answer

- 1. Not applicable.
- 2. Not applicable.
- 3. Not applicable.
- 4. Not applicable.
- 5. See response to QoN 255 Land Costs.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 235

Program: Efic

Topic: Government advertising

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. How much has been spent on government advertising (including job ads)?**
 - a. List each item of expenditure and cost**
 - b. List the approving officer for each item**
 - c. Detail the outlets that were paid for the advertising**
- 2. What government advertising is planned for the rest of the financial year?**
 - a. List the total expected cost**
 - b. List each item of expenditure and cost**
 - c. List the approving officer for each item**
 - d. Detail the outlets that have been or will be paid for the advertising.**

Answer

1. Efic undertakes general advertising to generate awareness of Efic's products and services among Australian exporters. Efic was not involved in government advertising.
2. Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 236

Program: Efic

Topic: Workplace assessments

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. How much has been spent on workplace ergonomic assessments?
 - a. List each item of expenditure and cost**
- 2. Have any assessments, not related to an existing disability, resulted in changes to workplace equipment or set up?*
- 3. If so, list each item of expenditure and cost related to those changes.*

Answer

Since Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 20 November 2014:

1. 4 workplace assessments were conducted since Budget Estimates in June 2014:
 - a) Workplace assessment x 1 - \$384.08
 - Workplace assessment x 2 - \$268.95
 - Workplace assessment x 1 - \$ 243.83
 - Total: \$ 1,165.81
2. The above assessments resulted in ergonomic equipment being purchased.
3. See table below related to equipment purchased:

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Equipment	Units	Total Cost
Sit/Stand table (including delivery and installation)	1	1144.55
React High Back 3 lever, with HiArch Black Base	2	963.64
TARGUS USB Corded Numeric Keypad.	1	31.77
FELLOWES COPYHOLDER - BOOKLIFT	1	18.14
Evoluent Essential Keyboard	1	98.18
Microdesk	2	230.00
Special Option - SEAT SLIDE 50mm 5-point (add to chair price)	1	40.00
Special Option - ADJUSTABLE MULTIDIRECTIONAL ALLOY ARM (set)	1	77.27
Kemsington Pro Fit Mouse Medium (Wirelss Mouse)	1	90.00
Evoluent Essential (Keyboard	1	90.00
Adjustable footrest	2	156.00
Monitor Platform	2	29.64

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 237

Program: Efic

Topic: Ministerial website

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. How much has been spent on the Minister's website?
a) List each item of expenditure and cost*
- 2. Who is responsible for uploading information to the Minister's website?*
- 3. Have any departmental staff been required to work outside regular hours to maintain the Minister's website? Please detail.*

Answer

Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 238

Program: Efic

Topic: Existing Resources Program

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. How many projects, work, programs or other tasks has the department started as a consequence of government policies or priorities that are required to be funded 'within existing resources'?*
- 2. List each*
- 3. List the staffing assigned to each task*
- 4. What is the nominal total salary cost of the officers assigned to the project?*
- 5. What resources or equipment has been assigned to the project?*

Answer

Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 239

Program: Efic

Topic: Multiple tenders

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. List any tenders that were re-issued or issued multiple times:
 - a. Why were they re-issued or issued multiple times?*
 - b. Were any applicants received for the tenders before they were re-issued or repeatedly issued?*
 - c. Were those applicants asked to resubmit their tender proposal?**

Answer

As at October 23 2014, Efic has had no tenders in line with its procurement reporting requirements as a Corporate Commonwealth Entity under the Commonwealth Procurement Rules.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 240

Program: Efic

Topic: Staffing - Staff Transfers

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. How many people does your department employ?**
- 2. What is the number of staff employed in each state and Territory as at 30 June 2013, and what is their age, gender and classification level?**
- 3. What is the number of staff currently employed in each state and territory, and what is their age, gender and classification level?**
- 4. What functions have been transferred between transferred from one state or territory to another since the federal election in 2013?**
- 5. Can you please provide details by function of the, number of staff employed, the age, gender and classification of staff employed in the function that was transferred, where it was based prior to the transfer and where it was transferred to?**
- 6. with co**
- 7. How many of these people are employed in Canberra?**
- 8. How many people did your department employ in Canberra immediately prior to the 2013 federal election?**
- 9. How many employees have been transferred out of Canberra since the 2013**
- 10. How many of your employees have been transferred to Canberra since the 2013 federal election?**
- 11. For all employees transferred to or from Canberra since the 2013 federal election, please provide their age.**
- 12. For all employees transferred to or from Canberra since the 2013 federal election, please provide their wage. Please provide the figure for before their transfer and after their transfer.**
- 13. For all employees transferred to or from Canberra since the 2013 federal election, please provide their gender.**

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- 14. For all employees transferred to or from Canberra since the 2013 federal election, please provide the area of the department they worked in. Please provide this detail for before their transfer and after their transfer.**
- 15. For all employees transferred to or from Canberra since the 2013 federal election, please provide a description of their position. Please provide this detail for before their transfer and after their transfer.**
- 16. For every transferred employee please provide an explanation for their transfer?**
- 17. For every transferred employee please provide any other cost incurred by the department because of that transfer?**
- 18. Please provide all relevant dates.**

Answer

1. As at 30 October 2014 the total number of Efic staff is 103.
2. As at 30 June 2013 the breakdown was as follows:

State	No.	Gender		Age					SES equivalent	Non-SES equivalent	Contract Type	
		F	M	20	30	40	50	60			Ongoing	Non-ongoing
NSW	87	40	46	6	29	26	24	1	7	79	83	3
WA	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
QLD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
VIC	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0

3. As at 30 October 2014, the breakdown was as follows:

State	No.	Gender		Age					SES equivalent	Non-SES equivalent	Contract Type	
		F	M	20	30	40	50	60			Ongoing	Non-ongoing
NSW	94	45	49	8	33	29	24	0	8	86	91	3
WA	3	3	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	3	0
QLD	3	1	2	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0
VIC	3	0	3	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	3	0

4. Nil.
5. Not applicable.
6. Nil.
7. Nil.
8. Not applicable.
9. Not applicable.
10. Not applicable.
11. Not applicable.
12. Not applicable.
13. Not applicable.

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- 14. Not applicable.
- 15. Not applicable.
- 16. Not applicable.
- 17. Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 241

Program: Efic

Topic: Staffing - Redundancies

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. *How many positions have been made redundant in your department since the 2013 federal election?***
 - a. *How many of these positions were ongoing?***
 - b. *How many of these positions were non-ongoing?***
 - c. *How many of these positions were situated in the Australian Capital Territory?***

- 2. *How many of the employees filling these redundant positions were redeployed since the 2013 federal election?***
 - a. *How many of these employees were ongoing?***
 - b. *How many of these employees were non-ongoing?***
 - c. *How many of these employees were situated in the Australian Capital Territory?***

- 3. *How many of these employees were offered voluntary redundancies since the 2013 federal election?***
 - a. *How many of these employees were ongoing?***
 - b. *How many of these employees were non-ongoing?***
 - c. *How many of these employees were situated in the Australian Capital Territory?***

- 4. *How many accepted voluntary redundancies since the 2013 federal election?***
 - a. *How many of these employees were ongoing?***
 - b. *How many of these employees were non-ongoing?***
 - c. *How many of these employees were situated in the Australian Capital Territory?***

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

5. *How many employees were offered the choice between a voluntary redundancy and redeployment since the 2013 federal election?*
 - a. *How many of these employees were ongoing?*
 - b. *How many of these employees were non-ongoing?*
 - c. *How many of these employees were situated in the Australian Capital Territory?*
6. *For all employees who accepted voluntary redundancies since the 2013 federal election please:*
 - a. *Provide a dollar figure of their pay out, their age, gender and a description of their position including APS level, contract type (non-ongoing versus ongoing), responsibilities and where they were located.*
 - b. *Please specify what component of that figure was paid out entitlements (annual leave etc).*
 - c. *Please specify any other costs incurred by the department because of this redundancy.*
 - d. *Please provide the reason a voluntary redundancy was offered for their position.*
 - e. *Please provide all relevant dates.*
7. *For all employees who were redeployed please provide:*
 - a. *Their age, gender and a description of their position prior to and after redeployment, including the wages of these positions, the APS level of these positions, the contract type (non-ongoing versus ongoing) and where they were located.*
 - b. *Please specify any other costs incurred by the department because of this redeployment.*
 - c. *Please provide the reason for that redeployment.*
 - d. *Please provide all relevant dates.*
8. *Since the 2013 federal election, how many employees in your department have been made forcibly redundant?*
 - a. *How many of these employees were ongoing?*
 - b. *How many of these employees were non-ongoing?*
 - c. *How many of these employees were situated in the Australian Capital Territory?*
9. *How many of these employees were offered voluntary redundancies or redeployments prior to being made forcibly redundant?*
 - a. *How many of these employees were ongoing?*
 - b. *How many of these employees were non-ongoing?*
 - c. *How many of these employees were situated in the Australian Capital Territory?*

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- 10. For employees who were made forcibly redundant since the 2013 federal election please provide:**
- a. Their age, gender, the dollar figure of their pay out and a description of their position including APS level, contract type (non-ongoing versus ongoing) responsibilities and where they were located.**
 - b. Please specify what component of that figure was paid out entitlements (annual leave etc).**
 - c. Please specify any other costs incurred by the department because of this redundancy.**
 - d. Please provide the reason for that redundancy.**
 - e. Please provide all relevant dates.**

Answer

As at 22 January 2015:

1. One
 - a) 1
 - b) Not applicable
 - c) Nil
2. Nil
3. Nil
4. Nil
5. Nil
6. Not applicable
7. Not applicable
8. 1
 - a. 1
 - b. Nil
 - c. None
9. Nil
10.
 - a. 50-60
Male
Due to the ability to identify the individual from this information, position description cannot be provided.
Non SES-equivalent
Due to the ability to identify the individual from this information, wage cannot be provided.
Ongoing
NSW

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- b. Due to the ability to identify the individual from this information, details of pay out and entitlements cannot be provided.
- c. Outplacement fee: \$5,455.00
- d. Reorganisation of business structure
- e. Employed from March 2008 to May 2014.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 242

Program: Efic

Topic: Staffing - Hiring

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. *How many people are employed in your department on non-ongoing contracts?***
- 2. *How many people are employed in your department on ongoing contracts?***
- 3. *How many non-ongoing contracts has your department extended since the 2013 federal election?***
- 4. *How many non-ongoing contract extensions did your department submit the Public Service Commission for approval?***
- 5. *How many of these extensions were approved by the Public Service Commission?***
 - a. *For every approved extension please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, their length of continuous employment by the APS, the length of approved extension, the reasons why the extensions was submitted and the reasons why the extension was approved by the Public Service Commission, as well as all relevant dates.***
- 6. *How many of these extensions were rejected by the Public Service Commission?***
 - a. *For every rejected extension please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, their length of continuous employment by the APS, the length of extension sought by the department, the reasons why the extensions was submitted and the reasons why the extension was***

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

rejected by the Public Service Commission, as well as all relevant dates.

