

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

SENATE ESTIMATES SESSION

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1 Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: COAG Reform Council lease

Senator: Senator the Hon Penny Wong

Question reference number: 99

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Question:

Senator WONG: It is a left hand versus right hand thing here, isn't it. Was the department aware that the government was considering the abolition of the council when the decision to renew the lease was made?

Ms Cross: Not to my understanding. But we will confirm that for you.

Answer:

The Department was not aware that the Government was considering the abolition of the Council of Australian Governments Reform Council when the decision to renew the lease was made.

The lease renewal was approved by the Department on 20 November 2013 as per the terms of the lease for taking up the extension option.