

**PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**Department of Health**

**Senate Select Committee on COVID-19**

**Australian Government's Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic**

**23 April 2020**

**PDR Number: IQ20-000018**

**Question Number: 09**

**Question Subject:** COVID-19 Briefings

**Type of Questions:** Question in Writing

**Questioner:** Senator Gallagher

**Question:**

On what dates in January 2020 did the Chief Medical Officer provide COVID-19 briefings to (a) the Minister for Health (b) the Prime Minister (c) the National Security Committee and (d) the Cabinet.

**Answer:**

- a) The Chief Medical Officer provided regular, near daily briefings to the Minister for Health in January 2020 on coronavirus and related matters.
- b) Friday 24 January 2020 and Saturday 25 January 2020.
- c) & d) It is a longstanding practice not to disclose information about the operation and business of the Cabinet and its committees, including when a matter went to Cabinet, who attended, and what form of submission was provided, as to do so could potentially reveal the deliberations of the Cabinet, which are confidential.