

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES – 24 FEBRUARY 2015

FINANCE PORTFOLIO

QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
1	Department of Finance	2/2.1	Xenophon	Objectives of the ASC	<p>Senator XENOPHON: I do not want to lock you in. I just want to ask: in terms of some process issues, can you, on notice at least, provide this committee with the objectives for the ASC, as you are required to do under paragraph 1.7(b) of the <i>Commonwealth Government Business Enterprise Governance and Oversight Guidelines</i>? Could you at least take that on notice—not just relating to the submarines but in general terms? That is all I ask.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I will take it on notice, and to the extent that we can assist you and the committee, we will. But I say again that this is a very sensitive procurement going to very sensitive defence issues.</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: I am not talking about the procurement now. I am talking about the guidelines that you give as the minister. Mr Whiley, could you take that on notice as to what guidelines or guidance you have received from your shareholder minister? Could you take that on notice?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I have taken the question on notice.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 21, 24 February 2015
2	Department of Finance	2/2.2	Dastyari	Using grants power to facilitate proposed asset recycling scheme	<p>Senator DASTYARI: Okay, I will ask a specific question. Ms Halton, has the Department of Finance prepared or sought to prepare advice in relation to the application and use of the grants power under section 96 of the Constitution to facilitate the proposed asset recycling scheme?</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator DASTYARI: Just to be sure, the specific question we are asking is whether or not you have at this point in time sought to prepare advice in relation to—</p> <p>Ms Halton: I understand the question. We will have to take it on notice.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 31, 24 February 2015
3	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Ludwig	Wage cost indexes	<p>Senator LUDWIG: Turning to the wage cost indexes, particularly wage cost index 1 and wage cost index 6, I think they were revised in the 2014-15 MYEFO compared to the 2014-15 budget figures. So presumably there would be slower wage growth. If so, can you provide details of those indexes. Surely you can update those?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Perhaps. Dr Arthur Camilleri?</p> <p>Dr Camilleri: We update the wage cost indices every time there is a formal budget update and these are circulated to agencies to update their estimates. We certainly have those updated. They are generally not available in total; the whole information is not available except to the relevant agencies. If you have a specific query about—</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator Cormann: But if you want, given that I am very conscious of the order of 13 May 2009 that was read out in the introduction, which was a great order indeed, I will take it on notice to see whether it is in the public interest to release or not to release. If there is a public interest consideration there which will prevent release, I will explain to the Senate committee and to the Senate, as appropriate, as to why we may feel it is not appropriate to release that information publicly.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 33, 24 February 2015
4	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Ludwig	Staffing level of the general government sector	<p>Senator LUDWIG: Have you given me the figure for what it is now?</p> <p>Mr Helgeby: I do not have a current figure. The APSC would be producing figures on the current numbers.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: I am happy for you to take that on notice and, when it becomes available, make it available to the committee.</p> <p>Mr Helgeby: Yes.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 35, 24 February 2015

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5	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Ludwig	Costs of abolishing smaller agencies	<p>Senator LUDWIG: In regard to abolishing the smaller agencies—such as in Attorney-General's, the communications, education and human services portfolios, etcetera, as part of the smaller government measure—do you put a figure of what the savings are next to that?</p> <p>Mr Helgeby: The figures have been provided in the past on the aggregate value of the savings from those abolitions.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: Do you have that?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We might have to take that on notice.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 35, 24 February 2015
6	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Ludwig	Cost of wages growth	<p>Senator LUDWIG: What level do you estimate, though, for wage growth? Is there a parameter that you put into your modelling?</p> <p>Mr Thomann: It is Social Services who would have that in their model. I am not sure that they actually have that particular parameter in the model. I will have to take that on notice in terms of what is actually in the model. But certainly what they are modelling is a combination of what they are seeing in terms of the wages that they are seeing and the actuals of what people are claiming in relation to what is their family income.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Ms Halton: I think we are getting to a level of specifics here in terms of what is in the model. We will have to have a look at it.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: Okay. I am happy for you to take that on notice.</p> <p>Ms Halton: Yes.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 38, 24 February 2015
7	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Ludwig	Finance's input into the <i>Intergenerational Report</i>	<p>Senator LUDWIG: Have you been asked to do some assumptions over the medium term?</p> <p>Ms Huxtable: I am not sure. We might have to take that on notice, Senator, in terms of exactly what has been asked at what level of the department. I am not aware of it in particular.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: Perhaps you could take it on notice. I have used the broad term 'involvement', but I mean what has Finance been asked to do.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 40, 24 February 2015
8	Department of Finance	1/1.2	Ludwig	ComSuper/CSC merger	<p>Senator LUDWIG: Where are we up to with the proposed merger of ComSuper and the Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation? I think this is a perennial question that I ask.</p> <p>Mr Carrigy-Ryan: It is progressing very well. We have a scheduled commencement date of 1 July 2015. We have had numerous committees of both organisations and we are heavily involved with the Department of Finance in discussing it. As of now we are on track for a 1 July commencement.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: So, when we come back for budget estimates, which is just before 1 July, you should be nearly there?</p> <p>Mr Carrigy-Ryan: We would expect to be very well near there at that date.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: When is the cut-off date for introduction?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: You know perfectly well that we still have a lot of time to introduce legislation between now and 1 July coming into effect. If you want to know the specific cut-off date in relation to this particular legislation I will take that notice.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 47, 24 February 2015

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9	Department of Finance	1/1.2	Ludwig	ComSuper/CSC merger and MYEFO	<p>Senator LUDWIG: You could always declare it urgent—there are always other ways—if you must. So, with the 2014-15 MYEFO measure that requires Public Sector Superannuation Accumulation Plan members to pay administration fees, which is page 145, is there a year-by-year profile of that \$26.8 million savings claimed in the measure description? How do I see that more clearly? Now I have got the perfect example where I do have the agency responsible and Finance in front of me. Are you able to help me?</p> <p>Ms Halton: They will have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: Is that Finance taking it on notice or ComSuper taking it on notice?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: The portfolio is taking it on notice and the answer will be provided by that part of the portfolio that is best equipped to provide you with the best answer.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 48, 24 February 2015
10	CSC	1/1.2	Ludwig	Administration fees for PSSap	<p>Senator LUDWIG: With respect to the average administration fees for a PSSap account that the government pays for, is there such a thing as an average administration fee?</p> <p>Mr Carrigy-Ryan: At the moment it is calculated on a per member basis and depending on whether the member is a contributing member or a preserved member.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: What is the range? Can you give me a flavour of what would be indicative of a still participating member of one who is preserved?</p> <p>Mr Carrigy-Ryan: The fee is currently not payable by a member.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: So what is the fee?</p> <p>Mr Carrigy-Ryan: I will need to check that. My recollection is it is about 118 per head.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: I am happy for you to take it on notice.</p> <p>Mr Carrigy-Ryan: I will take it on notice and come back to you on that.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Pages 48-49, 24 February 2015
11	CSC	1/1.2	Ludwig	Competition in the marketplace	<p>Senator LUDWIG: How do you compare in the marketplace with other industry funds?</p> <p>Mr Carrigy-Ryan: I can give you a table from the APRA figures.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: That would be helpful.</p> <p>Mr Carrigy-Ryan: I can take that on notice and provide those to you.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 49, 24 February 2015
12	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Ludwig	Creation of new government bodies	<p>Senator LUDWIG: It was helpful that you provided 'Smaller government—towards a sustainable future'. Have there been any new bodies created since the commencement of the policy?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: The net effect is a significant reduction in the number of bodies.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: Yes. I am not cavilling with your contention, but I was going to check whether—</p> <p>Senator Cormann: To the extent that there are new bodies actually announced in the Mid-year Economic and Fiscal Outlook, I think from memory there is a body that rings a bell in the Attorney-General's portfolio related to library advisory—something to do with books seems to ring a bell.</p> <p>Ms Halton: Yes. We think that is probably one, but we can confirm that.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Ms Halton: I have a memory that there might be one in the Environment portfolio as well, but we will check that for you.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 53, 24 February 2015

