

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2016-17

Finance Portfolio
18 October 2016

Department/Agency: Australian Electoral Commission

Outcome/Program: General

Topic: Rates for loans to political parties

Senator: Rhiannon

Question reference number: F47

Type of question: Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 116, 18 October 2016

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 2 December 2016

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator RHIANNON: Do you also investigate if loans were provided at the market rate?

Mr Rogers: I am not sure that would play into our space. I cannot see that that would be part of our investigation. I might have to take on notice and think about that a little more.

Senator RHIANNON: The reason I was asking is that, if the loan was provided at a concessional rate, would the difference be counted as a gift in kind and disclosed appropriately? Wouldn't you have to assess that if that happened?

Mr Rogers: I think I would like to consider my answer to that one. I will take that on notice.

Answer:

If a loan was provided to a registered political party at a concessional rate, depending on the arrangements there may be a gift as defined at s. 287 of the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918* that requires disclosure.