

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: Announcement of Dame in the Order of Australia

Senator: Senator the Hon Penny Wong

Question reference number: 216

Type of Question: Written

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

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Is the Governor-General, and not the Prime Minister, the Chancellor of the Order of Australia?

Why did the Prime Minister, and not the Governor-General, announce on 9 June 2014 that Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Marie Bashir AC CVO would be appointed a Dame in the Order of Australia?

Answer:

Under the Constitution of the Order of Australia, The Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia is the Chancellor of the Order and the Principal Companion in the General Division of the Order of Australia.

On 9 June 2014, the Governor-General announced the appointment of Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Marie Bashir AC CVO as a Dame (AD) in the General Division of the Order of Australia, together with all appointments and awards in The Queen's Birthday 2014 Honours List.

On 9 June 2014, the Prime Minister issued a media release noting that Her Majesty The Queen had accepted his recommendation of Dame Marie Bashir's appointment, to recognise her lifetime of achievement in the fields of psychiatry, tertiary education, indigenous issues, public administration and as the Governor of New South Wales.