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13	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Ludwig	Contestability program	Senator LUDWIG: So the pilot program is currently in place. How long will that run for? Mr Helgeby: It is nearing completion. Senator LUDWIG: What was the cost of that? Mr Helgeby: I would have to take that on notice.	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 58, 24 February 2015
14	Department of Finance	1/1.1	McKenzie	Austender reporting threshold	Senator McKENZIE: Under our international obligations how high can we set our AusTender reporting threshold? Mr Sheridan: I do not believe there is a limit in that regard in the free trade or those trade arrangements. It is a different thing. I would have to check, though, as I do not have that information in front of me. Senator McKENZIE: Could you have a look at that on notice? Mr Sheridan: Yes.	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 63, 24 February 2015
15	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Madigan	Procurement of paper	Senator MADIGAN: Could the department take on notice to provide any correspondence which the Department of Finance has provided to different government departments or the ANAO regarding paper procurement from 1 January 2014? Ms Halton: I am happy to have a look. I do not know what we will find, but I will take it on notice.	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 65, 24 February 2015
16	Department of Finance	2/2.1	Ludwig	Undertaking of scoping studies	Senator LUDWIG: Are the scoping studies done by the Department of Finance? Senator Cormann: The Department of Finance leads the scoping study project, for want of a better word, but we have contracted those scoping studies out to relevant experts through a competitive process, and relevant announcements have been made along the way. On notice—I have not got them, although perhaps Mr Edge might be able to assist you if you want to know who conducted which scoping study. Senator LUDWIG: I am happy to take that on notice and you can provide that detail.	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 67, 24 February 2015
17	Department of Finance	2/2.1	Lundy	Open source solutions	Senator LUNDY: I recall some years ago that there used to be information available as to what open source solutions were and where they were being used within the Commonwealth. Was that produced by the Commonwealth, by your office, or was that produced by an external body reflecting on the procurement characteristics of the Commonwealth in this space? Mr Sheridan: I am not sure exactly what document you are referring to. We still use open source in a range of other areas. The government content management system solution that we are currently in the final stages of setting up is an open source platform and a range of others are being used. Senator LUNDY: Can you get me a list? That is really the heart of the question. Mr Sheridan: I would have to take that on notice to see what information is available. Senator LUNDY: Yes. What I recollect—and I do not know whether or not it was a list compiled within the department, within your area or somewhere else—is an excellent reference about the type, nature, extent and presence of open source solutions across the range of Commonwealth departments and agencies. If you could take that on notice and provide me with such list to the extent that you can, I would be grateful. Mr Sheridan: Yes.	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 73, 24 February 2015

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18	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Lundy	Numbers and value of small contracts	<p>Senator LUNDY: So, in anticipation of that, can you outline for me the number of small contractors that are engaged and the value of their contracts?</p> <p>Mr Sheridan: I would have to take that detail on notice. I do not have that to hand.</p> <p>Senator LUNDY: Would it be fair to say that they are all local suppliers?</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator Cormann: In terms of the current situation, we will take it on notice. I hasten to add again that you should not assume what may or may not happen down the track.</p> <p>Senator LUNDY: I am just trying to establish what the benchmark is on the public record for the current provision of that service.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We will provide you with that information to the extent that we can.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 74, 24 February 2015
19	Department of Finance	2/2.2	Lundy	Status of property tender between Customs and Immigration	<p>Senator LUNDY: That is very helpful. Can you go to my question now which is: what stage are you at in that engagement with that particular proposal?</p> <p>Mr Owens: My understanding is that with Customs and Immigration, the merged Department of Immigration is still in the process of seeking market responses to their request for tender. This is my understanding; we can confirm this. We tend to get involved after they receive their responses and before they come to a final decision.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 78, 24 February 2015
20	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Lundy	Costs of property for merger between Customs and Immigration	<p>Senator LUNDY: I just want to be very clear on where those touch points are with the Department of Finance.</p> <p>Ms Halton: Costing for any significant proposal that the government would agree.</p> <p>Senator LUNDY: Does this one fall into that category of potentially being more than a \$30 million whole-of-life costs?</p> <p>Mr Owens: We suspect that this transaction would.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator LUNDY: Does that include the potential costs of property?</p> <p>...</p> <p>Ms Halton: The officers of budget group are not here at the moment, so I cannot tell you. I receive various views of it. I have not seen anything on this recently. Whether they have actually signed anything off, I cannot tell you. I think not, but if that is wrong we will confirm that.</p> <p>Senator LUNDY: Would you take that on notice for me?</p> <p>Ms Halton: Yes, certainly.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator LUNDY: You have taken on notice to give me a status report on the budget review process in relation to that.</p> <p>Ms Halton: Yes, of whether we have actually signed something off.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Pages 78-79, 24 February 2015
21	Department of Finance	1/1.3	Ludwig	Savings that do not require legislation	<p>Senator LUDWIG: Is there a total of the savings that do not require legislation?</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I might have to take that on notice if you want the breakdown.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: Yes. I just would not mind a little bit more detail.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Yes.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: In other words, the non-legislative savings that are attached and that will feed into the Medical Research Fund.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Some legislation incidentally has been passed. Not everything in health is—</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: That is true. Maybe if we could just put that in a separate bundle on notice.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Sure.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 83, 24 February 2015

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					<p>Senator LUDWIG: And then the bundle for which legislation requires passage.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: There is about \$3.2 billion in savings across health that have been implemented. I am happy to provide you on notice the specific breakdown. There is then another \$2.1 billion in savings that do not require legislation and that are not yet implemented. Principally, that goes to the timing of when they come into effect. There is then about \$4.7 billion that is subject to legislation which is yet to be dealt with by the parliament.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: What I would like is just a bit more detail on which of the ones are the savings measures? I am happy for that to be taken on notice.</p>	
22	Department of Finance	2/2.1	Ludwig	Investment of Medibank private with Reserve Bank	<p>Senator LUDWIG: Is 5.7 a sufficient number to invest it with the Reserve Bank for the sale of Medibank Private?</p> <p>Mr Gibson: Yes, it would be.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: Can you confirm that it is being invested with the Reserve Bank?</p> <p>Mr Gibson: I cannot confirm. I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: I am happy for you to take that on notice, and whether it is the whole amount or part of the amount?</p> <p>Mr Gibson: I will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: And then what the interest is that the Reserve Bank affords you, if I have got that right as it has been explained to me. If not, I am happy to be corrected.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: We will get that status for you and confirm as soon as possible.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Ms Halton: I am very conscious that Senator Ludwig asked a question about the proceeds from the Medibank Private sale. We can confirm it went into the RBA and it went in on the day it was received. We cannot confirm exactly what kind of account it went into but we will come back to you with that technical detail.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Pages 86-87, 24 February 2015
23	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Ludwig	Advertising campaigns above \$250,000 threshold	<p>Senator LUDWIG: ... What I was trying to identify was whether there were any campaigns with a threshold above \$250,000 that had not been assessed under the short-term guidelines? I am happy for you to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: I am sure there is not but we will take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: I would assume the answer is that they all have but it is worth asking the question.</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: I understand and I am pretty confident that the answer to your question is as you thought it was, but we will take it on notice.</p> <p>Ms Halton: That is our belief. We will confirm it.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 92, 24 February 2015
24	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Ludwig	Dates for Education Department's advertising campaign	<p>Senator LUDWIG: Was that done by the Education Department? Did they notify you of that?</p> <p>Ms Van Veen: I do not have dates for these.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: I am happy for you to take this on notice because what I want to do is work through the chronology of the guidelines and higher education's interaction with you on those guidelines. ...</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: So, you can take us through the dates, on notice, as to when Education talked to Finance?</p> <p>Ms Van Veen: If we have that detail.</p> <p>Ms Halton: Which we may not.</p> <p>Ms Van Veen: We may not, but we will take that on notice.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Ms Van Veen: Yes, the master media agency. We interact with departments and agencies on that as a liaison point.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: The purpose of that is to ensure that you are not crowding out the media buy which artificially raises your price, to ensure that you have smooth access to a media buy?</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 93-95, 24 February 2015

