

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2015-16

Finance Portfolio
27-28 May 2015

Department/Agency: Department of Finance

Outcome/Program: 1/1.1

Topic: Department of Finance's input into the 2015-16 'Budget Overview' document

Senator: Ludwig

Question reference number: F21

Type of question: Hansard, F&PA Committee, Pages 94-95, 27 May 2015

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 10 July 2015

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator LUDWIG: Are you able to advise the committee which sections of the budget overview were seen by Finance prior to its publication?

Senator Cormann: I will take that on notice.

Senator LUDWIG: I am happy for you to take that on notice,

Ms Halton: The answer is not much, Senator.

...

Senator LUDWIG: The glossies for the budget—the family package, the growing jobs and small business, the fairness in tax and benefits, and protecting Australia—they were all Treasury? In other words, did Finance have any role in those glossies?

Senator Cormann: We have already taken on notice the Finance involvement. This is a Treasury document.

Ms Halton: My earlier answer is still apposite.

Senator LUDWIG: You did not clear them or provide any—

Ms Halton: No.

Senator LUDWIG: drafting?

Senator Cormann: Finance did not clear them. Obviously, as I have indicated before, I work very closely with the Treasurer and, personally, I have had a level of involvement in relation to some of that documentation. We have already taken on notice the level of involvement of Finance in relation to various aspects, but it is not much.

Answer:

Staff from the Department of Finance did not view the Budget Overview prior to its publication.