

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

SENATE ESTIMATES SESSION

Supplementary Budget Estimates 18-22 November 2013

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1 Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: Charter Letter

Senator: Senator the Hon Jan McLucas

Question reference number: 245

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 17 January 2014

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Can the Minister detail the division of specific responsibility between the Prime Minister, Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Assistant Ministers and Parliamentary Secretary(ies)? Where are these arrangements recorded – and where can we find them?

Answer:

The Minister for Indigenous Affairs is responsible for all Indigenous Affairs policies and programs within the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. Other Ministers continue to be responsible for programmes and policies impacting on Indigenous Australians within their respective portfolios.

Charter letters have been provided to Cabinet ministers, and ministers assisting and parliamentary secretaries within the Prime Minister and Cabinet portfolio. They set out the priorities to be met in this term of Government and ask for a number of matters to be brought forward for Cabinet consideration. It is a longstanding convention before this Committee that the nature and content of those priorities is not disclosed to maintain Cabinet confidentiality.