

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2010-2011

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Question: PM20

Topic: SBE QoN PM15 - drafting responsibility

Asked By: Senator Abetz

Type of Question: Hansard, FPA78

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 15 April 2011

Number of pages: 1

Senator ABETZ-One would hope that it was done by political staff without departmental staff.

Senator Chris Evans-Yes. PM&C have indicated that they were not involved.

Senator ABETZ-Do you know what? It would have been so easy if you had told us that?

Senator Chris Evans-I will take it formally on notice so that I can check. But the obvious conclusion is that, if PM&C were not involved, it was done in the PMO.

Answer: The agreements between the Prime Minister and the Greens and the Independents were drafted by the Prime Minister's Office in consultation with the Greens and the Independents. PM&C had no involvement in this process.