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					<p>Ms Van Veen: That is right. I am not sure if there was interaction specifically with Education on that particular—</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: If you would not mind looking at that; it would be a normal function of the Education Department in understanding that if you want to get your message across you would not want to be mixing it with a range of other government messages at the same time which may not help or may, in fact, crowd out the message.</p>	
25	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Smith	Ministerial directions to Secretaries on advertising campaigns	<p>Senator SMITH: I am interested to know, in the previous seven years, on what occasions did ministers of state override or issue directions to secretaries to continue or reinstate advertising campaigns?</p> <p>Ms Halton: We cannot answer that question here.</p> <p>Senator SMITH: Can you take it on notice?</p> <p>Ms Halton: To the extent that we are able to answer that question, we will take that on notice.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 100, 24 February 2015
26	Department of Finance	3/3.1	Ludwig	Delay in moving-in date for the Minister for Agriculture's electorate office	<p>Senator LUDWIG: What I am trying to ascertain is that there was a delay, as I understand it. There may not have been, but that is what I am trying to ascertain. If I had the expected completion date and then the move-in date, then I could see if there was a delay.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Ms Halton: We will give you something on notice, Senator.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: Do you have that at hand?</p> <p>Ms Halton: No, but we are happy to give you something in writing.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: The secretary took on notice your question about the reason for the delays. Anyway, let's move on.</p> <p>Ms Halton: Senator, all I can say to you is that it did not meet my standard for timeliness. That is why I became aware of it. The specifics beyond that we will take on notice.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: In that, please do a chronology of the issues that the department had to respond to. I understand the costs will be reflected in the six months, so I am not interested in costs. It is only a chronology—not so much of all of the correspondence, but by each issue that arose between the landlord and the prospective tenant. I just wanted to be clear about what I am seeking so I do not have to come back to it again in June.</p> <p>Ms Halton: Yes.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Pages 103-104, 24 February 2015
27	Department of Finance	3/3.1	Ludwig	Staff turnover in the Coalition Advisory Service	<p>Senator LUDWIG: Since 1 October 2014, has there been turnover? How many have come and how many people have gone? Are there new contracts?</p> <p>Ms Moy: I do not have the information with me about the turnover within the CAS since 1 October.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: Can you take that on notice?</p> <p>Ms Moy: Yes.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 105, 24 February 2015
28	Department of Finance	3/3.1	Ludwig	Receipt of employment contracts for the Coalition Advisory Service	<p>Ms Moy: There is a two-week settling period, so we would not have received all of the new contracts as yet.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: Can you take that on notice and let me know how many contracts you have received to date?</p> <p>Ms Moy: Yes.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: You do not have that information with you?</p> <p>Ms Moy: No, I do not.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 105, 24 February 2015

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29	Department of Finance	3/3.1	Ludwig	Equipment provided to the Coalition Advisory Service	<p>Senator LUDWIG: ... To begin with, can we look at telecommunications, computers, office space or other equipment. If you do not have that information with you I am happy for you to take that on notice, as to the number of each and the type—whether it be a blackberry or an iPhone 6, or whatever it might be, and a computer, presumably an old Toshiba of some description!</p> <p>Ms Moy: I am happy to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: Do you know whether or not there are any other resources provided? Do they have access to stationery?</p> <p>Ms Moy: The CAS are supported by the Department of Finance as we would support a home department in terms of those types of utilities that they require.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: So, I should ask the Department of Finance what support you provide?</p> <p>Ms Moy: I took it that we would take that question on notice—the office stationery and IT, and those sorts of things. I am happy to take that on notice and provide that to you.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 106, 24 February 2015
30	Department of Finance	3/3.1	Ludwig	Travel by the Coalition Advisory Service's staff	<p>Senator LUDWIG: I am just making sure so that I can ask them about that issue. Do they have travel allocation or is that Parliamentary Services?</p> <p>Ms Moy: No, they do travel. I do not have the details here with me but I can provide travel details.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: What I was seeking was what the travel allocation was, if that is the best way of putting it. Do they have unlimited travel? Is it capped? Is it interstate only? Is it return or follow the whip only? In other words, what are the rules? It is not an electorate office as such is it; it is a coalition advisory—</p> <p>Ms Halton: We will get you something on notice.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: If they do travel—is that published every six months?</p> <p>Ms Moy: I would have to check. Generally, staff travel costs are included in the monthly management reports. In terms of staff travel costs in the six-monthly reports, I will need to check for you.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: As the minister correctly identified, if you provide this information on a six-monthly basis then do not provide it. I will wait for that. But if it is not provided at all, then I would like to know what it is, and I do not need to wait for the six months on that basis.</p> <p>Ms Halton: Yes, we will come back to you.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: Absolutely. That is why I said whatever you do on the six-monthly report. My recollection is it is very careful about how it provides the information. If it is not on the six-monthly report then I would ask for a total cost of the travel undertaken since 7 September by that unit. But if it is on the six-monthly report, then I will search through that. I take it that will appear on the Chief Government Whip's six-monthly report?</p> <p>Ms Moy: I will check it for you. There is an anomaly sometimes on what travel is reported in terms of staffing. I will check for you whether or not staffing travel for everybody is actually in the six-monthly reports.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Pages 106-107, 24 February 2015
31	Department of Finance	3/3.1	Smith	M&PS' involvement with a job advertisement	<p>Senator SMITH: My attention was drawn to one particular ad. It was for the Leader of the Greens in the Senate, Senator Milne. It said 'Climate change campaigner—office of Greens Leader, Senator Christine Milne'. I think that if I advertised for a Liberal Party campaigner there would be a lot of questions from Senate colleagues about that. Are you familiar with the ad I am talking about? Applications closed at 5 pm on Friday, 13 February.</p> <p>Ms Moy: No.</p> <p>Senator SMITH: Does it sound normal for someone to advertise for a campaigner of any sort?</p> <p>Ms Moy: I cannot comment. I have not seen the advertisement, so it is very difficult for me to comment and make an</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 109, 24 February 2015

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					assessment. ... Senator SMITH: Perhaps we could inquire whether it was taxpayer funded. If so, is this encouraged? Thinking about that, if Senator Smith were to say, 'Liberal Party campaigner', would that pass the necessary scrutiny? Ms Halton: Senator, let us have a look at it. As a general rule—and I see a number of these kinds of inquiries from people—we do not comment on how individuals use the allowances. But let us take the issue and see what we can tell you.	
32	Department of Finance	3/3.1	Bernardi	Costs of mobile phones	CHAIR: So the costs, the payment and all that reside with you but you cannot tell me how much they are. Ms Moy: It is under outcome 3 but the actual control and the management sits with the Presiding Officers and they draw down on the Department of Finance for a total amount, rather than individual bills. CHAIR: I make the point. We tried to do the right thing. Senator Ronaldson: Senator, I think we might take it on notice, just so we can clarify.	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 110, 24 February 2015
33	Department of Finance	3/3.1	Dastyari, Smith	Total costs of Government MOP(S) staff	Senator DASTYARI: I have the personnel positions document that you have given us, Ms Moy, updated for February 2015, and going through the files I found the exact same document from 31 October last year, which I assume is something you provide every estimates. ... Senator DASTYARI: This may be a question you would normally answer or may be a question you do not answer and you take on notice. I am just not sure what is normal protocol. Do you provide a total figure of what all the staff costs? Have you in the past? Ms Moy: No. Senator DASTYARI: Is that a question you take on notice? I am not asking for individual people's pay; I am asking for the totality of this document. Ms Moy: The total staff costs for MOPS employees? Senator DASTYARI: Yes, the 420. If you can break it up into several parts—the grand total for government, the grand total for opposition and the grand totals for other parliamentary roles. Again, take it on notice. I am not asking for people's individual pay. I am asking for headline figures. Senator SMITH: I think the headline figures, comparatively, would be very, very valuable, so perhaps if we could have the comparative figures for the last seven years. Are you thinking calendar years, Senator Dastyari, or financial years? Senator DASTYARI: I think financial years would make more sense, wouldn't they? Senator SMITH: So perhaps by financial year for the last seven, if that is possible. Senator DASTYARI: I think five is a nice round figure. But, yes. Senator SMITH: I will meet you at six.	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Pages 110-111, 24 February 2015
34	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Seselja	Costs of a protected action ballot	Senator SESELJA: I am not sure if you can enlighten us on this, and maybe it is a question for Fair Work, but, in those circumstances where the AEC does not do it as the default and it is outsourced to someone else, would the individual union pay for that? Who pays in that circumstance? Who pays when the AEC does it? Is that paid for by the union or is it just covered by the AEC? Mr Pirani: When the AEC does it under the Fair Work Act, the Commonwealth in fact pays the cost. That is my understanding. Senator SESELJA: If it is done by someone other than the AEC, does the Commonwealth pay?	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 112, 24 February 2015

