

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: Executive decision making

Senator: Senator the Hon Penny Wong

Question reference number: 230

Type of Question: Written

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

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Are all staff in the Prime Minister's Office bound by part 12 of the Statement of Standards for Ministerial Staff which provides that "executive decisions are the preserve of Ministers and public servants"?

Answer:

The Statement of Standards for Ministerial Staff applies to ministerial staff, consultants and Ministers' electorate officers employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984*, noting that no consultants have been employed in ministerial offices since at least 2007.