7. *How many non-ongoing contracts have been extended by your department without the Public Service Commission's approval?*
 - a. *For every unapproved extension please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, their length of continuous employment by the APS, the length of the unapproved extension, the reasons why the extension was granted, whether the extension was submitted to the Public Service Commission for approval, and the reasons why the extension was granted without the approval of the Public Service Commission, as well as all relevant dates.*
8. *How many non-ongoing contracts have expired without extension since the 2013 federal election?*
 - a. *For every expired non-ongoing contract please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, their length of continuous employment by the APS, the reason why an extension was not sought, as well as all relevant dates.*
9. *How many new employees have been engaged by your department on non-ongoing contracts since the 2013 federal election?*
10. *How many new non-ongoing engagements were submitted to the Public Service Commission for approval since the 2014 federal election?*
11. *How many of these new non-ongoing engagements were approved by the Public Service Commission?*
 - a. *For every approved new engagement of a non-ongoing employee please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, the length of their non-ongoing contract, whether this position was advertised externally, the reason for engaging this new employee and the reason given by the Public Service Commission for approving this engagement, as well as all relevant dates relating to this application.*
12. *How many of these new non-ongoing employee applications were rejected by the Public Service Commission?*

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- a. For every new non-ongoing engagement rejected by the Public Service Commission please provide the following details: APS level, a description of their job, the length of their non-ongoing contract, the reason for engaging the new employee and the reason given by the Public Service Commission for rejecting this engagement, as well as all relevant dates relating to this application.*
- 13. How many new employees have been engaged on non-ongoing contracts without the approval of the Public Service Commission?**
- a. For every non-ongoing employee engaged without the Public Service Commission's approval please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, the length of their non-ongoing contract, whether this position was advertised externally, the reason for engaging this new employee and the reason for engaging this employee without the Public Service Commission's approval, as well as all relevant dates.*
- 14. How many new employees have been engaged by your department on ongoing contracts since the 2013 federal election?**
- 15. How many new ongoing engagements were submitted to the Public Service Commission for approval since the 2013 federal election?**
- 16. How many of these new ongoing engagements were approved by the Public Service Commission?**
- a. For every approved new engagement of a ongoing employee please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, the length of their ongoing contract, whether this position was advertised externally, the reason for engaging this new employee and the reason given by the Public Service Commission for approving this engagement, as well as all relevant dates relating to this application.*
- 17. How many of these new ongoing employee applications were rejected by the Public Service Commission?**
- a. For every new ongoing engagement rejected by the Public Service Commission please provide the following details: APS level, a description of their job, the length of their ongoing contract, the reason for engaging the new employee and the reason given by the*

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Public Service Commission for rejecting this engagement, as well as all relevant dates relating to this application.

- 18. How many new employees have been engaged on ongoing contracts without the approval of the Public Service Commission?**
- a. For every ongoing employee engaged without the Public Service Commission's approval please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, the length of their ongoing contract, whether this position was advertised externally, the reason for engaging this new employee and the reason for engaging this employee without the Public Service Commission's approval, as well as all relevant dates.**

Answer

Note: Efic is not an APS body and as such APS classifications do not apply to Efic staff.

As at 22 January 2015:

1. 4
2. Efic define ongoing contracts as those employed under the Efic Act 1991 (Cth) under ongoing terms and renewable 5 year statutory contracts.
As at 22 January 2015, Efic employ 100 ongoing staff.
3. Nil
4. Not applicable
5. Not applicable
6. Not applicable
7. Not applicable
8. 1
 - a. Age: 30-40
 - b. Male
 - c. Due to the ability to identify the individual from this information, the position description cannot be provided.
 - d. Due to the ability to identify the individual from this information, wage cannot be provided.
 - e. Non SES equivalent
 - f. Not an APS employee
 - g. End of contract

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h. Original contract from November 2009 – December 2010. Extended eight times over the period December 2010- June 2013. Contracted terminated in October 2013.

9. 4

10. Not applicable

11. Not applicable

12. Not applicable

13. Not applicable

14. 30

15. Not applicable

16. Not applicable

17. Not applicable

18. Not applicable

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 243

Program: Efic

Topic: Departmental upgrades

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. Has the department/agency engaged in any new refurbishments, upgrades or changes to their building or facilities?***
 - a. If so, list these***
 - b. If so, list the total cost for these changes***
 - c. If so, list the itemised cost for each item of expenditure***
 - d. If so, who conducted the works?***
 - e. If so, list the process for identifying who would conduct these works***

If so, when are the works expected to be completed?

Answer

As at 23 October 2014, Tenants within Efic's owned building at 22 Pitt Street, Sydney are undertaking ongoing office fitout works associated with leased spaces.

No other significant refurbishment, upgrade or changes were made to the building or facilities.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 244

Program: Efic

Topic: Wine coolers / Fridges

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. Has the department/agency purchased or leased any new wine coolers, or wine fridges or other devices for the purpose of housing alcohol beverages, including Eskies?***
 - a. If so, list these***
 - b. If so, list the total cost for these items***
 - c. If so, list the itemised cost for each item of expenditure***
 - d. If so, where were these purchased***
 - e. If so, list the process for identifying how they would be purchased***
 - f. If so, what is the current location for these items?***
 - g. If so, what is the current stocking level for each of these items?***

Answer

1. No, as at 23 October 2014.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 245

Program: Efic

Topic: Office plants

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

1. Has the department/agency purchased or leased any office plants?

- a) If so, list these***
- b) If so, list the total cost for these items***
- c) If so, list the itemised cost for each item of expenditure***
- d) If so, where were these purchased***
- e) If so, list the process for identifying how they would be purchased***
- f) If so, what is the current location for these items?***

Answer

1. As at 23 October 2014, EFIC did not purchase or hire any additional office plants since Budget Estimates in June 2014.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 246

Program: Efic

Topic: Office recreational facilities

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. Has the department/agency purchased or leased or constructed any office recreation facilities, activities or games (including but not limited to pool tables, table tennis tables or others)?***
 - a) If so, list these***
 - b) If so, list the total cost for these items***
 - c) If so, list the itemised cost for each item of expenditure***
 - d) If so, where were these purchased***
 - e) If so, list the process for identifying how they would be purchased***
 - f) If so, what is the current location for these items?***
 - g) If so, what is the current usage for each of these items?***

Answer

No.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 247

Program: Efic

Topic: Vending machines

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. *Has the department/agency purchased or leased or taken under contract any vending machine facilities?***
 - a) If so, list these***
 - b) If so, list the total cost for these items***
 - c) If so, list the itemised cost for each item of expenditure***
 - d) If so, where were these purchased***
 - e) If so, list the process for identifying how they would be purchased***
 - f) If so, what is the current location for these items?***
 - g) If so, what is the current usage for each of these items?***

Answer

No.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 248

Program: Efic

Topic: Legal costs

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. List all legal costs incurred by the department or agency***
- 2. List the total cost for these items, broken down by source of legal advice, hours retained or taken to prepare the advice and the level of counsel used in preparing the advice, whether the advice was internal or external***
- 3. List cost spend briefing Counsel, broken down by hours spent briefing, whether it was direct or indirect briefing, the gender ratio of Counsel, how each Counsel was engaged (departmental, ministerial)***
- 4. How was each piece of advice procured? Detail the method of identifying legal advice.***

Answer

Please note:

- All costs are from 1 July 2014 to 23 October 2014.
 - Gross costs are provided noting some of Efic's legal spend for transactions is recoverable from Efic's clients.
 - Costs are inclusive of legal spending associated with Efic's Commercial Account and the National Interest Account which Efic administers on behalf of Government.
 - A list of each legal service and individual cost cannot be provided as this would constitute a significant diversion of Efic resources.
1. Legal costs incurred for external legal advice/services is approximately \$112,000, comprised of approximately \$69,500 in non-recoverable legal costs and \$42,500 in recovered or recoverable legal costs from Efic's clients. External legal services are not recorded in a way to enable a full list of advice/services and their costs to be broken down.

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2. Internal legal advice/services

Efic maintains an in-house legal function which provides the majority of corporate and transactional legal advice/services to the organisation.

Internal legal services are not recorded in a way to enable a full list of advice/services and their costs to be broken down by source of legal advice, hours retained or time taken to prepare the advice without undertaking an unduly burdensome administrative exercise.

External legal advice/services

For the period since 1 July 2014 to 23 October 2014, Efic's gross spend for external legal services (including any payable disbursements and GST) comprised of approximately \$69,500 in non-recoverable legal costs and \$42,500 in recovered or recoverable legal costs from Efic's clients. These recovered or recoverable external legal costs are generally incurred in connection with transactions where Efic is providing financial or insurance products or services to its clients.

External legal services are not recorded in a way to enable a full list of advice/services and their costs to be broken down by source of legal advice, hours retained or time taken to prepare the advice. This would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances; Efic does not consider the additional work can be justified.

3. Nil.

4. Internal legal advice is generally procured to assist in the origination, execution and management of transactions or for general corporate purposes.

Generally, external legal services are procured in circumstances where specialist experience is required. It is Efic's practice to ensure that appropriately qualified external lawyers are engaged on assignments and that their costs are kept to reasonable levels. To assist in this process, all external legal engagements must be authorised by Efic's internal legal function.

