

**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:** 179

**Type of question:** Written

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

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

Why did the Minister for Agriculture, and not the Prime Minister, announce the termination of Dr Paul Grimes as the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture?

Was (a) the Prime Minister's Office and/or (b) the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet consulted on the content of the Minister for Agriculture's media statement relating to Dr Grimes' termination? If so, when and how. If not, why not?

**Answer:**

It is a matter for the Prime Minister whether he or another Minister makes announcements on appointment matters.

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and the Prime Minister's Office were consulted on the contents of the Minister's announcement. Comments by the Department were conveyed orally.