

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: Mr Abbott's resignation

Senator: Senator the Hon Penny Wong

Question reference number: 93

Type of question: Written

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

Number of pages: 1

Question:

How was the department informed that Mr Turnbull had defeated Mr Abbott in a party room ballot on 14 September 2015.

It is usual for Prime Ministers subject to party room defeat to promptly notify the Governor-General in writing and recommend that his or her successor be appointed.

When did the department first make contact with Mr Turnbull after the result of the party room ballot was announced.

Answer:

Officers were informed through media coverage.

The then Prime Minister, the Hon Tony Abbott MP, informed the Governor-General in writing prior to the swearing in of Mr Turnbull as Prime Minister on 15 September 2015.

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet contacted Mr Turnbull on the evening of 14 September 2015, following the party room ballot.