

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
—Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing—October 2015**

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary Service Commissioner

Topic: **Secretary of the Department of Parliamentary Services**

Question: **77**

Written **Senator Wong**

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 4 December 2015

Based on the President's evidence at page 89 of the Hansard at the 2015-2016 Budget Estimates, that the Parliamentary Service Commissioner had a role in the appointment of an acting secretary:

Senator Parry: No—I am happy to describe what is currently happening. We have already engaged the Parliamentary Service Commissioner in assisting with the appointment of an acting secretary potentially, prior to a permanent secretary, and potentially with conducting a review prior to any further formal appointment. These are all matters we are discussing currently with the Parliamentary Service Commissioner, as recently as today in fact.

1. Please outline the role the Parliamentary Service Commissioner played in the appointment of the acting secretary, if any?
2. On how many occasions has advice been provided to the presiding officers?

Answer

1. The Presiding Officers discussed the matter with the Parliamentary Service Commissioner.
2. The Parliamentary Service Commissioner discusses matters with the Presiding Officers from time to time and reports to them as specified in the *Parliamentary Service Act 1999*.