

**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:** Tabling of INSLM reports

**Senator:** Senator the Hon John Faulkner

**Question reference number:** 28

**Type of Question:** FPA, Monday 26 May 2014, page 109-110

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

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

Senator FAULKNER: For the reports that have been tabled, can you please say when they were tabled in the parliamentary sessions?

Dr McCarthy: I do not have in front of me the date on which the first report was tabled. I note, though, that the first report was by way of setting out a work program for the rest of the term. The second report was tabled in parliament on 14 May 2013. The third report was tabled in parliament on 12 December 2013.

Senator FAULKNER: On notice I would appreciate the date of the tabling of the first report. I could easily ask through the parliamentary department, obviously.

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Senator FAULKNER: Are you able to indicate why that report has not been tabled at this stage?

Dr McCarthy: It is due to be tabled within 15 sitting days, which I think means it is due to be tabled in the Senate on 10 July and in the House of Representatives on 19 June.

Senator FAULKNER: Yes, that is when the tabling period expires and evaporates. But, if it was submitted on 28 March, I am wondering whether there is any indication as to why it has not been tabled.

Dr McCarthy: It has not yet been tabled, Senator.

Senator FAULKNER: We are on the same wavelength here. I know it has not been tabled. I totally accept that, Dr McCarthy. You may not. I am just asking why.

Senator Abetz: We will take that on notice. Usually governments like to have the opportunity to read, digest and consider these reports before tabling. Whether that is the reason or not in this case, I do not know. That is why I am taking it on notice.

**Answer:**

*Tabling date of the INSLM First Report:*

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The Independent National Security Legislation Monitor's first annual report was tabled in Parliament on 19 March 2012 in accordance with the requirements under the *Independent National Security Legislation Monitor Act 2010*.

*Tabling of the INSLM Fourth Report:*

The Monitor's fourth annual report was tabled in Parliament on 18 June 2014 in accordance with the requirements under the *Independent National Security Legislation Monitor Act 2010*.