

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: PM23

Topic: Government Staffing Committee/Code of Conduct for Ministerial Staff

Asked By: Senator Ryan

Type of Question: Written

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

Number of pages: 2

- 1. Who are the members of the Government Staffing Committee?**
- 2. Does it have specific guidelines or remit?**
- 3. Is there a Government Staffing Committee Secretariat?**
- 4. Have any Ministerial Staff or electorate officers been sanctioned under the Code of Conduct for Ministerial Staff?**
- 5. How many times has the government staffing committee met? If so when did they meet?**

Answer:

1. The members of the Government Staffing Committee are:
 - a. the Deputy Prime Minister, the Hon Wayne Swan MP
 - b. the Special Minister of State, the Hon Gary Gray MP
 - c. the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (and the previous Special Minister of State) Senator the Hon Joe Ludwig, and
 - d. the Prime Minister's Chief of Staff, Mr Ben Hubbard (previously Ms Amanda Lampe).
2. The Committee makes recommendations to the Prime Minister on staffing matters requiring her decision and approves senior ministerial staff appointments.

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3. The Governance and Administration Unit in the Prime Minister's Office provides the secretariat services for the Committee.
4. No Ministerial staff or electorate officer has been sanctioned under the Code of Conduct for Ministerial Staff since the formation of the Gillard government.
5. The Government Staffing Committee has met 13 times.

Meeting dates were 11, 14, 23 and 29 September 2010; 5, 12, 21 and 27 October; 24 November; 14 December; 20 January 2011; and 3 and 24 February 2011.