

**Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration**

**ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing – October 2008**

**Department of Finance and Deregulation**

**Finance and Deregulation Portfolio**



**Outcome 3, Output 3.1**

**Topic: Employment in the office of the Hon Maxine McKew MP**

**Question reference number: F16**

**Type of Question: Hansard F&PA 40, 21 October 2008**

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 5 December 2008**

**Number of Pages: 1**

**Senator Ronaldson asked:**

Just to the officials: there was an adviser to Ms McKew, the parliamentary secretary. I was wondering whether you could tell me what date Ms Forrester signed her contract of employment as an adviser to Ms McKew, what date she commenced her employment and whether there was any provision in her employment contract to declare to the department her equity interest in the Allen Consulting Group.

**Answer:**

Ms Kathleen Forrester commenced employment with the Hon Maxine McKew, Parliamentary Secretary for Early Childhood Education and Child Care, Member for Bennelong, on 12 May 2008. The employment agreement for Ms Forrester was signed by herself and Ms McKew on 1 May 2008.

In relation to declaring personal interests, as advised by Ms Mason at the hearing on 21 October 2008 (Hansard page F&PA 40), *“As far as the declaration of personal interest is concerned, that is a matter between the staff member and the employing Senator or Member”*.