

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**ADDITIONAL BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES 2016**

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

**Department/Agency:** Australian Public Service Commission

**Outcome/Program:** 1.1

**Topic:** Public Service policy on breastfeeding

**Senator:** Moore

**Question reference number:** 16

**Type of question:** Spoken

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 1 April 2016

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

**Senator MOORE:** Mr Lloyd, can you tell me whether there is a Public Service policy on breastfeeding.

**Mr Lloyd:** On breastfeeding?

**Senator MOORE:** Yes. I could not find one. I have found numerous state government policies, but I could not find a Commonwealth government policy.

**Ms Foster:** I do not believe there is one. We are just quickly checking.

**Senator MOORE:** Thank you. You can take that on notice rather than searching through the papers; that is fine.

...

**Senator MOORE:** Because there is no policy, do you have any kind of best practice processes around? Ms Foster has said that Safe Work Australia now has a special facility? I believe that all the Public Service agencies would not have that. I am wondering whether as a Public Service we actually have best practice around how these facilities should be arranged, what the best services would be working with people? I do believe we have a National Breastfeeding Strategy, which the Department of Health has in place. I am just wondering whether there has been any discussion between the Department of Health—I will check out its own arrangements—and the Public Service about best practice.

**Answer:**

No published policy on breastfeeding applies to Commonwealth Government employment. It is common for individual agencies to have breastfeeding policies and provide breastfeeding facilities tailored to the needs of their workforces.

The Australian Public Service Commission has not released best practice guidance on breastfeeding.