

**Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration**

**ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing – October 2008  
Medibank Private Limited**



**Topic: Medibank Private Limited**

**Question reference number: F25**

**Type of Question: Hansard, F&PA 77, 21 October 2008**

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

**Number of Pages: 1**

**Senator Cormann asked:**

**Senator CORMANN**—Okay. I will run through a series of questions—if you can answer any of them, please feel free to jump in. I am interested to know when Hawker Britton was engaged; whether it was a decision that was approved by the board; whether they were engaged before the election or after the election; whether, if they were engaged before the election, Hawker Britton assisted Medibank Private to gain access to the then Leader of the Opposition, the shadow minister for health, other senior shadow ministers and their officers; and whether, if it has been since the election, Hawker Britton has assisted you to gain access to the Prime Minister, the minister for health, other senior ministers and their officers. I would also be interested in some details in terms of the terms of the contract: is it a flat retainer, a fee for service or a combination of both; when does the contract expire; and who is Hawker Britton's account manager for Medibank? Shouldn't you be able as a government-owned enterprise—

**Senator Sherry**—Sorry, Senator Cormann, you asked him to work out whether he could answer any of those questions—

**Senator CORMANN**—On notice.

**Mr Sammells**—I am unable to answer any of those here.

**Senator Sherry**—We should indicate that they are all being taken on notice.

**Answer:**

Please refer to written Question on Notice F51(b) to (j).