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:** Statement of Standards for Ministerial Staff

Senator: Senator the Hon Penny Wong

Question reference number: 81

Type of Question: Written

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

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Did PM&C provide any written or verbal advice to (a) the Prime Minister (b) the Office of the Prime Minister and/or (c) any other minister or their office in connection with the draft Statement of Standards for Ministerial Staff? If so, on what date/s was advice provided?

When were the Standards published?

When were the Standards communicated to staff in the Office of the Prime Minister and the offices of other portfolio ministers and parliamentary secretaries?

Can a copy of the communication/s about the Standards be provided?

Noting that sanctions imposed under the Standards will be determined by the Prime Minister's chief of staff, have any sanctions been imposed to date? If so, please provide details.

Answer:

No.

The Statement of Standards for Ministerial Staff was published on the Special Minister of State's website on 23 September 2013.

Communication of the Standards is a matter for the Prime Minister's Office.

The Department is not aware of any sanctions being imposed under the Standards to date.