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: Mr Rudd and the Foreign Minister's discussion for the UN S-G

Senator: Wong, Penny

Question reference number: 37

Type of question: FPA Monday 17 October 2016, Page 70

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

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator WONG: It has been reported that the foreign minister had discussions with Mr Rudd following the 2013 election, where she encouraged him to speak to other countries about his candidacy. Did PM&C have any knowledge of that?

Mr McKinnon: I would like to take that on notice as well. It was not something I had any knowledge of at all. I do not think that is the case, but I would like to confirm it.

Answer:

No. The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet had no knowledge of discussions between the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Hon Julie Bishop MP and the Hon Kevin Rudd.