

## 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:** White Paper - Northern Australia

**Senator:** Senator the Hon Penny Wong

**Question reference number:** 348

**Type of Question:** Written

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

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

1. The Coalition announced it would complete a White Paper on developing Northern Australia. Has the Government formed the “high-level Northern Australia Strategic Partnership”?
2. What is the consultation process?
3. What is the timeline for the development of the White Paper?
4. And what stakeholder has the government met with or is planning to meet with?
5. Have you organised any regional talks? And if so which regional neighbours have you invited?
6. What policy options are currently under consideration?

**Answer:**

1. The Government is settling arrangements for the preparation of the White Paper on Developing Northern Australia, including the formation of a Northern Australia Strategic Partnership.
2. The Government will consult with a broad range of stakeholders to inform the White Paper, including state, territory and local government, industry and community groups.
3. The Government has committed to preparing the White Paper within 12 months.
4. See response to question 2.
5. Consultation on the White Paper will include international as well as domestic stakeholders.
6. See response to question 1. In addition, the Coalition’s 2030 Vision for Developing Northern Australia outlines a range of options to be considered in the White Paper.