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					Mr Pirani: I would have to take that on notice.	
35	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Seselja	Costs of a large-scale protected action ballot	<p>Senator SESELJA: So the ballot could have been done by you. Can you give me some idea of what those costs would be for a large-scale ballot? You would have some records for other large-scale postal ballots. We talked about the earlier ones with 18,000 members of Australia Post and 35,000 members of the ANF. They are large. The one we are talking about here is not quite as large, though it is a large one as well. What kind of cost would there be if the AEC did it to the AEC and to the Commonwealth?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I cannot give you the individual costs—I do not have those in front of me—but I can tell you that the revenue derived from protected action ballots conducted by us from the year to date 2014-15 was \$856,538. I am happy to take on notice some indicative costs there might have been for those other ballots, if that is of assistance.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Pages 112-113, 24 February 2015
36	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Seselja	Costs of Department of Veterans' Affairs protected action ballot	<p>Senator SESELJA: That is fine. Also, I think the CPSU used the same private company to conduct a protected action ballot of its members in the Department of Veterans' Affairs, which I think has about 1,900 employees nationally, so it is a bit smaller, who would mainly be located in the national and state offices. Did the CPSU approach the AEC to inquire as to whether it could conduct a protected action ballot in the Department of Veterans' Affairs?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: To the best of my knowledge, the answer to that is no. I can confirm that for you, but as far as I am aware they did not approach us. But I would like to confirm that for you so I am not misleading you.</p> <p>Senator SESELJA: Please confirm that on notice. Likewise with the earlier questioning, is there any reason why the AEC could not conduct a postal ballot in relation to the Department of Veterans' Affairs for protected action?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: Not that I am aware of.</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: If we can get that information for you, we will.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Pages 112-113, 24 February 2015
37	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Dastyari	Assistant Commissioner positions at the AEC	<p>Senator DASTYARI: The six assistant commissioner positions?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: The six assistant commissioner positions—</p> <p>Mr Pirani: Are you referring to the assistant commissioners or the Australian electoral officers—the statutory positions?</p> <p>Senator DASTYARI: No, the six assistant commissioner positions.</p> <p>Mr Rogers: My rough estimate is that four of those are permanent at the moment and two are acting. I will confirm that for you to make sure that is accurate.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 115, 24 February 2015
38	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Dastyari	Positions within the AEC	<p>Senator DASTYARI: This is following up from the last round of estimates. Perhaps you could take this on notice. I appreciate how these things tend to work: people move up and that is appropriate—career planning. When you are at the point of finalising—you could take this on notice—could you provide us with an updated table of who is whom within the AEC?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: Certainly, Senator, with names, positions and when those positions are likely to be filled.</p> <p>Senator DASTYARI: The Australian Statistician was appointed, according to my notes, on 12 December. Is that correct?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I am not sure.</p> <p>Mr Pirani: It was about that time. It was before Christmas.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 115, 24 February 2015

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39	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Dastyari	Electoral Integrity Unit	<p>Senator DASTYARI: I have some very quick questions about the new Electoral Integrity Unit ... Firstly, can you provide an update of the work of the Electoral Integrity Unit—what work has been done, what is happening, where it is going? That is information we cannot find in the public domain. Secondly, in answer to question F167, which you may have with you—</p> <p>Mr Rogers: We are finding that now.</p> <p>Senator DASTYARI: I will read this onto the record and you can take it on notice. In your answer to question F167, you referred to work that the union is doing on examining the direct enrolment and update program and the divergence between the federal and state and territory roles. Could you provide us with, on notice, an update on the work that was outlined in that question?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I am happy to do that. I might just provide a very brief update. I put a submission to the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters last week. They are meeting next week about this very issue—about that divergence and what strategy—</p> <p>Senator DASTYARI: Is that a public submission or a private submission or a matter for the committee?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: Obviously, the committee has not met, so I cannot talk about what was in that submission, but that is an area that the joint standing committee are actively looking at. I am happy to provide some information around that for you on notice—about the work that the Electoral Integrity Unit is doing and how will fit into that space.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 116, 24 February 2015
40	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Dastyari	Numbers of people on the New South Wales roll	<p>Senator DASTYARI: Is there information—I assume this could be something that you could easily get and you may take this on notice—on the discrepancy in terms of the number of people who enrolled on the New South Wales roll, as opposed to enrolled on the federal roll from New South Wales?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: That is something I can provide.</p> <p>Senator DASTYARI: Is that a table that you can provide across all states?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: Yes, I can.</p> <p>Senator DASTYARI: How many people are on the state roll, how many people are on the federal roll, what the divergence is and then—</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I can provide that.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 116, 24 February 2015
41	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Dastyari	Divergences as percentages of population	<p>Senator DASTYARI: Commissioner, you may not have this information already available. Do you have them as a percentage of the population or the divergence percentages?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I do not have that as a percentage. I would have to work that out, so I might take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator DASTYARI: Sure.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 117, 24 February 2015
42	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Dastyari	Staff in, and work program for, the Electoral Integrity Unit	<p>Senator DASTYARI: It sounds as though these are matters that are going to be canvassed. I have two things and then I am done. You indicated to us on 1 October 2014 the staff levels for the Electoral Integrity Unit. Have they changed?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I will take that on notice and make sure that my answer is accurate, as it stands today.</p> <p>Senator DASTYARI: When you do that, can you also provide the classifications of the staff and, finally, in the same answer to question F167 you refer to an established work program for the unit. I wonder whether, on notice, you are able to provide a copy of the work program?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: Yes, I am.</p> <p>Senator DASTYARI: Thank you.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 118, 24 February 2015

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43	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Rhiannon	Discrepancies between party and donor returns	<p>Senator RHIANNON: I will put it in questions on notice then. How many discrepancies have been detected between donor returns and party returns for the 2013-14 disclosure data released on 2 February this year?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: Again if I could take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: Thank you for taking it on notice. Could you inform the committee if the IT process has been run that enables you to identify apparent discrepancies? Has that been run through the system?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I am sure it has been. I do not have that detailed information here in front of me. I do not want to make a comment here that is inaccurate. As you know, it is not an uncommon occurrence for those amendments to be made—in fact, it is a part of the process that we have in place.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: The question has been taken on notice. Once that information is available then the commissioner can give it to you.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Pages 118-119, 24 February 2015
44	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Rhiannon	Paul Ramsay Holdings' annual return	<p>Senator RHIANNON: The Paul Ramsay Holdings' annual return—in the data that came out on 2 February—declared \$600,000 in donations to the federal Liberal Party. Paul Ramsay Holdings also donated \$50,000 to the New South Wales branch of the Liberal Party. Neither of those amounts appears in the annual returns of either the federal or the New South Wales Liberal Party. Have you picked up that large discrepancy in your investigations?</p> <p>...</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I do not have that information in front of me, but I am happy to take it on notice and come back to you with that information.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 119, 24 February 2015
45	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Rhiannon	Discrepancies between party and company donations	<p>Senator RHIANNON: Can you take this on notice: if you have detected these discrepancies and if they have been followed up—and this was just from our research in looking at the returns that you have publicly put up on your website—where the party has disclosed the amount but the company has not. The federal Liberal Party disclosed a donation of \$250,000 from the New Hope Corporation Ltd, but the company has not. The ACT branch of the Liberal Party disclosed a donation of \$217,800 from the defence industry company Stratsec, which has not disclosed that. Also, the Queensland branch of the Labor Party disclosed a donation of \$200,000 from NewMR, but the company did not. I was interested if you were aware of these donations that were not disclosed by the donors and if you have requested that they put in amended returns.</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I will take that on notice.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 119, 24 February 2015
46	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Smith	Evidence of voter identity at polling	<p>Senator SMITH: You say 'evidence of identity'; others would know that as voter ID.</p> <p>Mr Rogers: That is correct. I spoke to the Electoral Commission of Queensland today. What I saw in the polling places I visited was that that process ran very smoothly. We would have to check with the AFP that the simple introduction of evidence of identity cured the issue we are talking about.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 122, 24 February 2015
47	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Bernardi	Elections for the Transport Workers' Union	<p>CHAIR: In regard to third-party elections the AEC conducts, does the AEC conduct elections for the Transport Workers' Union?</p> <p>Mr Rogers: I would have to check the details on that and I will do so and come back to you. But we do protected action ballots for a broad range of organisations.</p> <p>...</p> <p>CHAIR: Are you currently conducting an election for various officers or official positions in the Transport Workers' Union</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Pages 123-124, 24 February 2015

