

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Outcome/Program: Outcome 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet
Topic: Point Piper residence

Senator: McAllister, Jenny

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Question:

Senator McALLISTER: Part of the reason for my interest is that the former Prime Minister has said that taxpayers would save \$3 million a year if Mr Turnbull moved into Kirribilli House. Is it true that his decision to remain at Point Piper is costing taxpayers \$3 million a year?

Ms E Kelly: I do not know the answer to that question, and I do not think that you can compare circumstances between different prime ministers and very different circumstances that exist in relation to them.

Senator McALLISTER: Are you aware of any other additional costs that taxpayers bear as a result of Mr Turnbull's decision not to live at Kirribilli but instead to live at Point Piper?

Ms E Kelly: Not that I can think of, but I am happy to take that on notice and further consider it.

...

Senator WONG: We understand that we will ask the Attorney-General's Department and the AFP. We are asking what you are aware of.

Ms E Kelly: And I cannot go beyond what I have said.

Senator WONG: I think my colleague asked whether there are any other security costs as a result of services provided by the AFP or through the Attorney-General's Department.

Ms E Kelly: And I have said that I will take that on notice—not that I can think of offhand, but I will take that on notice and further explore that.

Answer:

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet is not aware of any costs borne by the Commonwealth for services provided on an ongoing basis other than the existence of security and mail redirection services.