

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: Use of Official Residences

Senator: Senator the Hon Penny Wong

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Question:

Senator WONG: So there is no limit on the size and scope—there is certainly a limit on the scope: you cannot use it for fundraising. That was as a result, I think, of some things which occurred under Prime Minister Howard. Are there other limitations around the size and scope of private functions at official residences?

Ms Spence: Not that I can think of, but I am certainly happy to take that on notice.

Answer:

Use of the official residence for party political fundraising is not permitted. Costs relating to medium to large private functions are not met by the Commonwealth.