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					<p>in Australia? Mr Rogers: I will have to check the details on that and I will come back to you with that answer. CHAIR: What I am interested in is that there was a media report from December of last year that states 'The Transport Workers' Union NSW branch claimed to have nearly 41,000 members. That was its return to the Fair Work Commission. Yet a detailed analysis revealed it had slightly less than 25,000 effective financial members.' My question is, what steps has the AEC taken to satisfy itself that the TWU membership roll is in fact accurate? Also, has the AEC raised any concerns with the TWU regarding its accuracy? Mr Rogers: I will take that on notice.</p>	
48	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Bernardi	AEC's involvement in internal ballots	<p>CHAIR: Given the example of the TWU I have just used, it has claimed to have 41,000 members in the NSW branch in the returns to the Fair Work Commission. Yet an analysis suggests that it has only 25,000 members. Isn't there an element of concern that lending the AEC's name to an internal ballot or election legitimises the election even though the roll, which is supplied by the union, may be entirely corrupt? I am not making any allegations, but it may not be accurate. Yet they can then say, 'The AEC conducted our election. It was fair, honest and up-front. All our members were polled,' but it may not have any validity, in truth. Mr Rogers: I will take that on notice, because I want to see the specifics of the information on the particular matter you have raised. CHAIR: Okay. I am also interested on notice if you could provide a copy of the report. I do understand that you are conducting an election for the TWU and I am interested in a copy of the report on this election that was provided to the registry of the Fair Work Commission. Similarly, I am interested in obtaining a copy of the report of the last election that the AEC conducted for the Transport Workers' Union of Australia. Could you take that on notice.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 124, 24 February 2015
49	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Xenophon	Pre-polling	<p>I refer to reports of early voting as the fastest-growing trend in Australian electoral participation. At the 2013 Federal Election, I understand some 2.5 million Australians voted before Election Day – an increase of one million since the 2010 numbers.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can the AEC provide a breakdown of the total amount of votes cast prior to Election Day in the 2007, 2010 and 2013 Federal Elections by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) State; b) Pre-poll voting; c) General Postal voters; d) Electors living overseas; and e) Silent Electors. 2. What research has the AEC conducted into this increasing trend, and what were the findings? On what grounds is pre-polling specified under the Commonwealth Electoral Act? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Are voters casting pre-poll votes under these grounds? 3. During the 2007, 2010 and 2013 Federal Elections, how many pre-poll voting centres were established? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) At what cost to the taxpayer are these centres? Can you also advise of what cost this is as a percentage of Total Election spends for 2007, 2010 and 2013? 4. I understand voters do not have to state the grounds under which they are applying for a pre-poll vote. Does the AEC consider that this information would assist in addressing the reasons behind this trend? Are there options currently which would let voters elect to provide this information? 5. With the increasing number of pre-poll voting, does the AEC consider this could disadvantage independents and minor 	Written

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					<p>parties who have limited resources to provide campaign materials to voters prior to Election Day?</p> <p>6. Can increased amounts of early votes result in delayed election results?</p> <p>7. I refer to an article published on The Conversation on 5 February 2015 ‘Why more and more Australians are voting before election day’ by Nathaniel Reader (http://theconversation.com/why-more-and-more-australians-are-voting-before-election-day-37159). The article states, “One of the key tenets of democratic theory is that citizens should, as much as possible, vote at the same time”. Does the AEC agree with this statement?</p> <p>a) Does the AEC agree doing so confers equality on the contest?</p> <p>b) Is it reasonable to suggest that if some people vote prior to the election there is always the chance they may miss a major campaign announcement that could influence their vote?</p> <p>8. With regards to postal votes, I understand political parties are able to send out postal vote application forms across whole electorates, with reply-paid envelopes for return to the MP or candidate, rather than to the AEC.</p> <p>a) How many complaints were received by the AEC about this practice in the 2013 Election?</p> <p>b) There are concerns that parties often deliberately design materials in ways that allow unsuspecting voters to believe they are dealing with the AEC. What are the existing regulations for MPs and Candidates with regards to sending out and receiving postal vote application forms?</p> <p>c) What safeguards does the AEC have in place to protect the integrity of the process?</p>	
50	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Xenophon	Failure to vote/voting system	<p>I raise questions on behalf of a constituent who has been in touch with my office who was taken to court for failing to vote at the 2013 Federal Election.</p> <p>My constituent has told me he did not vote at the election because he was confused about the present voting system. Prior to the Election he attended to AEC Office in Mt Gambier, South Australia, to ask for some advice about the voting system, particularly for the Senate. He was advised the staff member could not assist. When polling initially opened, he attended a polling centre to ask about voting and again was not able to receive any assistance. He tells me he didn’t vote as he was unsure as to how his vote would count.</p> <p>1. Can the AEC advise of the people who failed to vote in the 2013 Federal Election, how many advised the reason as being they did not understand the voting system and of how their vote would count?</p> <p>2. What assistance from the AEC is available for people who have difficulty understanding the voting system on, or prior to Election Day?</p> <p>3. How much did the AEC receive in penalties from people failing to vote in 2013?</p> <p>4. How many people did the AEC elect to prosecute in the 2013 election for failing to vote? Can you provide a breakdown of the costs and outcomes of these cases?</p> <p>5. Has the AEC conducted any research on simplifying the voting system? If so, please provide details.</p> <p>6. Does the AEC believe an optional-preferential system, similar to the one that’s been operating in New South Wales for Legislative Council elections since 1999, is clearer for voters to understand how their vote is being counted?</p>	Written
51	Department of Finance	General	Moore	Finance’s guidelines for Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements	Can I confirm that the Department’s guidelines for Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements require agencies include 2013-14 actual figures?	Written

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52	Department of Finance	General	Moore	The Department of Social Services' 2013-14 Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Department of Social Services 2013/14 PAES did not contain the actual expenditure for each income support payment, for example page 50 of the PAES. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Was the Department of Finance aware of this before tabling? b) Did the Department of Finance approve the form of the tables? If so, why did it? 2. Was the Department aware that the Department of Social Services is seeking appropriation in 2014-15 of just over \$111 million for "Decisions taken but not yet announced" (see page 25 of PAES)? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Is this usually the practice for appropriations relating to decisions taken but not yet announced? b) If not, can you explain why this has been appropriated in this way? Would this line mean that once the decision is announced, where it gets appropriated to in terms of outcomes/programs will not be visible as it has already been appropriated for in the PAES? That is, for example if it is announced between now and the Budget, it wouldn't show up in the PBS? 3. Did Finance approve this presentation of appropriation for the Department of Social Services? If not, can you explain what advice you provided to the Department of Social Services in relation to that? 	Written
53	Department of Finance	General	Leyonhjelm	Legal advice on above-the-line voting in the Senate - Finance	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is the Department in possession of legal advice covering the constitutionality of above-the-line voting in the Senate? If so, what is this advice, and can the advice be provided to the Committee? 2. Is the Department in possession of legal advice regarding the constitutionality of not allowing parties that have failed to reach a threshold primary vote from receiving preferences in Senate voting? If so, what is this advice, and can the advice be provided to the Committee? 	Written
54	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Leyonhjelm	Legal advice on above-the-line voting in the Senate - AEC	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is the Commission in possession of legal advice covering the constitutionality of above the line voting in the Senate? If so, what is this advice, and can the advice be provided to the Committee? 2. Is the Commission in possession of legal advice regarding the constitutionality of not allowing parties that have failed to reach a threshold primary vote from receiving preferences in Senate voting? If so, what is this advice, and can the advice be provided to the Committee? 	Written
55	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Ludwig	Contestability Program website	<p>Senator LUDWIG: Separately then, what are the instructions provided by the department in relation to the contestability framework?</p> <p>Mr Helgeby: We have a website dedicated to the contestability program or a section of our website. The purpose of the contestability program is to ask the basic questions whether something can be done better than it is being done at the moment, in a better way, and to pursue those questions through a rigorous set of data and analytical mechanisms.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: Who would use the website other than I?</p> <p>Ms Halton: The departments.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: I think it is widely read by officials right across the Commonwealth Public Service. I believe it is one of the most widely read pieces of information from the Department of Finance, the finest department in the Commonwealth.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: Not that I want to put you to the test on that, but you might provide me with the page impression number or the hits on that site.</p> <p>Mr Helgeby: We will see what we can do with that.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 58, 24 February 2015

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56	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Smith	'By boat, no visa' advertising campaign	<p>Senator SMITH: Turning specifically then to the 'By boat, no visa' campaign, were you advised and who advised you when that campaign was to be ceased because of the imposition of the caretaker convention and the 20 March federal election? This was the \$30 million worth campaign in regards to Papua New Guinea asylum seeking efforts. Do you recall that?</p> <p>Ms Van Veen: The specific details, because this is going back—</p> <p>Senator SMITH: To the last election.</p> <p>Ms Van Veen: Yes.</p> <p>Ms Halton: To well over a year ago.</p> <p>Ms Van Veen: A while, yes. In terms of who advised me and those sorts of details, I would have to go back and look into that. I know the campaign that you are speaking of. I would really need to look into the detail of that.</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 98, 24 February 2015
57	Department of Finance	General	Collins	AEC Chairperson's position	Given the Chairperson's position was only extended for 6 months until 22 January 2015, was this position extended again in January or is the position of Chairperson now vacant?	Written
58	Department of Finance	3/3.1	Collins	Changes to Entitlements Handbooks (international travel)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can you provide details to changes to the Entitlements Handbook in the past 6 months? 2. Part Four of the Opposition Office holders Entitlements that deals with travel seem to have been updated recently. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Can you confirm that these guidelines have been updated recently? b) Can you provide the date that the updated guidelines were approved and who approved the changes? c) Can you outline the changes from the previous version? d) Can you confirm when the Opposition were notified and by what means (e.g. correspondence etc), and on what date? 	Written
59	Department of Finance	3/3.1	Collins	<i>Members of (Staff) Act 1984</i> Enterprise Agreement negotiations	When are the MOP(S) Act Enterprise Agreement negotiations likely to commence? Is the Minister currently considering this matter?	Written
60	Department of Finance	3/3.1	Ludwig	Payouts for MOP(S) staff – December 2014 Cabinet reshuffle	<p>With reference to staff employed under the Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984 whose employment was terminated as a result of the December 2014 Cabinet reshuffle, please provide a table showing the number of staff terminated from each ministerial office. Please include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The total cost of redundancies per office. 2. Number of voluntary and involuntary redundancies. 3. What was the total cost of termination payouts to this group of staff? 	Written

