

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: VIP Fleet

Senator: Wong, Penny

Question reference number: 234

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Question:

Mr McKinnon: In broad terms. It was thought that the VIPs were too small and there was a need on occasion to have a larger party there—for example, conceivably press or something like that. In other words, they were no longer suitable, for many reasons.

Senator WONG: You were expressing, in those discussions, whose preferences?

Mr McKinnon: We were expressing a broad-analysis preference about what a prime minister of a country like Australia would want.

Senator WONG: Had there been discussions with Mr Turnbull about this?

Mr McKinnon: I am not aware that there had been discussions with Turnbull individually—

Senator WONG: or his office?

Mr McKinnon: but there had been discussions over a series of prime ministers about the inadequacy of the existing VIP fleet.

Senator WONG: Or his office?

Mr McKinnon: I would have to go and check whether we had discussions in particular with his office.

Answer:

This is a matter for the Department of Defence.