

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**Additional Estimates 23-27 February 2015**

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Outcome/Program:** Outcome 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Topic:** Opening statement

**Senator:** Senator the Hon Penny Wong

**Question reference number:** 16

**Type of question:** FPA Monday 23 February 2015, page 72

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 10 April 2015

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

Senator WONG: I go now to the process for the appointment of the secretary. No-one made an opening statement indicating to the committee the appointment of the new secretary. I just wondered why that was?

Senator Abetz: We knew that you people had read News Ltd very thoroughly.

Senator WONG: It is a matter of accountability to parliament. It would be usual for a department to indicate a change of personnel of that nature.

Ms Cross: I am happy to take that on notice. It was not an intentional omission.

**Answer:**

It has been the Department's practice to not make opening statements other than to advise the Committee of changes to portfolio responsibilities.