

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: Cyber White Paper

Senator: Senator Bridget McKenzie

Question reference number: 80

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Question:

Senator McKenzie: How many people worked on Labor's cyber white paper, announced with much fanfare and then abandoned by the Gillard government?

Dr McCarthy: I do not have that information with me

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Senator McKenzie: Do we know how much the white paper cost?

Dr McCarthy: No. Again, we do not have that information. It was some time ago.

Senator McKenzie: For what period of time was the task force in action?

Dr McCarthy: Which task force are you referring to?

Senator McKenzie: The Labor Party cyber white paper task force.

Dr McCarthy: I do not have that information, Senator. I do not have any information with me on that matter.

Answer:

At its peak, 11 officials from across Government were working on the Cyber White Paper. Information on these officials has not been collected and retained in a way that allows the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) to calculate the staffing costs for those officials. Approximately \$250,000 was allocated to the Cyber White Paper from PM&C departmental allocation. The paper was developed during 2011 and 2012.