External legal services from domestic law firms are obtained from legal services providers which have been appointed to the Commonwealth's Legal Services Multi-Use List and in accordance with the requirements as set out in the Legal Services Directions 2005 and Legal Services Multi-Use List Guidance Material Reference.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 249

Program: Efic

Topic: Lobbyist Register Meetings

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. List all interactions between the department/agency with any representative listed on the lobbyist register***
- 2. List the participants in the meeting, the topic of the discussion, who arranged or requested the meeting, the location of the meeting***
- 3. List all interactions between the Minister/parliamentary Secretary and/or their offices with any representative listed on the lobbyist register during the specified period. List the participants in the meeting, the topic of the discussion, who arranged or requested the meeting, the location of the meeting.***

Answer

- 1-2.** Efic is not required to maintain a list of all interactions with representatives listed on the lobbyist register.
- 3.** Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 250

Program: Efic

Topic: Provision equipment - departmental

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. *Has electronic equipment (such as ipad, laptop, wireless card, vasco token, blackberry, mobile phone (list type if relevant), thumb drive, video cameras) been provided by the department/agency to departmental staff? If yes provide a list of:***
 - a. What has been provided?***
 - b. The purchase cost.***
 - c. The ongoing cost.***
 - d. A list of any accessories provided for the equipment and the cost of those accessories. (e.g. iPad keyboards, laptop carry bags, additional chargers etc).***
 - e. A breakdown of what staff and staff classification receives each item.***

Answer

1. Yes.
 - a. Electronic Equipment will be provided to staff when required. Common items which are borrowed are – thumb drives, wireless card/1gb data services. Mobile phones are allocated to most employees at Efic when commencing here at Efic depending on department role.
 - b. Encrypted Thumb Drives - \$70
Data Service – \$19 – 2gb
Wireless Card - \$130
Mobile Phones - \$700-\$1000
 - c. The only ongoing cost are the services attached to the mobile phones.
Data Service - \$19 – 2gb

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Call Service - \$5

d. Cost Price on equipment

Item	Cost
iPad	\$600-\$900
iPad Keyboard	\$150
Laptops – Carbon X1	\$2800
Additional Chargers – Cable + Powerhead	\$50

e. Staff Classification of borrowed equipment

Department	Equipment
Marketing	Laptops, Wireless cards
SME	Laptops
All Departments	iPads + Keyboard
All Departments	Additional Chargers – cable + Powerhead

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 251

Program: Efic

Topic: Ministerial staff turnover

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. List the current staffing allocation for each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary***
- 2. For each Minister or Parliamentary Secretary list the number of staff recruited, broken down by their staffing classification***
- 3. For each Minister or Parliamentary Secretary list the number of staff that have resigned, broken down by their staffing classification***
- 4. For each Minister or Parliamentary Secretary list the number of staff that have been terminated, broken down by their staffing classification***
- 5. For each Ministerial staff position, please provide a table of how many individual people have been engaged against each position since the swearing in of the Abbott Government, broken down by employing member and the dates of their employment.***

Answer

Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 252

Program: Efic

Topic: Unallocated Equipment

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. Please detail how much electrical equipment, phones and computers the department/agency has in storage or unallocated to staff.**

- 2. Please detail the purchase, storage and ongoing costs associated with equipment, phones and computers in storage or unallocated.**

Answer

As at 22 January 2015:

1. List of current unallocated equipment:

Equipment	Quantity	Location
Loan Laptops	3	MIS Storage
Training laptops	5	MIS Storage
Spare Phones	4	MIS Storage
Computers	6	MIS Storage
Monitors	1	MIS Storage

- 2.

Equipment	Purchase	Ongoing Cost
Loan Laptops – Carbon X1	\$2800	\$0
Training Laptops	N/A	\$0
Phones – iPhones, Galaxy s4 Galaxy Note 3	\$700-\$1000	\$0 (No Data services attached)
Computers	N/A	\$0
Monitors	N/A	\$0

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 253

Program: Efic

Topic: Communications staff

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. For all departments and agencies, please provide – in relation to all public relations, communications and media staff – the following:**
- 2. How many ongoing staff, the classification, the type of work they undertake and their location.**
- 3. How many non-ongoing staff, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location**
- 4. How many contractors, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location**
- 5. How many are graphic designers?**
- 6. How many are media managers?**
- 7. How many organise events?**

Answer

Efic is not an APS body and as such, APS employment classifications are not applicable to EFIC staff.

1-4 As at 22 January 2015, Efic employs one ongoing Manager, Communications and Media/PR (non-SES equivalent). This staff member is located in Efic's main office in Sydney.

5-7 As at 22 January 2015, Efic employs one graphic designer and one events manager on a full time basis as part of a broader marketing function. The communications staff member referred to in part 1-4) provides media management services where necessary in collaboration with Efic's broader marketing function.

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Question No 254

Program: Efic

Topic: Red tape reduction

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. *Please detail what structures, officials, offices, units, taskforce or other processes has the department dedicated to meeting the government's red tape reduction targets?***
 - a) *What is the progress of that red tape reduction target***
- 2. *How many officers have been placed in those units and at what level?***
- 3. *How have they been recruited?***
- 4. *What process was used for their appointment?***
- 5. *What is the total cost of this unit?***
- 6. *What is the estimated total salary cost of the officers assigned to the unit.***
- 7. *Do members of the unit have access to cabinet documents?***
- 8. *Lease list the security classification and date the classification was issued for each officer, broken down by APS or SES level, in the red tape reduction unit or similar body.***
- 9. *What is the formal name given to this unit/taskforce/team/workgroup or agency within the department?***

Answer

See DFAT answer to QoN 165.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 255

Program: Efic

Topic: Land costs

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. *How much land (if any) does the Department or agencies or authorities or Government corporation within each portfolio own or lease?***
- 2. *Please list by each individual land holding, the size of the piece of land, the location of that piece of land and the latest valuation of that piece of land, where that land is owned or leased by the Department, or agency or authority or Government Corporation within that portfolio? (In regards to this question please ignore land upon which Australian Defence force bases are located. Non Defence Force base land is to be included)***
- 3. *List the current assets, items or purse (buildings, facilities or other) on the land identified above.***
 - a. *What is the current occupancy level and occupant of the items identified in (3)?***
 - b. *What is the value of the items identified in (3)?***
 - c. *What contractual or other arrangements are in place for the items identified in (3)?***
- 4. *How many buildings (if any) does the Department or agencies or authorities or Government Corporation within each portfolio own or lease?***

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

5. *Please list by each building owned, its name, the size of the building in terms of square metres, the location of that of that building and the latest valuation of that building, where that building is owned by the Department, or agency or authority or Government corporation within that portfolio? (In regards to this question please ignore buildings that are situated on Australian Defence force bases. Non Defence Force base buildings are to be included).*
6. *In regards to any building identified in Q4, please also detail, the occupancy rate as expressed as a percentage of the building size. If occupancy is identified as less than 100%, for what is the remaining space used?*

Answer

As at 22 January 2015:

1. 821m²
2. Sydney: 821m², 22 Pitt Street Sydney NSW, \$10,900,000.00, owned.
3. 11 storey commercial office building.
 - a. 96% occupied by various commercial tenants, including EFIC.
 - b. \$24,700,000 (includes depreciation, and excludes land value)
 - c. Various commercial property leases.
4. 1 building
5.
 - a. Export House
 - b. 6585m²
 - c. 22 Pitt Street Sydney, NSW 2000
 - d. \$38,900,000.00
6. 96%, remaining office space being actively marketed for lease.

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Question No 256

Program: Efic

Topic: Ministerial Staff Code of Conduct

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. *Have there been any identified breaches of the Ministerial Staff Code of Conduct by the Minister, their office or the department?***
 - a) If so, list the breaches identified, broken by staffing classification level***
 - b) If so, what remedy was put in place to manage the breach? If no remedy has been put in place, why not?***
 - c) If so, when was the breach identified? By whom? When was the Minister made aware?***
- 2. *Can the Minister confirm that all ministerial and electorate officers in their office comply fully with the ministerial staff code of conduct?***
 - a) If not, how many staff don't comply, broken down by classification level?***
 - b) How long have they worked for the Minister?***
- 3. *Can you confirm they all complied with the code on the date of their employment?***
 - a) If not, on what date did they comply?***
- 4. *Can you confirm that all disclosures as required by the code were made to the government staffing committee?***
 - a) If so, on what date were those disclosure made?***
- 5. *By position title list the date each staff member was approved by government staff committee***

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

6. *Can you confirm all staff have divested themselves of any and all relevant shares as of the date of their appointment*
7. *Can you list by number if any staff have been granted exception by the SMOS to remain a director of a company as allowed by the Ministerial Staff Code of Conduct, break down by position level.*

Answer

Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 257

Program: Efic

Topic: Boards (for Departments or agencies with boards)

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014 for each board in the portfolio or agencies:

- 1. how often has each board met, break down by board name;***
- 2. what travel expenses have been incurred;***
- 3. what has been the average attendance at board meetings;***
- 4. List each member's attendance at meetings;***
- 5. how does the board deal with conflict of interest;***
- 6. what conflicts of interest have been registered;***
- 7. what remuneration has been provided to board members;***
- 8. how does the board dismiss board members who do not meet attendance standards?***
- 9. Have any requests been made to ministers to dismiss board members?***
- 10. Please list board members who have attended less than 51% of meetings***
- 11. what have been the catering costs for the board meetings held during this period? Please break down the cost list.***

Answer

1. Board Title: Export Finance and Insurance Corporation (Efic)

The Board meets seven times per year at approximately six week intervals. From Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 23 October 2014 the Board has met three times.

2. Travel expenses are provided in accordance with the Remuneration Tribunal's Determination 2013/16.

3. The average attendance at Board meetings held from Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 23 October 2014 is 100% attendance per meeting (excluding ex officio members).

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

4. Each member (excluding ex officio members) has attended all the meetings held during the period from Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 23 October 2014:

Andrew Mohl (Chairperson)

Deena Shiff (Deputy Chairperson)

Bruce Brook

David Evans

Nicholas Minogue

Annabelle Chaplain

Andrew Hunter (Managing Director)

5. Board members are formally advised of their obligations regarding conflicts of interest on their appointment to the Board and annually thereafter.

Board members are required to complete a disclosure form prior to attendance at their first Board Meeting and to notify the Board Secretary when a material change occurs. An updated register of disclosed interests is made available to all Directors and each Board Meeting.

The general disclosure alerts Management and the Board to possible conflicts of interest which may require the withholding of particular Board papers. If a director has, or believes he or she may have, a conflict of interest in relation to a matter which Management has not detected, the Director is required to advise the Chairperson and the potential conflict declared at the Board Meeting.

Where a Director declares a conflict of interest, the Director is required to leave the Board Meeting before any discussion of the relevant item begins. In the Director's absence, the Board determines whether the Director may participate in the discussion and the decision. If the Board determines that the Director should not be involved, they will remain excluded from any discussion on the relevant item.

6. Potential conflicts of interest were raised by two separate Board members, one at the June 2014 Board meeting and a second at the August 2014 Board meeting. At the June 2014 Board meeting, pursuant to agreed Board protocols and with the consent of the Chairperson, the Director who raised the potential conflict excluded themselves from the Board meeting for the duration of discussions involving the potentially conflicted subject matter. At the August 2014 meeting, pursuant to agreed Board protocols and with the consent of the Chairperson, the Director who raised the potential conflict was not required to exclude themselves from the Board meeting as the subject matter to which the potential conflict related was not a subject of any discussion at that Board meeting.

