

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017**

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Outcome/Program:** Outcome 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Topic:** The Lodge – Former Prime Minister, the Hon Julia Gillard MP

**Senator:** McAllister, Jenny

**Question reference number:** 3

**Type of question:** FPA Monday 17 October 2016, pages 35 & 36

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 2 December 2016

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

Senator SMITH: Perhaps just on notice if you could confirm the date on which the former Special Minister of State Mr Gray wrote to former Prime Minister Julia Gillard advising that she was not able to return to the Lodge because there had been some delay with the works that had been commissioned or were about to be commissioned. I think that would have been at some point in the period 2010-12.

Ms Kelly: We can take that on notice, Senator Smith.

**Answer:**

An undated letter from the then Special Minister of State, the Hon Gary Gray MP, to the then Prime Minister, the Hon Julia Gillard MP, advising that the refurbishment work on The Lodge would be deferred was received in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet on 19 December 2012. This letter did not advise that the then Prime Minister was not able to return to The Lodge. Ms Gillard did not vacate The Lodge until mid-2013.