

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: Termination of Dr Paul Grimes

Senator: Senator the Hon Penny Wong

Question reference number: 178

Type of question: Written

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

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Was procedural fairness observed in relation to the termination of Dr Paul Grimes as Secretary of the Department of Agriculture?

If so, how was Dr Grimes afforded procedural fairness?

Answer:

Yes.

Dr Grimes was consulted by Mr Thawley in relation to Mr Thawley's view that the establishment of a relationship of strong mutual confidence between Minister Joyce and Dr Grimes was not a realistic prospect and that it was unlikely that Dr Grimes could adequately fulfil the statutory role of a Secretary as the principal policy adviser to the Minister. Dr Grimes was given the opportunity to respond.

Dr Grimes concurred with Mr Thawley's assessment.