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7. Efic Board members are remunerated in accordance with the Remuneration and Allowance for Holders of Part Time of Public Office as determined by the Remuneration Tribunal.

For the period 6 June to 30 June 2014, the Determination 2014/03 applied. From 1 July 2014 to present the Determination 2014/08 applies.

8. The process of termination of appointment of appointed members of the Board is set out in section 43 of the Export Finance and Insurance Corporation Act 1991 (Cth).

9. No.

10. Nil.

11. Alcohol was not served at Board meetings held during the period from Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 23 October 2014. As a general rule, alcohol is not served at Board meetings. The catering costs for Board Meetings are approximately \$100 per meeting where coffee, tea and light refreshments are provided.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 258

Program: Efic

Topic: Shared resources following MOG changes

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. Following the Machinery of Government changes does the department share any goods/services/accommodation with other departments?*
- 2. What resources/services does the department share with other departments; are there plans to cease sharing the sharing of these resources/services?*
- 3. What were the costs to the department prior to the Machinery of Government changes for these shared resources? What are the estimated costs after the ceasing of shared resource arrangements?*

Answer

1. No.
2. EFIC has business origination staff in Austrade's Perth, Melbourne, and Brisbane offices. There are no current plans to cease sharing these resources.
3. Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 259

Program: Efic

Topic: Departmental Rebranding

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

1. *Has the department/Agency undergone a name change or any other form of rebranding since Additional Estimates in February, 2014? If so:*
 - a) *Please detail why this name change / rebrand were considered necessary and a justified use of departmental funds?*
 - b) *Please provide a copy of any reports that were commissioned to study the benefits and costs associated with the rebranding.*
 - c) *Please provide the total cost associated with this rebrand and then break down by amount spent replacing:*
 - i. *Signage.*
 - ii. *Stationery (please include details of existing stationery and how it was disposed of).*
 - iii. *Logos*
 - iv. *Consultancy*
 - v. *Any relevant IT changes.*
 - vi. *Office reconfiguration.*
2. *How was the decision reached to rename and/or rebrand the department?*
 - d) *Who was involved in reaching this decision? ii. Please provide a copy of any communication (including but not limited to emails, letters, memos, notes etc) from within the department, or between the department and the government regarding the rename/rebranding.*

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Answer

1.

- a. Efic undertook a brand review from October 2013 to 30 June 2014. The brand review did not involve renaming the organisation.

The project was undertaken to reflect Efic’s focus on exporting Small-Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs) and facilitate greater awareness of Efic’s services for the SME community.

The brand refresh occurred after consultation with exporters, staff, government, alliance partners and other key stakeholders and will improve how Efic communicates and interacts with SME exporters. It is a holistic review which will influence operations across the organisation as part of our drive for a simpler, more efficient Efic that is more responsive to the needs of the exporting SMEs.

- b. Total cost for the brand review was approximately \$230,000.

The total re-branding cost has been offset by reduced expenditure in other marketing activities from the existing marketing budget. No additional allocation was made for the brand review. Efic reports total advertising and promotion costs in the Annual Report.

Cost breakdown for the brand review and implementation are as follows:

Total Cost	\$230,389	Total cost includes all costs listed below. Also included is full brand identity, creation of new tone of voice and new messaging.
i. Signage	\$21,680	Signage for Efic’s offices as well as branded banners for use at Efic events.
ii. Stationary	\$7,610	Printing of existing stationary had been managed to ensure minimal wastage. Minimal old stock was disposed of through secure recycling.
iii. Logos	\$17,135	Cost includes development of artwork for print, online and Microsoft applications
iv. Consultancy	\$42,228	Development of brand strategy, artwork files, staff workshops and brand activation
v. IT Changes	\$23,400	Updates to IT systems to incorporate the new brand, changes to website and intranet to reflect the new brand

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

vi. Office reconfiguration	Nil	
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c. The decision to rebrand the organisation was reached after consultation and feedback from our clients and prospects, alliance partners, staff and external stakeholders.

i. The decision to conduct the brand review was made by Efic's executive team in consultation with the Efic Board.

Please find below correspondence with the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet regarding use of Government crest in Efic re-branding.

From: Government Branding [<mailto:Governmentbranding@pmc.gov.au>]

Sent: Wednesday, 30 April 2014 7:58 AM

Cc: Government Branding

Subject: RE: EFIC: Co-brand update [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Good morning

EFIC is able to continue with the co-branding arrangement and alteration of the logo without seeking further approval from the Parliamentary Secretary that is responsible for government branding in this case.

As you have agreed, please ensure that the version of the Arms used is high resolution and all other branding requirements outlined in the guidelines are followed for the final logo.

Happy to be of further assistance if required.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 260

Program: Efic

Topic: Contracts under \$10,000

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

Please provide a detailed list of all contracts entered into that are worth between \$4,000 and \$10,000.

Answer

Under the Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines, Efic is not required to report details of Australian procurement contracts awarded on AusTender, the Government's tender and procurement reporting system, where the total contract value is below \$400,000 or below \$7.5 million for construction contracts.

To provide details of contracts below this reporting threshold would entail significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, Efic does not consider the additional work can be justified.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 261

Program: Efic

Topic: Freedom of Information

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

The following questions relate to requests made pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (the Act):

Consultations with other Departments, Agencies and the Minister

- 1. Other than for the purpose of discussing a transfer under section 16 of the Act, does the Department consult or inform other Departments or Agencies when it receives Freedom of Information requests?*
- 2. If so, for each instance provide a table setting out the following information:*
 - a) The Department or Agency which was consulted;*
 - b) The document;*
 - c) The purpose of the consultation;*
 - d) Whether an extension of time was sought from the applicant to allow time for the consultation, including whether it was granted and the length of the extension;*
 - e) Whether an extension of time was sought from the Information Commissioner to allow time for the consultation, including whether it was granted and the length of the extension*
- 3. Other than for the purposes of discussing a transfer under section 16 of the Act, has the Department consulted or informed the Minister's office about Freedom of Information requests it has received?*
- 4. If yes, provide a table setting out the following information:*
 - a) The requests with respect to which the Minister or Ministerial office was consulted;*

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- b) The Minister or Ministerial office which was consulted;*
- c) The purpose of the consultation;*
- d) Whether an extension of time was sought from the applicant to allow time for the consultation, including whether it was granted and the length of the extension;*
- e) Whether an extension of time was sought from the Information Commissioner to allow time for the consultation, including whether it was granted and the length of the extension*
- f) Whether any briefings (including formal briefs, email briefings and verbal briefings) were provided to the Minister's office*

Staffing resources

The following questions relate to the period from 18 September 2013:

- 5. For the period of time from 18 September 2013, what was the average FTE is allocated to processing FOI requests?*

FOI Disclosure Log

- 6. For the purposes of meeting its obligations under 11C of the Act, does the Department or Agency:*
 - a) Maintain a webpage allowing download of documents released under section 11A (direct download)?*
 - b) Require individuals to contact the Department or Agency to ask for the provision of those documents (request for provision)?*
 - c) Facilitate to those documents in a different manner (if so, specify).*

- 7. If the Department or Agency has moved from a system of meetings its 11C obligations by direct download, to a system of meeting those obligations by request for provision, provide the following information:*
 - a) The dates for which documents were made available for direct download, and the dates for which documents were made available through request for provision;*
 - b) The total number of direct downloads of documents released under 11A the Departmental or Agency website;*

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- c) The total number of requests for provision to documents that had been directly received, and how many had been processed by [date]?*
 - d) What was the average FTE allocated to monitoring incoming email, collating and forwarding documents providing under a request for provision?*
 - i. What was the approximate cost for salaries for the FTE staff allocated to this task?*
- 8. Has the Department or Agency charged any for access to a document under section 11C(4)?**
- 9. If so, please provide the following information in a table:**
- a) On how many occasions charges have been imposed;*
 - b) The amount charged for each document*
 - c) The total amount charged;*
 - d) What is the highest charge that has been imposed.*

With respect to FOI requests:

- 10. How many documents were assessed (at internal review or - if internal review was not requested - by the original decision maker) as conditionally exempt?**
- 11. Of those, how many were:**
- a) Released in full*
 - b) Released in part*
 - c) Refused access on the grounds that release of the document would be contrary to the public interest*
 - d) Other (please specify)*

Answer

1. Efic will consult or inform other Departments or Agencies where it's appropriate to do so, in accordance with the FOI Act and the Guidelines. Departments or other Agencies which may be affected by the decision may be informed of the information request and the pending decision. Any consultation with a Department or Agency will occur during the decision process and occur between either the General

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Counsel or Executive and an equivalent responsible officer of the Department or Agency.

2. Nil since the Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 23 October 2014.
3. Nil since the Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 23 October 2014.
4. Not applicable.

Staffing resources

5. Not applicable; FOI requests are processed by Efic's in-house Legal and Compliance team.

FOI disclosure log

6. Efic maintains a webpage which meets WCAG 2.0 (A rating) (for new information since May 2011) allowing public access to information released under the FOI Act. Information is available either directly in PDF or by request in PDF or another suitable format. Requests may be made to a designated email address. A hyperlink is provided for Adobe Acrobat Reader to be downloaded for free. If documents are unable to be read in the format provided, the contact details of the General Counsel are provided to further facilitate the request.
7. Not applicable; Efic continues to provide public access to information released under the FOI Act either directly in PDF or by request in PDF or another suitable format.

Efic's website does not currently track downloads of FOI PDF documents so this data is unavailable. Efic is currently working to set up reporting for this type of information.

No documents have been requested by email since the Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 23 October 2014.

FOI requests are processed by Efic's in-house Legal and Compliance team.

8. No.
9. Not applicable.

FOI requests

10. Since the Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 23 October 2014, Efic has not received any FOI requests.
11. Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 262

Program: Efic

Topic: Prequalified, Multi-use list tenders

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. Does the Department/Agency have existing prequalified or multi-use list panels for tenders?**
- 2. Please list all Prequalified or Multi-use list panels, and the firms on them, compiled or used by the department/agency?**
- 3. Do any of your EL or higher staff have interest- financial or otherwise - in any of the firms on your panels?**
- 4. Do any Ministerial staff have directorships in any of the firms on your panels?**
- 5. Do any Ministerial staff have interest- financial or otherwise in any of the firms on your panel?**
- 6. Have the minister or ministerial staff made representations concerning the panels?**
- 7. Is Australian Public Affairs on any of your panels?**

Answer

- 1-2. Efic does not maintain any Efic-specific prequalified or multi-use panels for tenders.

