

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**Budget Estimates Hearing 25-29 May 2015**

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Outcome/Program:** Outcome 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Topic:** Senate Motion 299

**Senator:** Senator the Hon Penny Wong

**Question reference number:** 12

**Type of question:** FPA Tuesday 26 May 2015, pages 4-6

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 5 June 2015

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

Senator WONG: Thank you. In relation to this, are there any draft answers that are the subject of the answer that you just referenced in relation to 299 which were submitted to the Prime Minister's office more than once?

Ms Kelly: That is possible, and that would be part of the iterative process.

Senator WONG: Can you tell me which ones? You would be able to track them. There is a brief that goes up. We all know how this happens. How many were resubmitted?

...

Ms Kelly: The response to Senate motion 299 records the movements of the questions when they were sent to the Prime Minister's office on numerous occasions between 13 March and 11 May...

Senator WONG: In relation to those 127 responses, I would like to know whether there are any which have gone from the department to the PMO and back to the department and resubmitted.

...

Ms Kelly: To the extent that that is recorded on the Slipstream system, I am happy to take that on notice and make that inquiry.

Senator WONG: I appreciate it.

...

Senator WONG: Do you have the information here as to how many answers are submitted to Ms Credlin and to other advisers and how many were signed by Ms Credlin?

Ms Kelly: I can see whether our system—whether we send them to a specific adviser or we send them and then the office distributes them within. That might not be something that we have visibility of.

**Answer:**

Slipstream does not record in an easily accessible form the number of times a Senate Estimates Question on Notice (SE QoN) is provided to the relevant ministerial office for review. To provide an answer to this question would be an unreasonable diversion of resources.

Answers to SE QoNs are provided in hard copy to the relevant ministers' office. The Department does not have a record of which adviser considered which SE QoN.