

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Budget Estimates 26 May-6 June 2014

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

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

**Outcome/Program:** 1.1 Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Topic:** PM visits to PM&C Barton office

**Senator:** Senator Dean Smith

**Question reference number:** 117

**Type of Question:** FPA, Tuesday 27 May 2014, page 120

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 11 July 2014

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

Senator SMITH: I am curious to know the frequency with which prime ministers might actually visit the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet in Barton. If we start with the most recent prime minister, Prime Minister Abbott, how many visits has he made to the offices in Barton?

Senator Abetz: We may need to take that on notice.

Ms Cross: I am trying to recall. It is at least two. It may be three.

Senator SMITH: That is okay. But not four.

Ms Cross: We will check that for you.

Senator SMITH: And Mr Rudd in his last period as Prime Minister? Kevin Rudd mark II?

Ms Cross: In his last period I can recall him visiting once, but there may have been others that I am not aware of, so we would have to check that too.

Senator SMITH: And then Prime Minister Gillard?

Ms Cross: Again, I think we would have to take that on notice. I can recall her visiting twice, but I would have to check that for you.

Senator SMITH: Then Prime Minister Rudd in his first incarnation.

Ms Cross: You are starting to go back beyond our corporate memory.

**Answer:**

Prime Minister Abbott has visited the Department's Barton office on three occasions. The Prime Minister has also visited the Department's Woden office on one occasion. During his second term as Prime Minister, the Hon Kevin Rudd visited the Department's Barton office on one occasion.

Prime Minister Gillard visited the Department's Barton office on two occasions between 5 September 2011 and 27 June 2013.

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Being definitive about the precise number of visits made to the Barton office by Prime Ministers before September 2011 would require a manual analysis of the Department's paper visitor logs. There are approximately 30 logs for the period between December 2007 and September 2011. Each is approximately 1000 pages in length. This level of analysis would be an unreasonable diversion of resources.