

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**Supplementary Budget Estimates 19-23 October 2015**

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet  
**Outcome/Program:** Outcome 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet  
**Topic:** Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet changes

**Senator:** Senator the Hon Penny Wong

**Question reference number:** 109

**Type of question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 4 December 2015

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

Is Senator Sinodinos solely concerned with Cabinet matters, or is he responsible for any other matters in the PM&C portfolio.

Can (a) Senator Sinodinos' ministerial role and (b) Senator Ryan's ministerial role be outlined.

Has the Cabinet Handbook been updated since 15 September.

Have any other changes been made to the way Cabinet functions since 15 September 2015.

**Answer:**

Senator Sinodinos' primary role is that of the Cabinet Secretary.

Ministerial roles of the Cabinet Secretary and Assistant Cabinet Secretary include facilitation of the development, consideration and implementation of Cabinet business and the effective and orderly operation of the Cabinet and its committees.

The Cabinet Handbook has not been updated since 15 September 2015.

The way in which Cabinet functions is a decision for the Prime Minister of the day.