

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 20-24 October 2014

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Outcome/Program: Outcome 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet
Topic: ERC advice

Senator: Senator the Hon Penny Wong

Question reference number: 5

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Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 5 December 2014

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator WONG: And on how many occasions in the last budget round did Office for Women advice get passed on to ERC, for example, by way of inclusion in a green comment?

Ms Cross: As you know, we do not discuss the nature of any advice, and I—

Senator WONG: No, I am not asking the nature. Ms Cross, do not misinterpret my question.....

Ms Cross: Senator, as you are aware, we do not reveal the nature of the advice—

Senator WONG: Which I did not ask for.

Ms Cross: that we give to government, and in terms of the number of times on which we gave advice, I would have to take that on notice.

Senator WONG: Was there any occasion in the last budget where any advice from the Office of Women was actually provided to the ERC by way of inclusion by comment in the green.

Ms Cross: As I said, I will take that on notice, and I also said we do not reveal the nature of the advice that we give.

Answer:

Advice is provided to the Expenditure Review Committee of Cabinet by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. Advice is developed in consultation with relevant areas of the Department, including the Office for Women.