However for legal services from domestic law firms, Efic will procure from providers which have been appointed to the Commonwealth's Legal Services Multi-Use List and in accordance with the requirements as set out in the Legal Services Directions 2005 and Legal Services Multi-Use List Guidance Material Reference.

The Legal Services Multi-Use list is maintained by Attorney General's Department. More information about the multi-use list and participant firms is available

at: <http://www.ag.gov.au/LegalSystem/LegalServicesCoordination/Pages/Legalservicesmultiuselistandserviceproviders.aspx>

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

For IT procurement Efic will also procure from providers listed on the Whole of Government Desktop Hardware Panel which is maintained by the Department of Finance.

Information about the panel and its participants can be found at <http://www.finance.gov.au/policy-guides-procurement/desktop-hardware-panel>

3. Not applicable.
4. Not applicable.
5. Not applicable.
6. Not applicable.
7. Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 263

Program: Efic

Topic: Senate estimates briefing

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. How many officers have been responsible for preparing the department, agency, Minister or representing Minister's briefing pack for the purposes of senate estimates?***
- 2. How many officer hours were spent on preparing that information?***
 - a. Please break down the hours by officer APS classification***
- 3. Were drafts shown to the Minister or their office before senate estimates? a. If so, when did this occur? b. How many versions of this information were shown to the minister or their office?***
- 4. Did the minister or their office make any contributions, edits or suggestions for departmental changes to this information?***
 - a. If so, when did this occur?***
 - b. What officer hours were spent on making these edits? Please break down the hours by officer APS classification.***
 - c. When were the changes made?***
- 5. Provide each of the contents page of the Department/Minister/representing Minister's Senate Estimates folder prepared by the department for the Additional Estimates hearings in February 2014.***

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Answer

1. Officers across Efic prepared briefing material for the Supplementary Senate Estimates hearing. No briefing pack was prepared for ministerial use.
2. As briefing material was prepared by officers across the Agency, it is difficult to calculate the precise time spent preparing Senate Estimates briefing material. To attempt to provide an estimate would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, the additional work cannot be justified.
3. No.
4. Not applicable.
5. In accordance with long standing practice, it is not appropriate to provide briefing material prepared for Senate Estimates.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 264

Program: Efic

Topic: Advertising

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. How much has the Department/Agency spent on Advertising? Including through the use of agencies.***
- 2. Please detail each advertising campaign including its cost, where the advertising appeared, production costs, who approved, ministerial or ministerial staff involvement in commissioning.***
- 3. Provide copies of approvals, including but not limited to, approvals made by the Prime Minister or his delegate, the Minister of their delegate or the department or their delegate.***

Answer

1. Efic undertakes general advertising to generate awareness of Efic's products and services among Australian exporters.

Efic Advertising undertaken in the period since Budget Estimates in June 2014 – 18 November 2014 included:

Advertisement	Cost	Approving Officer	Outlet paid
The West Australian – State of Iron magazine (advertorial)	\$3,750	Executive Director, SME	Mitchell & Partners Australia Pty Ltd

2. See response to Question 1.
3. Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 265

Program: Efic

Topic: Departmental Staff Misconduct

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. Please provide a copy of the departmental staff code of conduct.*
- 2. Have there been any identified breaches of this code of conduct by departmental staff?*
 - a. If yes, list the breaches identified, broken by staffing classification level.*
 - b. If yes, what remedy was put in place to manage the breach? If no remedy has been put in place, why not?*
 - c. If yes, when was the breach identified? By whom? When was the Minister made aware?*
 - d. If yes, were there any legal ramifications for the department or staff member? Please detail.*

Answer

Code of Conduct and Addendum attached.

As at 23 October 2014, there have been no breaches of the code of conduct by departmental staff.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

CODE OF CONDUCT

ISSUED BY: Human Resources

POLICY SCOPE: All EFIC Staff

LAST REVIEWED: March 2013

POLICY STATEMENT

The Code of Conduct is a principal policy that applies to all EFIC staff and management, including the Executive. This policy is also accessible from within the [EFIC Workplace Agreement 2008-11](#).

This policy should be read in conjunction with the [Code of Conduct Addendum](#).

OBJECTIVES

The EFIC Code of Conduct outlines the obligations and responsibilities of all employees employed by EFIC. EFIC employees are required to comply with the Code of Conduct.

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITY

In their employment, employees have a responsibility to:

- be impartial and objective;
- consider matters on their merits;
- perform to the best of their ability, with honesty and integrity;
- treat everyone with courtesy and respect, without coercion or harassment of any kind;
- not participate in corrupt practices, including bribing foreign officials, or accepting undisclosed benefits for or from any third party;
- not pursue personal interests which may conflict with EFIC's interests; and
- comply with applicable Australian laws and EFIC's policies, procedures and guidelines as amended from time to time.

FINANCIAL AND OTHER PRIVATE INTERESTS

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(a) Official Duty and Private Interest

Employees must make a written declaration to EFIC if their private interests (financial or other) may, or may be perceived to, conflict with EFIC's interests. Some examples of situations which must be declared are where an employee:

- holds a position of influence in connection with a company or an organisation which is a supplier to EFIC or which has applied to EFIC for a financial facility;
- holds shares in, or is a member of, a company or an organisation that is a supplier to EFIC or which has applied to EFIC for a financial facility.

In addition, any employee who has had a prior dealing or association (direct or indirect) with an organisation which could be seen to influence their impartiality, should offer, in writing, to exclude themselves from EFIC's dealings with the relevant organisation.

All EFIC employees are expected to be familiar with the Code of Conduct as amended from time to time. In addition, the employee must inform EFIC in writing of every actual or potential conflict of interest of which they become aware, including in relation to the employee's immediate Family.

Declarations in connection with conflicts of interest should be given to the relevant Executive.

(b) Acceptance of Gifts and Entertainment

EFIC employees should make a diary note of any gift, hospitality or entertainment received in connection with their employment that is specifically targeted at the EFIC employee. Diary notes are not required for public events or hospitality that involve a number of entities, unless in the employee's judgment the invitation to the event or the hospitality could be construed to relate to business matters under consideration by EFIC.

In accepting any gifts, hospitality or entertainment, the employee should consider the motivation for the offer and the value of the benefit being provided.

Employees are to advise the Board Secretary of any gift received which exceeds AUD 60.00 in value. This amount may be increased at any time at the discretion of the Board Secretary. The Managing Director will decide whether gifts will be kept by the employee, handed over to EFIC or returned to the giver.

(c) Inducements

Employees should not accept inducements that may, or may be seen to, influence them in the performance of their official duties. The relevant Executive must be promptly advised of any attempt to improperly influence the employee.

(d) Outside Employment

An EFIC employee who wishes to engage in any outside employment or voluntary positions which may impact adversely upon their employment with EFIC, is required to obtain prior

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

written approval from the relevant Executive. Appointments in this case include appointment as Non-Executive Directors to Boards.

FRAUD CONTROL PROGRAM

Employees have a responsibility to make themselves aware of, and comply with, EFIC's Fraud Control Program. The Program document, as in force from time to time, will be displayed on the EFIC intranet site.

USE OF INFORMATION

(a) Confidential Records

Employees are required to respect the confidentiality of, and keep secret, any information or documentation concerning EFIC and EFIC's clients to which they have access as a result of their employment with EFIC.

Employees must not use information or records for any improper purpose, and should take all steps to safeguard the confidentiality of confidential information and documentation. Employees are obliged to observe the secrecy provisions of Section 87 of the EFIC Act as in force from time to time. If employees have difficulty interpreting this Act, they should contact the Legal Department.

Employees are also obliged to comply with the confidentiality provisions of the EFIC Act even after they cease to be employed by EFIC.

Details of the confidentiality obligations of employees are set out in the Confidentiality Policy, which can be found on the EFIC intranet site. Employees must familiarise themselves with the Confidentiality Policy as in force from time to time.

(b) Intellectual Property

EFIC retains ownership of all specific knowledge, documentation, processes and technologies developed by an employee in the performance of their duties.

(c) Public Comment

Unless an employee has been nominated by the Executive as a spokesperson, an employee should decline to make public comment on any issues relating to political matters (in their capacity as an EFIC employee), EFIC business, EFIC's clients, or employment with EFIC.

USE OF EFIC COMPUTERS

EFIC's computer equipment is provided to conduct EFIC business and may be used for limited appropriate personal use which is not in conflict with EFIC's interests.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Employees must abide by EFIC's IT Security Policy and Guidelines and the Internet Communications Policy, which can be found on the EFIC intranet site.

PERSONAL BEHAVIOUR

(a) Duty of Care

Employees have a duty of care in the performance of their role. They should ensure to the best of their ability that all information distributed is accurate, complete and balanced.

(b) Performance of Duties

Employees are required to perform their job diligently and to the best of their ability, and accept reasonable direction from their manager.

Employees must exercise due care in the use of all EFIC property, in order to minimise potential risk of loss or damage.

(c) Use of Facilities for Private Purposes

EFIC allows employees reasonable access to EFIC's facilities for private purposes provided this does not conflict with their job responsibilities or with EFIC's interests.

Employees are expected not to misuse this privilege and should obtain prior approval from their manager for any extended or extraordinary use of EFIC facilities.

(d) Professional Conduct

EFIC employees should be courteous and professional in their dealings with their colleagues and all representatives of the public, government and business with whom they have contact.

EFIC's commitments to its clients are outlined in the Service Charter and all employees should contribute to the achievement of these commitments.

SANCTION

Failure to follow the Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action and/or dismissal.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

CODE OF CONDUCT ADDENDUM

Issued by: HR

Last reviewed: February 2013

Outline

This addendum is to be read alongside the Code of Conduct which is outlined in section 15 of the [EFIC Workplace Agreement](#).

Addendum

Acceptance of gifts and entertainment

There is a general recognition within EFIC that the receipt of hospitality or entertainment, and to a limited extent gifts, is acceptable provided that proper disclosure is made and appropriate ethical and related policies and guidelines are followed.

EFIC employees should make a diary note of any gift, hospitality or entertainment received in connection with their employment and then notify their Manager that they have accepted the gift, hospitality or entertainment. For the purposes of this policy, gifts may include travel and or accommodation provided by a host in connection with a conference.