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61	Department of Finance	3/3.1	Ludwig	Land costs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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? 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? 	Written
62	Department of Finance	General	Ludwig	Procedure manuals (Ministerial)	<p>Does the Minister's office have a procedure manual, protocol, set of guidelines or similar type document for communication between the Minister's office and the department? If yes, please provide a copy and:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When was the manual last updated? 2. Who is responsible for updating the manual? 3. Who is the manual distributed to? 4. Is anyone responsible for clearing communications before they are sent to the department? 	Written
63	Department of Finance	General	Ludwig	Domain Usage	<p>I refer you to question F37 from Supplementary Budget Estimates in 2014. According to the response, the requested information was not available in the format requested.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Could you please detail what kind of format the information is available in? 2. Please provide the information in this format. 	Written
64	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Ludwig	Contestability Framework	<p>I refer you to question F22 from Supplementary Estimates in 2014.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Could you please outline the details of the pilot phase of the program? Please include: 2. Which agencies are involved in development and implementation? 3. Please put together a timeline for the pilot program: including when it began; when it will end; and any other important mile stones. 4. What outcomes are expected from the pilot program? 5. Have any studies been commissioned to help develop the pilot program? If yes: please list them and include: the date they began; their end date (or expected end date); their cost; and who ordered them. 	Written

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65	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Ludwig	Communications and Public Affairs Functions	I refer you to question F20 from Supplementary Estimates in 2014. You stated that secretaries have been provided with nominal allocations and the allocations had been finalised. Could you please provide the following information: 1. Please provide a list of each Portfolio Secretary and what their finalised allocation is. 2. How much of this allocation has been spent to date.	Written
66	Department of Finance	2/2.2	Ludwig	List of Smaller Government surplus Commonwealth Properties	I refer you to QoN response F46 from Budget Estimates in May 2014 and QoN F14 from Supplementary Estimates in 2014: 1. Can you please update the committee on the status of the list of surplus properties? 2. Has the list been finalised? 3. Have the sales commenced? 4. Please produce the list as it currently stands. Please include with the list: 5. The purchase price of each property; 6. The expected value of the property; 7. The upkeep costs of the property; 8. How many square meters is the property? 9. Is the property currently vacant or occupied? 10. If occupied, who are the current tenants? 11. How many people work there?	Written
67	Department of Finance	2/2.1	Ludwig	Audit of spending capex and outcomes generated by ICT investment	I refer you to question F11 from Supplementary Estimates in 2014. 1. Given that the report was due by the end of 2014, has it actually been completed and submitted to government? If no, why not? If yes: 2. Please provide a copy of the findings.	Written
68	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Ludwig	Government Advertising	I refer you to question F44 from Supplementary Estimates in 2014. You stated that the volume of advertisements placed by the government would prohibit you from being able to detail each item individually. Could you please provide the details for the 5 most expensive advertising contracts between Budget Estimates and Supplementary Estimates in 2014. Please list: 1. The item of expenditure and cost; 2. The approving officer for each item; 3. The outlet/s that was paid for the advertising. Could you also please provide the details for the 5 most expensive advertising contracts between Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014 and Additional Estimates in 2015. Please list: 1. The item of expenditure and cost; 2. The approving officer for each item; 3. The outlet/s that was paid for the advertising.	Written

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69	Department of Finance	General	Ludwig	Red Tape Reduction	I refer you to question F66 from Supplementary Estimates in 2014. The response stated that \$69.19 million was saved from grant and procurement administration reform. Could you please provide a breakdown of this figure and include: 1. Individual cost of programs cut; 2. Dates the programs were cut; and 3. How many people were made redundant as a result of each program being scrapped?	Written
70	Department of Finance	General	Ludwig	Conditions on Government Contracts and Agreements	Since 7 September 2013, do any contracts managed by the Department of Finance contain any limitations or restrictions on advocacy or criticising Government policy? If yes: 1. Please name the top contacts (by value). 2. When was it formed or created? 3. What are the specific clauses and/or sections which state this, or in effect, create a limitation or restriction? 4. Do any agreements managed by the Department/Agency contain any limitations on restrictions on advocacy or criticisms of Government policy? If so, please name each agreement. When was it formed or created? 5. What are the specific clauses and/or sections which state this, or in effect, create a limitation or restriction? 6. For each of the contracts and agreements, are there any particular reasons, such as genuine commercial in confidence information, for this restriction? 7. 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? 8. 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? 9. If no consultation has occurred, why not? 10. 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?	Written
71	Department of Finance	General	Ludwig	Enterprise Bargaining Agreements	I refer you to question F48 from Supplementary Estimates 2014. The Department of Finance and Deregulation Enterprise Agreement 2011-2014 had an expiry date of 30 June, 2014. Negotiations for a new agreement began on 19 June, 2014. 1. Has an agreement been reached yet? If yes, please provide a summary of changes between it and the old agreement. 2. Given that the old agreement expired many months before I received this response, what were the sticking points by both sides that were holding up a new agreement? 3. What arrangements are in place to cover employees between when the old agreement expired and the new agreement commences? 4. Are any of the conditions from the new agreement to be applied retroactively to cover the interim period between agreements? If yes, please list them.	Written
72	Department of Finance	General	Ludwig	AEC Commissioner Report	I refer you to question F159 from Supplementary Estimates: 1. Has the minister read the report? 2. What actions have been taken in relation to the report and its recommendations? Please also provide the date the action was taken and the cost of those actions, if applicable. 3. Has or will the report be made public? If no, why not? If yes: 4. When was/will it be made public? 5. Can you please provide a copy of the report or tell me where it will be available when it is released?	Written

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					6. Why was the report sat on for so long before release?	
73	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Ludwig	CBMS Redevelopment Taskforce	I refer you to question F150 from Supplementary Estimates in 2014. 1. When do you expect this project to be completed? Is it running to schedule? If no, please detail. 2. Can you please provide an update to how much has been spent on the project to date? 3. Please provide a cost to date breakdown.	Written
74	Future Fund	1/1.1	Ludwig	Future Fund - Managing Director	I refer you to question F18 from Supplementary Estimates in 2014. Can you please provide a detailed breakdown of the Managing Director recruitment fees? Please include: 1. Item of expenditure; 2. Date the expense was incurred; 3. Cost of item; and 4. Reason for expense.	Written
75	Department of Finance	General	Ludwig	Consultancies	Since Budget Estimates in May 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?	Written
76	CSC	1/1.2	Ludwig	Security Awareness Training by the AFP	I refer you to question F85 asked from Supplementary Estimates in 2014. The Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation said that they spent \$12,279.91 on "Security Awareness Training" by the AFP. Could you please provide the following information with regard to this training: 1. What topics were covered during this training? 2. How many people attended this training and what were their job titles? 3. What is the justification for this training? 4. Were there any security breaches that provided the need for this training? If yes, please detail the incident. Please include: The date of the breach; the nature of the breach; have any reviews or reports been commissioned to study the breach; was anyone disciplined as a result of the breach?	Written

