

Question on notice no. 167

Portfolio question number: SQ23-005348

2023-24 Supplementary Budget estimates

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee, Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts Portfolio**

Senator Bridget McKenzie: asked the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts on 2 November 2023—

In questions taken on notice (IQ23-000150) in the recent hearing for the aviation senate inquiry, the answers provided gave no helpful detail or clarity. Knowing that you would have looked into these matters since then, I'm asking the following questions:

- a. When did Minister King's office advise the Prime Minister's office of her decision to block Qatar Airways' additional flights? I would like the official date.
- b. Was there any advice from Minister King's office to the Prime Minister's office in the two weeks leading up to the decision?

Answer —

Please find answer attached

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport

QUESTION ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2023 - 2024

Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts

Committee Question Number: 167

Departmental Question Number: SQ23-005348

Division/Agency Name: DIV - International Aviation Technology and Services

Hansard Reference: Written (02 November 2023)

Topic: Qatar Airways Decision - Advice to the Prime Minister's Office

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Answer:

As indicated in IQ23-000150 and as is normal practice, the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts is not aware of all conversations between Ministers or their offices, including the Prime Minister. However, the department is aware that Minister's offices regularly engage with each other.