Employees are to seek approval from the Board Secretary of any gift, hospitality or entertainment received which exceeds AUD \$300.00 in value. This amount may be increased at any time at the discretion of the Executive. The Executive will decide whether gifts will be kept by the employee, handed over to EFIC or returned to the giver.

In accepting any gift, hospitality or entertainment, the employee should consider the motivation for the offer and the value of the benefit being provided. Acceptance of gifts, hospitality or entertainment will NOT usually be appropriate if the company or person making the gift or offer of hospitality or entertainment are involved in a tender process with EFIC, either for the procurement of goods and services or sale of assets, or the subject of a decision within the discretionary power or substantial influence of the EFIC employee concerned. If the employee considers that the motivation could reasonably fall into any of the above categories, then that employee should have regard to EFIC's Anti-Corruption Policy and related anti-bribery procedures and should immediately seek advice from both their Manager and EFIC's legal department.

Use of EFIC computers

Employees may use EFIC's computer equipment for EFIC business or limited personal use which is not in conflict with EFIC's interests.

Employees must abide by EFIC's [Corporate Information Security Policy](#) and the [Information Security Charter](#) (which are available on the Intranet) as in force from time to time.

Political activity - comments on political matters

Employees should not make any comment on political matters in their capacity as EFIC employees.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 266

Program: Efic

Topic: Cloud Services and Storage

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. Is the department using or planning to use cloud digital services (e.g. storage, computer software access etc)? If yes:**
- 2. What date did/will cloud services be deployed in the department?**
- 3. Please provide a list of all cloud services in use or being considered for use.**
- 4. How much do these services cost? Please break down by service.**
- 5. How much cloud storage (in gigabytes) is available for departmental use? What percentage of the available total is in use?**
- 6. How much does this cloud storage cost per month?**
- 7. What security arrangements are in place to protect cloud based services and storage?**
- 8. Have any security analysts been employed / contracted to advise on the implementation and upkeep of these security arrangements?**
- 9. What has been the cost of security for the cloud? Please provide a breakdown.**

Answer

1. Yes.
2. Start cloud service dates:-
 - The SaaS (Software as a Service) Teradata Marketing Studio started in July 2012
 - The IaaS (Infrastructure as a Service) EFIC domain website hosting started in May 2009
 - The SaaS (Software as a Service) Reval started in June 2011
3. Cloud services in use are:-
 - Teradata Marketing Studio service
 - EFIC domain website hosted service

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- Reval service
4. Total costs of services is \$174,996
- Teradata Marketing Studio service - \$66,996 per year
 - EFIC domain website hosted service - \$45,000 per year
 - Reval - \$63,000 per year
5. Cloud storage available:
- Teradata Marketing Studio service - Not Applicable
 - EFIC domain website hosted service - 160GB (58% used)
 - Reval - Not Applicable
6. Storage cost per month:
- Teradata Marketing Studio service - Not Applicable
 - EFIC domain website hosted service - \$193 per month
 - Reval - Not Applicable
7. Security arrangements in place to protect service and storage:
- Teradata Marketing Studio service - Vendor encrypted secured online access. Only non-sensitive data are kept in the service.
 - EFIC domain website hosted service - Protected by hosted service firewall security and only non-sensitive data are kept in the service.
 - Reval - Vendor encrypted secured online access. Only non-sensitive data are kept in the service.
8. Security analysts advise on the implementation and upkeep of security:
- Teradata Marketing Studio service - Part of contract service
 - EFIC domain website hosted service - Part of contract service
 - Reval - Part of contract service
9. Cost of security for the cloud:
- Teradata Marketing Studio service - Included in service cost
 - EFIC domain website hosted service - Included in service cost
 - Reval - Included in service cost

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 267

Program: Efic

Topic: Disability Access

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. Please provide a list of all premises owned, leased or otherwise operated by the department / agency which do not yet comply with the Disability Discrimination Act (through The Disability (Access to Premises - Buildings) Standards 2010). For each, please provide:**
- 2. The year in which it was purchased / leased / rented (and if lease / rental agreement, when it expires).**
- 3. What plans are in place to make the premises compliant with the act.**
- 4. When these plans will commence and when they are expected to be complete.**
- 5. Has the minister or the minister's office been informed of these plans? Please provide a copy of any communication (including but not limited to emails, letters, memos, notes etc) between the minister's office and the department regarding this issue.**
- 6. What is the expected cost of making the premises compliant? Please break down the costs.**
- 7. Have any plans to make any premises compliant been cancelled, put on hold or delayed since September 7, 2013? If yes, please detail, including the reasons for which they were cancelled, put on hold or delayed and how the decision was reached.**
- 8. Have any complaints been lodged with regard to the premises not being compliant? If yes, please detail.**

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Answer

As at 22 January 2015:

1. Export House, 22 Pitt St, Sydney, NSW, 2000.
2. The building was transferred to Efic as part of its establishment as a statutory organisation, under the EFIC Act, in 1991.
3. A BCA compliance audit of the premises has been commissioned, for completion in January 2015. The audit results will determine the compliance plan.
4. As above.
5. No.
6. Refer to 3. Above.
7. No.
8. No.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 268

Program: Efic

Topic: Fee for services

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since September 7, 2013:

- 1. Have any existing services provided by the department / agency moved from being free to a user-pay service? Have any additional fees been placed on existing services? If yes please provide a list and include:*
- 2. Name of the fee and a short description of what it covers.*
- 3. How much is the fee (and is it a flat fee or a percentage of the service).*
- 4. The date the fee came into place.*
- 5. Were any reviews requested, commenced or complemented into the benefits and drawbacks of attaching the fee to the service? If yes, please detail and provide a copy of the review.*
- 6. What consultation was carried out before the fee was put into place?*
- 7. How was the fee put into place (e.g. through legislation, regulation changes etc)?*
- 8. What justification is there for the fee?*

Answer

Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 269

Program: Efic

Topic: Documents provided to Minister

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. *Excluding policy or correspondence briefs, how many documents are provided to the Minister's office on a regular and scheduled basis? Including documents that are not briefs to the minister and do not require ministerial signature.***
- 2. *List those documents, their schedule and their purpose (broken down by ministerial signature and office for noting documents)***
- 3. *How are they transmitted to the office?***
- 4. *What mode of delivery is used (hardcopy, email) for those documents?***
- 5. *What level officer are they provided to in the minister's office?***

Answer

1. 3.
2. a) Annual Report (including annual financials). Once a year.
b) Interim financials . Once a year.
c) Corporate Plan. Once a year.
3. Mail.
4. Hardcopy.
5. Addressed to the Minister.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 270

Program: Efic

Topic: Merchandise or promotional material

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since 7 September 2013:

- 1. Has the department purchased any merchandise or promotional material?*
- 2. List by item, and purpose for each item, including if the material is for a specific policy or program or for a generic purpose (note that purpose)*
- 3. List the cost for each item*
- 4. List the quantity of each item*
- 5. Who suggested these material be created?*
- 6. Who approved its creation?*
- 7. Provide copies of authorisation*
- 8. When was the Minister informed of the material being created?*
- 9. Who created the material?*
- 10. How was that person selected?*
- 11. How many individuals or groups were considered in selecting who to create the material?*

Answer

As part of the rebranding Efic undertook in June 2014, existing merchandise was updated with the new logo. Costs to change the branding are outlined in the table below. All items that were rebranded were purchased by Efic prior to 7 September 2013. The decision to rebrand was made based on the cost of items and to limit wastage.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 271

Program: Efic

Topic: Freedom of Information - Stats

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. *How many FOI requests were received between 7 September 2013 to date.***
- 2. *How many of those requests were finalised within the regular timeframes provided under the FOI Act?***
- 3. *How many of those requests were granted an extension of time under s 15AA of the FOI Act?***
- 4. *How many of those requests were granted an extension of time under s 15AB of the FOI Act?***
- 5. *How many of those requests were finalised out of time?***

Answer

1. Efic has received two FOI requests from 7 September 2013 to 23 October 2014.
2. Two.
3. Nil.
4. Nil.
5. Nil.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 272

Program: Efic

Topic: Staffing - Contracts for Temporary Staff

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. How much did the department/agency spend on temporary or contract staff?***
- 2. How many temporary or contract staff have been employed?***
- 3. What is the total number of temporary or contract staff currently employed?***
- 4. How much was paid for agencies/companies to find temporary/contract staff?***
- 5. Have there been any changes to the policies/criteria that govern the appointment of contract staff?***

Answer

Note: Efic is not an Australian Public Service body. Efic staff are employed under the Export Finance and Insurance Corporation (Efic) Act 1991 (Cth).

- Efic's define temporary staff as non-ongoing staff (not external contractors). Since June 2014 to 19 November 2014 Efic has spent approximately \$76,721.53 (excluding superannuation) on temporary staff.
- As at 19 November 2014, 2 temporary staff members have been employed since Budget Estimates in June 2014.
- As at 19 November 2014, 3 temporary staff members are currently employed.
- As at 19 November 2014, \$37,620 was paid for agencies to find temporary staff.
- NA

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 273

Program: Efic

Topic: Staffing profile

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. Has there been any change to the staffing profile of the department/agency?***
- 2. Provide a list of changes to staffing numbers, broken down by classification level, division, home base location (including town/city and state).***

Answer

Note: Efic is not an Australia Public Service Body, as such APS classifications are not applicable to Efic staff.

1. There has been change to the staffing profile of Efic. As at 30 October 2014 the total number of Efic staff was 103.
- 2.

Location		Total staff	SES equivalent	Non-SES equivalent	Contract type	
					Ongoing	Non-ongoing
NSW	Sydney	94	8	86	91	3
WA	Perth	3	0	3	3	0
QLD	Brisbane	3	0	3	3	0
VIC	Melbourne	3	0	3	3	0

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 274

Program: Efic

Topic: Savings and Efficiency Measures

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the Appropriate Bills 2014 were passed by the parliament:

- 1. How many measures, savings tasks or efficiency measures contained in the Appropriations bills have not been actioned or have had no guidance instructions issued?*
- 2. For each measure or task identified in question 1:*
 - a) What is the timeframe for implementation?*
 - b) Who is the responsible agency for actioning these measures, guidelines or tasks?*
 - c) When was the Minister last briefed on this item? Was this briefing requested by the minister or initiated by the department?*
 - d) What action has the minister asked be done on this policy?*

Answer

Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 275

Program: Efic

Topic: Computers

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. List the current inventory of computers owned, leased, stored, or able to be accessed by the Ministers office as provided by the department, listing the equipment cost and location and employment classification of the staff member that is allocated the equipment, or if the equipment is currently not being used.*
- 2. List the current inventory of computers owned, leased, stored, or able to be accessed by the department, listing the equipment cost and location.*
- 3. Please detail the operating systems used by the departments computers, the contractual arrangements for operating software and the on-going costs.*

Answer

As at 22 January 2015:

1. Not applicable
2. Location – “**All States**” consists of – NSW, WA, MEL, QLD.

EFIC Desktops – All desk workstations allocated to staff.

