

**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 Turnbull's statement of resignation

**Senator:** Senator the Hon Penny Wong

**Question reference number:** 98

**Type of question:** Written

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

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

With reference to the statement made by Mr Turnbull on 14 September 2015 that he had resigned as Minister for Communications:

1. Was this resignation conveyed to the department by Mr Abbott or his office. If so, (a) when (b) how (c) by whom and (d) how did the department respond.
2. Did PM&C take any action when Mr Turnbull announced his resignation as a Minister live on national television including (a) restricting access to CabNet or (b) removing Cabinet papers from his suite.
3. Was then Parliamentary Secretary for Communications Mr Fletcher appointed Acting Minister for Communications on 14 September 2015.

**Answer:**

1. Mr Turnbull announced at his press conference on 14 September 2015 that he had resigned as Minister for Communications. This was not finalised before being overtaken by events later that day.
2. No
3. No