

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: 1.1 Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: Portrait of The Queen in the Department

Senator: Senator Dean Smith

Question reference number: 25

Type of Question: Hansard

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Question:

Senator SMITH: I am a bit surprised by the article and why workers would be surprised, because I assume that in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet staff have a high level of understanding of how our Government works and how the Government is structured, so it would not have come as a surprise to them that the head of state of their country was in fact the Queen and that the Prime Minister's headquarters might desire to have a portrait of the head of state in the building. I am just wondering if you can share with us when it was taken down.

Ms Kelly: I am sorry; I do not have that information. I could take that on notice and see whether or not we can find that within the department.

Senator SMITH: Please.

Answer:

An official portrait of Her Majesty The Queen was first hung in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's (PM&C's) building at One National Circuit, Barton, on 18 September 2013 (in the Executive area). On 25 September 2013 a second portrait was hung in the amenities area of the building. Both portraits remain in place.

PM&C does not hold details of previous periods when portraits of The Queen were on display in PM&C's previous premises.