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77	Australian Electoral Commission	General	Rhiannon	AEC Vote Count software	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Do you use software to detect multiple voting or is it done manually? 2. If you use software, what program do you use? 3. If you use software, does it incorporate algorithms? 4. Are the set of instructions for any algorithms used determined by AEC staff? 	Written
78	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Ludwig	2014-15 MYEFO – Measures for the Department of the Environment	<p>Senator LUDWIG: ... Turning to pages 160 to 161, in this instance the Department of the Environment, the measures are worth \$76,000. I am trying to reconcile the items in the ministerial paper, which add up to \$50,000; that is \$36,000 for the Australian Biological Resources Study Advisory Committee; \$9,000 for the Oil Stewardship Advisory Council, and \$5,000 for the Product Stewardship Advisory Group. Is the remainder the broader efficiency measures?</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: I am just trying to reconcile the figures—the \$76,000 in the measures description, as compared to the savings in the ministerial paper, which add up to \$50,000.</p> <p>Senator Cormann: The numbers between the ministerial paper and the budget update are consistent. I am not sure where your question—</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: Alright. I will go back and have a look at that. When I got the calculator out, it looked like there was a gap. If you say that they should reconcile—</p> <p>Senator Cormann: Yes.</p> <p>Senator LUDWIG: You can take it on notice just to see who is right, on the calculator, if you would not mind...</p>	Hansard, F&PA Committee, Pages 36-37, 24 February 2015
79	Department of Finance	3/3.1	Moore	Cost of flights and entertainment – Minister for Social Services only	Since becoming Minister on 21 December, how much has been spent by Minister Morrison on: Flights - including commercial and charter flights and Entertaining – including catering, events and restaurants.	Written
80	Department of Finance	3/3.1	Moore	Cost of flights – former Minister, Assistant Minister and Parliamentary Secretary – Social Services portfolio only	Please provide the monthly expenses on flights (commercial and charter) for each month for 2014 for former Minister Andrews, Assistant Minister Fifield and the Parliamentary Secretary.	Written
81	Department of Finance	2/2.1	Wong	NBN Accounting Change	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In relation to the “cost per premises review” announced by NBN Co at Senate Estimates on Tuesday 24 February 2015, please identify each instance where the accounting practice used in this review to calculate the cost per premises has departed from the practice used by NBN Co as at April 2013 to calculate cost per premise. For the avoidance of doubt, please list each line item included in the 24 February 2015 review of cost per premises that was not included in the cost per premise as at April 2013. 2. In respect of each change in accounting practice – or new line item included in the cost per premises as of 24 February 2015 - identified at part 1: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Did NBN Co seek advice from the Department of Finance in relation to this change/additional line item? If so, what advice did the Department of Finance provide and when was it provided? 	Written

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) Did the Department of Communications seek advice from Finance in relation to this change/additional line item? If so, what advice did the Department of Finance provide and when was it provided? c) Did the Department of Finance recommend that NBN Co make this accounting change/include this new line item? d) Did the Department of Finance recommend against making this accounting change/including this new line item? e) Does the Department of Finance support this accounting change/inclusion of new line item? f) Why was the accounting change/additional line item agreed to at this stage, when previously it was classified in a different way? 	
82	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Wong	Pension modelling	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As part of the 2014-15 Budget measure that proposed changing the indexation of the pension (and other payments), did the Department conduct any modelling / analysis of the impact of the proposed change? 2. If so, over what time period was this modelling / analysis conducted? 3. In each year over that period, what is the estimated value of the age pension under the proposed new indexation arrangement? 4. In each year over that period, what is estimated value of the age pension under the current indexation arrangements? What indexation level is assumed over the forward estimates and over the medium-term to the end of the decade? 5. In each year over that period, what is the estimated difference in the value of the age pension under the current indexation arrangements and the proposed indexation arrangement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) annually; b) monthly; and c) weekly? 6. If the Department hasn't done any modelling/analysis of the impact, why not? 	Written
83	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Wong	Top 20 fastest government spending programs	Can the Department provide, in table form, details of the top 20 fastest government spending programs? The table should show the total amounts being spent, nominal growth percentages, and real growth percentages, on a year-by-year basis over the forward estimates.	Written
84	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Wong	University fee deregulation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has the Department conducted any analysis, or is the Department aware of any analysis, of the effect of increased HELP debts on women, in particular their ability to pay off their HELP debts? 2. Is there any assumption in the modelling that shows that women, on average, would pay off their HELP debts over a longer period if the total amount of HELP debts were higher? 3. If so, can the Department advise how much longer, compared to men, will women take to pay off their HELP debts on the basis there was an increase in the amount of HELP debt? 4. Has the Department performed any costing / analysis / modelling of the five-year pause in the indexation of HELP debts for carers of young children? 5. If so, can the Department advise on what the cost of this pause would be, over the forward estimates and over the medium term? 	Written

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QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
85	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Wong	Department of Social Services 2014-15 Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Did the Department's guidelines for the 2014-15 Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements require agencies include 2013-14 actual figures? That is, a comparative figure of the prior year? 2. Is the Department aware that the Department of Social Services did not provide any program information for the 2013-14 financial year? If not, why not? 3. Can the Department advise when the actuals for the special appropriations would have been finalised? 4. Did Finance approve the Department of Social Services not providing this information for 2013-14? 5. Did Finance approve this presentation of appropriation for the Department of Social Services? If not, can the Department explain what advice it provided to the Department of Social Services in relation to that? 	Written
86	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Wong	Counter-terrorism funding	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. With reference to the graph that was published on page 9 of the Review of Australia's Counter Terrorism Machinery that reports on counter terrorism funding since 2001-02. The graph indicates that the Department of Finance provided that information, can the Department confirm that it compiled this graph? If not, can the Department advise who compiled the graph? 2. Can the Department please provide an itemised account of this graph – the program by program funding, and the agency that contributes to the funding profile over each financial year? 3. Can the Department define what is a “dedicated counter terrorism measure”? Does that exclude measures that were for counter terrorism and other purposes? 4. d) Did Finance provide costings for the efficiency dividend options that are on page 42 of the Review of Australia's Counter Terrorism Machinery? If not, who compiled the information? 	Written
87	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Wong	Contingency Reserve	<p>Can the Department provide details of line items in the Contingency Reserve that do not fall under the following categories:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Commercial-in-confidence and national security-in-confidence items; 2. Programs yet to be negotiated with State and Territory Governments; and 3. Decisions taken but not yet announced. 	Written
88	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Wong	2014-15 MYEFO parameter and other variations	Can the Department provide a table showing all of the parameter and other variations listed on pages 47, 48 and 49 with the financial impacts on a year-by-year basis over the forward estimates?	Written
89	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Wong	Unemployment Benefits	Page 45 of the 2014-15 MYEFO states that “revisions to unemployment and wage growth have resulted in taxes from individuals being revised down by \$2.3 billion (1.3 per cent) in 2014-15 and \$8.6 billion over the four years to 2017-18. Has there also been a subsequent revision to unemployment benefit recipients, and payments relating to unemployment benefits? If there was, what is the amount, in underlying cash terms, over the forward estimates?	Written

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QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
90	Department of Finance	2/2.2	Wong	Scoping study into buildings in the Parliamentary Triangle	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I refer to the announcement on 13 February 2015 that the Government is undertaking a scoping study into the divestment options of buildings in the Parliamentary Triangle. 2. How many staff members are involved with this? Has the Department hired additional staff or contractors to conduct this work (aside from the Pricewaterhouse Coopers and Ashurst adviser staff)? If so can the Department provide details of them please – APS level or SES classifications, part-time/full-time, etc. 3. Who are the current tenants of the John Gorton and Treasury buildings, East and West Block, and Anzac Park East and West? 4. Can the Department describe the current arrangements for these buildings – the Commonwealth owns all these buildings, and tenants pay lease costs? Do the lease costs go back to Finance? 5. Can the Department provide the lease costs for all the tenants of these six buildings? When do these leases expire? 6. Given there are the ongoing works in relation to the John Gorton Building – can the Department provide details of the ongoing maintenance and refurbishment requirements and costs for the other five buildings? 7. Is the Department aware of any restrictions on the use of these buildings based on any heritage requirements? 8. What kind of alternative uses for the properties are part of this scope – retail, residential, other private offices? 9. Does the Department have details of which Government departments/agencies are housed in buildings that are not owned by the Government? If so, could the Department provide that list, along with the details of the lease costs, and location of the buildings? 10. As part of the scoping study, will the Government take into account the 2001 Australian National Audit Office’s report into Commonwealth Estate Property Sales, which looked at, among other sales, the sale of the RG Casey Building in 1998? 11. Is the Department aware of any other examples in Australia, or internationally, where the Government has sold buildings it owns only to then rent it back? 12. Will the scoping study assume that another Government department will use John Gorton Building if Finance vacates the premises? That is, will the scoping study assume, or at least include, a buy-lease back scenario? 13. Is it the Department’s understanding – and for the purposes of the scoping work – that Treasury will remain in the Treasury building? 14. Can the Department confirm that the outcomes of the scoping work – including the assumptions around future rent and tenants costs – will be released publicly? 15. Will the Public Works Committee scrutinise this work before any sale is finalised? 	Written
91	Department of Finance	General	Wong	New Finance Premises	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can the Department provide a table of the financial implications of the four options that were considered for Finance that have been presented in the Department’s submission to the Public Works Committee? This should show the cash costs over the forward estimates for each of the options, and the costs over a twenty year period. These would be the cash costs shown in the table on page 12 of the Department’s submission. 2. Can the Department also provide a table showing the year-by-year profile for the Net Present Value that the Department have presented in its submission (again on page 12). 3. Noting the issue of car parking in the Parliamentary Triangle, what considerations have been given for car parks in relation to the new tenancy? According to the submission there will be 495 car parks in the basement, but there are 1,413 employees as stated in the Department’s submission – how will parking be managed? 4. If it is all approved, when is the intended time frame for commencing moving into the new premises, and when will all Finance staff be located in the building? Are there any staff that will be prioritised in terms of moving into the new building? 	Written

