

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 2: Indigenous
Topic: Principal Adviser – Indigenous Affairs

Senator: Dodson, Patrick

Question reference number: 8

Type of question: Spoken

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

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator DODSON: I noticed on the flowchart that we have got that there is a vacancy in relation to the principal adviser for Indigenous affairs. How long has that vacancy been there?

Ms Kelly: That vacancy was caused by the departure of Ms Tims, so it has not been for a long period, but I will have to make some inquiries about how filling that vacancy is proceeding.

Senator DODSON: Thank you. Can you advise me of the relationship between this particular adviser and the Indigenous advisory entity to the Prime Minister?

Answer:

The position of Principal Advisor, Indigenous Affairs, has been vacant since 19 September 2016.

The Principal Adviser, Indigenous Affairs, is a Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) employee and provides a key role in providing Indigenous affairs policy advice across PM&C.

While the work of the Principal Adviser, Indigenous Affairs, helps inform PM&C's interactions with the Prime Minister's Indigenous Advisory Council (IAC), there is no formal role for this position in regards to the IAC.