

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 18-22 November 2013

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: Heads of departments

Senator: Senator the Hon Penny Wong

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Type of Question: Hansard

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Question:

Senator WONG: Just in case this was not covered in questions on notice before, can you come back with an answer to the question as to whether or not a report under section 59 was ever prepared in relation to Dr Parkinson? If so, was it ever provided to the Prime Minister? I am not asking about the content.

Ms Cross: We will take that on notice.

Senator WONG: Thank you. There may be no—

Senator Abetz: We will take that on notice, but the specific wording talks about termination of appointment.

Senator WONG: Correct, and it may be that no report was prepared, but if there was—

Senator Abetz: I do not think we want to trawl through the public domain as to who had a report prepared on them, potentially, which was or was not followed through. We will take it on notice and consider our position.

Senator WONG: Yes, take it on notice, and if the issue is that you want to have it in camera or confidentially, you can always request that, Minister. I was going to move to a different topic, if that is all right, Chair.

Answer:

A report was not prepared under section 59 of the *Public Service Act 1999* in relation to Dr Parkinson.