Pool Computer Resources – Laptops kept in MIS Storage for users to use whilst travelling and working from home.

Permanently allocated Resources – Laptops permanently allocated to users for out of office use.

ITEM	MODEL	COUNT OF ITEM	LEASED	LOCATION	ITEM COST	TOTAL

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

EFIC Desktops	Dell Optiplex 980	100	NO	All States	\$1,557.24	\$155,733.60
	Dell Optiplex 990	15	NO	All States	\$2,107.60	\$10,538
	Dell All-in-One Optiplex	5	NO	All States	\$1,521.30	7606.50
Pool Computer Resources	Dell Optiplex 980	4	NO	NSW	\$1557.34	\$6229.36
	Lenovo Carbon X1	3	NO	All States	\$1,925.00	\$17,325
	Lenovo E530	6	NO	NSW	\$617.83	\$3,706.98
	Lenovo ThinkPad Helix	1	NO	NSW	\$2,457.95	\$2,457.95
	Apple Macbook Air	2	NO	NSW	\$2,493.90	\$4,987.90
	Dell Studio XPS12	1	NO	NSW	\$1775.40	\$1,775.40
Permanently allocated Resources	Lenovo Carbon X1	6	NO	All States	\$1,925.00	\$17,325

1. EFIC licenses its Microsoft software with Government Microsoft Volume Sourcing Arrangement (VSA II) and Core Desktop License (CDL). Our Operating Systems of use range between – Windows 7 – Windows 8.1. We are currently using Windows 7 as our OS of choice.

Our annual licensing cost for our VSA II cost \$3,032.68 per year. This maintains 110 licenses.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 276

Program: Efic

Topic: Travel costs - department

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. Is the minister or their office or their delegate required to approve all departmental and agency international travel?***
- 2. If so, under what policy?***
- 3. Provide a copy of that policy.***
- 4. When was this policy implemented?***
- 5. List all occurrences of travel that this has occurred under.***
- 6. Detail the process.***
- 7. When is the minister notified, when is approved provided?***
- 8. Detail all travel (domestic and international) for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary on their travel. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals).***
- 9. Detail all travel for Departmental officers. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals). Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.***
- 10. What date was the minister or their office was notified of the travel?***
- 11. What date did the minister or their office approve the travel?***
- 12. What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.***

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Answer

1. See DFAT answer to QoN 187.
2. Not applicable.
3. Not applicable.
4. Not applicable.
5. Not applicable.
6. Not applicable.
7. Not applicable.
8. Not applicable
9. EFIC's systems do not record travel data in a way that would readily allow total expenditure to be broken down into the level of detail sought. To attempt to extract this data manually would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, the additional work cannot be justified.

EFIC records total travel expenditure in its Annual Report.

10. Not applicable.
11. Not applicable.
12. EFIC's systems do not record planned travel in a way that would readily allow this information to be provided without significant diversion of resources.
All travel is arranged in line with EFIC's Corporate Travel Policy and Procedures.

This process involves the establishment of a clear business case for travel and a travel request which must be approved by the head of the agency (in the case of international travel) or the relevant delegated authority such as Efic executive or department heads (in the case of domestic travel).

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 277

Program: Efic

Topic: Travel costs - ministerial

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. Please detail all travel conducted by the Minister/parliamentary secretary***
- 2. List each location, method of travel, itinerary and purpose of trip;***
- 3. List the total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals), and;***
- 4. List the number of staff that accompanied the Minister/parliamentary secretary, listing the total costs per staff member, the class of airplane travelled, the classification of staff accompanying the Minister/parliamentary secretary.***
- 5. What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.***

Answer

Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 278

Program: Efic

Topic: Grants

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. What guidelines are in place to administer grants?*
- 2. How are grants applied for?*
- 3. Are there any restrictions on who can apply for a grant? If yes, please detail.*
 - a. Can these restrictions be waved? If yes, please detail the process for waving them and list any grants where the restrictions were waved.*
- 4. What is the procedure for selecting who will be awarded a grant?*
- 5. Who is involved in this selection process?*
- 6. Does the minister or the minister's office play any role in awarding grants? If yes, please detail.*
 - a. Has the minister or the minister's office exercised or attempted to exercise any influence over the awarding of any grants? If yes, please detail.*
- 7. Provide a list of all grants, including ad hoc, one-off discretionary grants awarded to date. Provide the recipients, amount, intended use of the grants, what locations have benefited from the grants and the electorate and state of those locations.*
- 8. Update the status of each grant that was approved prior to the specified period, but did not have financial contracts in place at that time. Provide details of the recipients, the amount, the intended use of the grants, what locations have benefited from the grants and the electorate and state of those grants.*

Answer

Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 279

Program: Efic

Topic: Government payment of accounts

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. What has been the average time period for the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors, consultants or others?***
- 2. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in under 30 days?***
- 3. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 30 and 60 days?***
- 4. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 60 and 90 days?***
- 5. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 90 and 120 days? f) How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in over 120 days?***
- 6. For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency since Estimates, 2014?***
- 7. Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?***

Answer

1. Efic's policy is to make payments three times per month
2. As at 23 October 2014, 100 per cent
3. Not applicable
4. Not applicable
5. Not applicable
6. Not applicable
7. Not applicable
8. Not applicable

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 280

Program: Efic

Topic: Consultancies

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. How many consultancies have been undertaken? Identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc). Also include total value for all consultancies.***
- 2. How many consultancies are planned for this calendar year? Have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and if not why not? In each case please identify the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known.***
- 3. Have any consultancies not gone out for tender?***
 - a. List each, including name, cost and purpose***
 - b. If so, why?***

Answer

1. Under the Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines, EFIC is required to report details of Australian procurement contracts awarded on AusTender, the Government's tender and procurement reporting system, where the total contract value is above \$400,000 or above \$7.5 million for construction contracts.

To provide details of consultancy contracts below this reporting threshold would entail significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, EFIC does not consider the additional work can be justified.

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2. In terms of Efic's reporting requirements under the Commonwealth Procurement Rules, EFIC has no further consultancies planned for this calendar year.
3. Refer to answer to question 1 above.
4. Refer to answer to question 1 above.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 281

Program: Efic

Topic: Meeting costs

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. How much has the Department/Agency spent on meeting costs? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events, including any catering and drinks costs.***
- 2. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total meeting spend from Estimates, 2014 to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.***
- 3. What meeting spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.***
- 4. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what meeting spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.***

Answer

Since Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 19 November 2014:

1 & 3. EFIC's total entertainment, hospitality and meeting spend from Budget Estimates in June 2014 is approximately \$43,334.05.

This total expenditure captures hospitality and entertainment and meeting spend (including meeting expenditure) for EFIC's Australian clients, potential clients, other corporations, companies, institutions, development banks and agencies external to the Corporation, in addition to event hosting expenses associated with client and staff functions.

EFIC's reporting systems do not capture expenditure in such a way that would readily enable the requested breakdown of meeting expenditure only.

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To manually collect this information would entail a significant and unreasonable diversion of resources.

EFIC has well-established policies on the proper management of hospitality and entertainment expenses. All staff must justify the purpose of, and maintain written records for each item of hospitality or entertainment expenditure. All expenditure and supporting documentation is reviewed and must be approved by EFIC's cost centre managers (head of department level) to ensure the criteria for expenditure has been met; department heads' expenditure must in turn receive Executive approval.

EFIC's hospitality and entertainment spending for FY14-15 is expected to be in line with the entertainment and hospitality budget for FY13-14.

2 & 4. Not applicable to EFIC.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 282

Program: Efic

Topic: Functions

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

1. *Provide a list of all formal functions or forms of hospitality conducted for the Minister . Include:*
 - a) *The guest list of each function*
 - b) *The party or individual who initiated the request for the function*
 - c) *The menu, program or list of proceedings of the function*
 - d) *A list of drinks consumed at the function*
2. *Provide a list of the current wine, beer or other alcoholic beverages in stock or on order in the Minister's office. Breakdown by item, quantity and cost.*

Answer

Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 283

Program: Efic

Topic: Executive coaching and leadership training

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

Please provide the following information in relation to executive coaching and/or other leadership training services purchased by each department/agency:

- 1. Total spending on these services***
- 2. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification***
- 3. The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)***
- 4. The names of all service providers engaged For each service purchased form a provider listed under (4), please provide:***
 - a) The name and nature of the service purchased***
 - b) Whether the service is one-on-one or group based***
 - c) The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification***
 - d) The total number of hours involved for all employees (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)***
 - e) The total amount spent on the service***
 - f) A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)***
- 5. Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:***
 - a) The location used***
 - b) The number of employees who took part on each occasion (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)***

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- c) *The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)*
 - d) *Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location*
6. *In relation to education/executive coaching and/or other leadership training services paid for by the department what agreements are made with employees in regards to continuing employment after training has been completed?*
7. *For graduate or post graduate study, please breakdown each approved study leave by staffing allocation and degree or program title.*

Answer

Note: Efic is not an APS body and as such APS classifications do not apply to Efic staff.

All figures are from Budget Estimates in 5 June 2014 to 19 November 2014.

- 1. Total spending was \$19,755.
- 2. 10 non SES equivalent.
- 3. 1 non SES equivalent.
- 4. Forte
 - a. Executive Coaching
 - b. One-one-one
 - c. 1 non-SES
 - d. 3 hours mentoring
 - e. \$2,145
 - f. Complete package.

Forte

- a. Group workshop
- b. Group training
- c. 5 non SES, 1 SES
- d. 8 hours
- e. \$3,080
- f. Complete package.

Women in Banking and Finance

- a. Voice of Leadership
- b. Group training
- c. 1 non SES
- d. 6 hours – 3 x 2hrs sessions
- e. \$395.00
- f. Complete package.

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The POD Consultancy Pty Ltd

- a. Business coaching/mentoring
- b. One on one
- c. 1 non SES
- d. 2 hours
- e. \$660.00
- f. Complete package.

UNSW

- a. Positive Leadership Program
- b. Group training
- c. 1 non SES
- d. 2 day x 8 hours -16 hours
- e. \$3,575
- f. Complete package.