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92	Department of Finance	2/2.2	Wong	Moorebank Intermodal Terminal	Can the Department provide an update on the due diligence being undertaken on the Moorebank Intermodal Company's proposal? When will the due diligence be completed?	Written
93	Department of Finance	2/2.2	Wong	Kenbi Land Claim	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The measure description in the 2014-15 MYEFO relating to Finance receiving \$31.5 million to fund the remediation of land on the Cox Peninsula states the funding was offset against a provision in the contingency reserve – can the Department advise what the provision in the contingency reserve was? 2. Can the Department provide an update of the work being done in relation to the Kenbi Land Claim? What will the \$31.5 million be used for? Can the Department provide specific details of the remediation of contaminated land and waste management? 	Written
94	Department of Finance	2/2.1	Wong	Digital Transformation Office	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can the Department explain how this Digital Transformation Office interacts with anything that Finance is responsible for in relation to ICT policy? 2. Have any functions from Finance been transferred to this Digital Transformation Office? If so, which ones? Did any staff transfer as a result? 	Written
95	Department of Finance	2/2.3	Wong	HELP debts/waiver of debt	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many times in the past year has a student or graduate of an accredited course run by a private VET or higher education provider, where that course has subsequently be de-accredited or the provider has subsequently been deregistered by the Commonwealth, applied to the Minister to have their debt waived? 2. Does the Department have statistics for this over the last five years? If so, could these be provided? 3. What process has been adopted by the Minister in considering these cases? Has the Minister sought advice from the Minister for Education and Training or the Department of Education and Training? 4. On how many occasions in the past year has the student applicant been successful in getting their HELP debt waived? 5. Does the Department have statistics for this over the last five years? If so, could these be provided? 	Written
96	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Wong	ADF pay	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Did Finance cost the proposal to increase the pay offer to the Australian Defence Force from 1.5 per cent per year over three years to 2 per cent per year over three years? 2. If so, when did Finance receive the costing for approval? 3. If not, why not? 4. What is the precise cost, year-by-year over the forward estimates, for this pay offer increase? 	Written
97	Department of Finance	2/2.1	Wong	ICT "Smaller Government" bodies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can the Department describe what were the functions and outputs of the following five bodies: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Authentication Governance Committee; b) The Secretaries' Information and Communication Technologies Governance Board; c) The Cross Jurisdictional Chief Information Officers Committee; d) The Chief Information Officer Committee Forum; and e) The Chief Information Officer Forum. 2. Why were they established in the first place? 	Written

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QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
					<p>3. Can the Department able to provide information on membership of the Authentication Governance Committee, the Secretaries' Information and Communication Technologies Governance Board and the Cross Jurisdictional Chief Information Officers Committee?</p> <p>4. Can the Department provide information on membership of the Chief Information Officer Committee and the Chief Information Officer Forums?</p> <p>5. Which members of those two forums are being retained in the new merged body?</p> <p>6. How many times per year would the Authentication Governance Committee, the Secretaries' Information and Communication Technologies Governance Board, the Cross Jurisdictional Chief Information Officers Committee, the Chief Information Officer Committee Forum and the Chief Information Officer Forum meet?</p> <p>7. Did Finance provide any secretariat support for these bodies?</p> <p>8. If so, can the Department provide details of how many staff members were involved in this? Is the Department able to provide an estimate of how many hours they would be dedicating to doing work for these bodies per week? Does the Department have an indication of what extra hours over and above the normal standard working week these staff members would have had to do in order to provide support for these bodies?</p>	
98	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Wong	Strengthening the Constitutional basis for Commonwealth Spending measure	<p>For the "Strengthening the Constitutional basis for Commonwealth spending" measure in the 2014-15 MYEFO:</p> <p>1. In relation to the Health Programme Grants program, what are the general developments in the law, or the Government's policy objectives that have necessitated adjustments and/or cessations? Can the Department describe what has been adjusted and/or what has been ceased in this program? What is the amount of savings generated from the adjustments and/or cessations to this program?</p> <p>2. In relation to the National Oral Health Promotion Plan program, what are the general developments in the law, or the Government's policy objectives that have necessitated adjustments and/or cessations? Can the Department describe what has been adjusted and/or what has been ceased in this program? What is the amount of savings generated from the adjustments and/or cessations to this program?</p> <p>3. In relation to the National Urban Water and Desalination Plan program, what are the general developments in the law, or the Government's policy objectives that have necessitated adjustments and/or cessations? Can the Department describe what has been adjusted and/or what has been ceased in this program? What is the amount of savings generated from the adjustments and/or cessations to this program?</p> <p>4. Have these adjustments and/or cessations come about as a result of the second Williams case?</p> <p>5. If so, how does this reconcile with Senator Brandis' statement in the Senate on 19 June 2014 where he said that the second Williams case would have no implications for Commonwealth programs other than the School Chaplaincy Program?</p>	Written
99	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Wong	Health 2014-15 Budget measure	Can the Department provide a breakdown of all the elements included in the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme – increase in co-payments and safety net thresholds measure, year-by-year over the forward estimates (i.e. a breakdown between the co-payment increase, and the safety net thresholds increase)?	Written

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QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
100	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Wong	Commercially integrated health payment system	Does Finance have any role in relation to the “Market testing of the payment of health services by commercial payment service providers” measure in the 2014-15 Budget? If so, can the Department describe that role? What work is being conducted in Finance in relation to this?	Written
101	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Wong	2014-15 MYEFO Fiscal Outlook – Table 3.2	Can the Department provide the fiscal balance figures for the items shown in Table 3.2 on page 23 of the 2014-15 MYEFO?	Written
102	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Wong	2014-15 MYEFO – chart data on website	Can the Department provide the dollar figures for the data that is behind Chart 1.1. (and 3.2) in the 2014-15 MYEFO which can be found at: http://www.budget.gov.au/2014-15/content/myefo/html/chart_data.htm These figures should be for both the 2014-15 Budget and 2014-15 MYEFO lines in that table.	Written REFERRED TO TREASURY 18/3/15
103	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Wong	Efficiency Dividend	Can the Department confirm that: 1. The current efficiency dividend is 2.5%; 2. The efficiency dividend will be 2.5% for 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17; and 3. The efficiency dividend will be 1% in 2017-18.	Written
104	Department of Finance	1/1.1	Wong	National Skills and Workforce Development SPP	Is it assumed that funding for the National Skills and Workforce Development SPP will continue beyond 2017-18? If so, in what financial year is funding for the National Skills and Workforce Development SPP intended to cease?	Written
105	Department of Finance	2/2.1	Wong	Australia Post Reforms	1. Can the Department describe the role of Finance in relation to the announcement of the proposed Australia Post reforms on 3 March 2015? 2. Did Finance cost the additional revenue that Australia Post would receive as a result of raising the price of regular stamps? 3. Did Finance cost the savings to Australia Post as a result of introducing the two-speed delivery service?	Written

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QoN No.	Agency	Outcome/ Program	Senator who asked	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written
106	Department of Finance	3/3.1	Moore	Furniture and Parliament House office for the Minister for Social Services	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has any new furniture been purchased for the new Minister? At what cost? 2. Has the new Minister moved into the former Minister's Parliament House office? If so, were any renovations undertaken to accommodate the change? How much was spent on those renovations? 	Written
107	Department of Finance	3/3.1	Moore	Staffing in the offices of the Minister, Assistant Minister and Parliamentary Secretary - Social Services portfolio only	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many of the staff of the former Minister for Social Services, Kevin Andrews are currently working in Minister Morrison's office? 2. How many staff are currently employed in the Parliamentary Secretary's office, and in what role and on what salary? 3. How many staff are currently employed in the Assistant Minister's office, and in what roles and on what salary? 4. How many staff are currently employed in Minister Morrison's office, in what roles and on what salaries? 5. How many staff have been transferred from the Minister's former office as Minister for Immigration to the new portfolio as Minister for Social Services? 6. Since being appointed Minister for Social Services on 21 December 2014, how many new staff have been appointed by Minister Morrison? 	Written