

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: Travel by Mr Shearer

Senator: Senator the Hon Penny Wong

Question reference number: 52

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Question:

Senator WONG: Dr McCarthy, I may have misheard you—and I want to give you the benefit of the doubt. I thought you said, when you spoke of the trip to Japan, in answer to Senator Dastyari's question, that that was the only trip of which you were aware?

Dr McCarthy: We will need to check. I am not sure that the trip to the United States was as part of a delegation. We can check for you.

Senator WONG: Dr McCarthy, what Senator Dastyari asked you, I thought, was, "Are you aware of any other trips?—if you want to split hairs over whether it was part of a delegation or not. At this stage we have two trips by a prime ministerial political staff member, independent of the Prime Minister. Is that right? Are there any more?"

Ms Cross: I think, Senator, we said that we would find out the details, because we do not have them with us, and take that question on notice.

Answer:

Refer to the answer to PM 57.