MGSM

- a. Foundations of General Management
- b. Group training
- c. 1 non SES
- d. 6 days x 8 hrs = 48hrs
- e. \$9,900
- f. Complete package.

5. Forte

- a. Over the phone
- b. See above
- c. See above
- d. Nil.

Forte

- a. Efic office
- b. See above
- c. See above
- d. Nil.

Women in Banking and Finance

- g. Training located at WiBF premises
- h. See above
- i. See above
- j. Nil.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

The POD Consultancy Pty Ltd

- a. WA Office
- b. See above
- c. See above
- d. Nil.

UNSW

- a. UNSW Sydney office
- b. See above
- c. See above
- d. Nil.

6. Study assistance is viewed as part of overall career development as part of a staff members individual remuneration and benefits package. Once training is completed staff remain subject to the provisions of their employment contracts.

Temporary employees (or people employed on less than a 6 month contract) are not eligible for study assistance.

7. 2 staff members took study leave for graduate or post graduate study, among these 2 staff:
- a. 1 staff member was granted study leave for graduate study for a total of 1.08 days.
 - b. 1 staff members were granted study leave for post graduate study for a total of 3 days.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 284

Program: Efic

Topic: Provision of equipment - ministerial

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. *For departments/agencies that provide mobile phones to Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices, what type of mobile phone has been provided and the costs?***
- 1. *Itemise equipment and cost broken down by staff or minister classification***
- 2. *Has electronic equipment (such as ipad, laptop, wireless card, vasco token, blackberry, mobile phone (list type if relevant), thumb drive, video cameras) been provided by the department/agency? If yes provide a list of:***
- 3. *What is provided?***
- 4. *The purchase cost.***
- 5. *The ongoing cost.***
- 6. *A list of any accessories provided for the equipment and the cost of those accessories. (e.g. iPad keyboards, laptop carry bags, additional chargers etc).***
- 7. *A breakdown of what staff and staff classification receives each item.***

Answer

- 1. Not applicable.**

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 285

Program: Efic

Topic: Staffing reductions

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. How many staff reductions/voluntary redundancies have occurred?
 - a. What was the reason for these reductions?**
- 2. Were any of these reductions involuntary redundancies? If yes, provide details.*
- 3. Are there any plans for further staff reductions/voluntary redundancies? If so, please advise details including if there is a reduction target, how this will be achieved, and if any services/programs will be cut.*
- 4. If there are plans for staff reductions, please give the reason why these are happening.*
- 5. Are there any plans for involuntary redundancies? If yes, provide details.*
- 6. How many ongoing staff left the department/agency? What classification were these staff?*
- 7. How many non-ongoing staff left department/agency from? What classification were these staff?*
- 8. What are the voluntary redundancy packages offered? Please detail for each staff level and position*
- 9. How do the packages differ from the default public service package?*
- 10. How is the department/agency funding the packages?*

Answer

Since Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 19 November 2014:

1. Nil
2. No
3. No

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4. Not applicable
5. No
6. Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014 6 non-SES equivalent staff have left Efic.
7. Nil.
8. Not applicable
9. Not applicable
10. Not applicable

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 286

Program: Efic

Topic: Staffing recruitment

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. How many ongoing staff have been recruited? What classification are these staff?*
- 2. How many non-ongoing positions exist or have been created? What classification are these staff?*
- 3. How many staff have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?*

Answer

Note: Efic is not an Australian Public Service body, as such APS classifications are not applicable to Efic staff.

All answers are from Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 30 October 2014.

1. 14 ongoing non-SES equivalent staff
2. 2 non-ongoing non-SES equivalent position.
3. Efic staff are employed under the EFIC Act 1991 (Cth). All ongoing staff are employed under Efic's standard terms of employment on a statutory contract with a 5 year term.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 287

Program: Efic

Topic: Coffee machines

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. *Has the department/agency purchased, leased or rented any coffee machines for staff useage?***
 - a) If yes, provide a list that includes the type of coffee machine, the cost, the amount, and any ongoing costs such as purchase of coffee or coffee pods and when the machine was purchased?***
 - b) Why were coffee machines purchased?***
 - c) Has there been a noticeable difference in staff productivity since coffee machines were purchased? Are staff leaving the office premises less during business hours as a result?***
 - d) Where did the funding for the coffee machines come from?***
 - e) Who has access?***
 - f) Who is responsible for the maintenance of the coffee machines? How much was spent on maintenance, include a list of what maintenance has been undertaken. Where does the funding for maintenance come from?***
 - g) What are the ongoing costs of the coffee machine, such as the cost of coffee?***

Answer

1. As at 23 October 2014, Efic has not purchased or hired any additional coffee machines for staff useage since Budget Estimates in June 2014.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 288

Program: Efic

Topic: Printing

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. How many documents (include the amount of copies) have been printed?***
 - a) How many of these printed documents were also published online?***
- 2. Has the Department/Agency used external printing services for any print jobs?***
 - a) If so, what companies were used?***
 - b) How were they selected?***
 - c) What was the total cost of this printing by item?***

Answer

Since Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 18 November 2014:

1. 9 (4,500 Copies in total)
 - a) 9.
2. Yes
 - a) Kwik Kopy
No Time To Lose
Paragon Printers
 - b) Existing Vendors
 - c) Case Study Flyer \$122.10
SME Brochure \$6,524.54
Efic at a Glance flyer \$517.00
Efic Support For Australian Companies Flyer \$75.35
Efic Annual Report \$7,460.20

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 289

Program: Efic

Topic: Corporate cars

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

1. *How many cars are owned by each department/agency?*
 - a) *Where are the cars located?*
 - b) *What are the cars used for?*
 - c) *What is the cost of each car during the specified period?*
 - d) *How far did each car travel during the specified period?*
2. *How many cars are leased by each department/agency?*
 - a) *Where are the cars located?*
 - b) *What are the cars used for?*
 - c) *What is the cost of each car during the specified period?*
 - d) *How far did each car travel during the specified period?*

Answer

1. Efic owns 7 cars (as at 23 October 2014)
 - a. The cars are located in Sydney
 - b. The cars are for personal use
 - c. The cars are fully costed to personal employment packages
 - d. These figures are provided by the drivers annually on 31 March. As at 31 March 2014 the distances travelled for each car were:

Car	Kms
1	969
2	5,500
3	25,305
4	17,121

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5	110
6	19,616
7	4,011

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 290

Program: Efic

Topic: Taxi costs

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. *How much did each department/agency spend on taxis during the specified period? Provide a breakdown for each business group in each department/agency.***
- 2. *What are the reasons for taxi costs?***
- 3. *How much did the department spend on taxis during the specified period for their minister or minister's office?***

Answer

1. Efic's systems do not readily enable the separation of this information from total travel expenses. To manually breakdown records to supply the information required would constitute a significant diversion of resources and I do not believe that the additional work can be justified.

Efic records its total travel expenditure in its Annual Report.
2. Efic staff may hire taxis when conducting work travel in line with the provisions of EFIC's Corporate Travel Policy and Procedures.
3. Not applicable to Efic.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 291

Program: Efic

Topic: Hire cars

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. How much did each department/agency spend on hire cars during the specified period? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency.*
- 2. What are the reasons for hire car costs?*
- 3. How much did the department spend on hire cars during the specified period for their minister or minister's office?*

Answer

1. Efic's systems do not readily enable the separation of this information from total travel expenses. To manually breakdown records to supply the information required would constitute a significant diversion of resources and I do not believe that the additional work can be justified.

Efic records its total travel expenditure in its Annual Report.

2. Efic staff may hire cars when conducting work travel in line with the provisions of Efic's Corporate Travel Policy and Procedures.
3. Not applicable to Efic.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 292

Program: Efic

Topic: Credit cards

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. Provide a breakdown of any changes to employment classifications that have access to a corporate credit card.***
- 2. Have there been any changes to action taken in the event that the corporate credit card is misused?***
- 3. Have there been any changes to how corporate credit card use is monitored?***
- 4. Have any instances of corporate credit card misuse have been discovered during the specified period? If so:***
- 5. Please list staff classification and what the misuse was, and the action taken.***
- 6. Have there been any changes to what action is taken to prevent corporate credit card misuse?***
- 7. How any credit cards available to the Minister or their office? If so, please list by classification. Have there been any misuse of credit cards by the Minister or their office? Has any action been taken against the Minister or their office for credit card misuse? If so, list each occurrence, including the cost of the misuse.***

Answer

Since Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 19 November 2014:

1. EFIC is not an APS body and therefore APS employment classifications do not apply to EFIC staff.
Total of 68 Efic staff have a corporate credit card. This includes:
 - a. 8 SES-equivalent staff, and
 - b. 60 non-SES equivalent staff

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

2. Nil.

EFIC has an established policies governing the use of corporate credit cards and a system of monitoring credit card expenditure to prevent misuse. Where appropriate, instances of suspected corporate credit card misuse would be investigated in line with Efic's Incident & Breach Escalation Policy.

3. Nil.

Staff must account and provide documentation for all expenses paid on corporate credit card accounts. This is regularly monitored and checked by designated staff and the signatory executive. Department expenses are subject to Efic's regular audit processes and staff complete regular compliance training on anti-corruption and fraud policies.

4. Nil.

5. Not applicable.

6. Nil.

7. Not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 293

Program: Efic

Topic: Hospitality and entertainment

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 1. What has been the Department/Agency's hospitality spend including any catering and drinks costs.***
- 2. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total hospitality spend. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.***
- 3. What has been the Department/Agency's entertainment spend? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.***
- 4. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total entertainment spend. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.***
- 5. What hospitality spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.***
- 6. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what hospitality spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.***
- 7. What entertainment spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.***
- 8. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what entertainment spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.***
- 9. Is the Department/Agency planning on reducing any of its spending on these items? If so, how will reductions be achieved?***

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Answer

Since Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 19 November 2014:

- 1 & 3. Efic's total entertainment and hospitality spend from Budget Estimates in June 2014 to date is approximately \$43,334.05.

This total expenditure captures hospitality and entertainment (including expenditure for external meetings) for Efic's Australian clients, potential clients, other corporations, companies, institutions and agencies external to the Corporation, in addition to event hosting expenses associated with client and staff functions.

Efic's reporting systems do not capture expenditure in such a way that would readily enable the requested breakdown of this total expenditure. To manually collect this information would entail a significant and unreasonable diversion of resources.

- 2,4,6,8. Not applicable.

- 5, 7, 9. Efic's hospitality and entertainment spending for FY14-15 is expected to be in line with the entertainment and hospitality budget for FY13-14.