

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Department of Finance and Administration

February Estimates Hearings 2003-04 – 17 February 2004

Question: F13

Outcome 3 Efficiently Functioning Parliament, Output 3.1 Services to Senators, Members and their Staff

Topic: Personal Classifications and Home Base of Second Media Adviser in Victoria

Hansard page: F&PA51

Senator Faulkner asked:

Senator FAULKNER—And you have identified which offices they are located in. Thank you for that. You have indicated that an opposition staff member has a personal classification of special adviser and the office that they are in. That is useful information. I am asking whether all those special advisers for the purposes of the table are included in the column marked ‘Adviser’.

Ms Clarke—They actually appear in ‘Adviser’, ‘Assistant Adviser’ and ‘Executive Assistant Office Manager’.

Senator FAULKNER—Can you tell us which is where?

Ms Mason—That is something that we would take on notice, if we may.

Senator ROBERT RAY—Can you also take on notice the following questions? In which offices are these special advisers allocated to? We have got that here. I mean what category would those officers have been employed under—adviser, senior adviser or whatever? What are the special advisers? In other words, tell us what their nominal position is before they become a special adviser. That was not clearly expressed, but I think you get it. With this media adviser for Senator Patterson, does that now leave her with one or two? Just one, is it?

Senator FAULKNER—No, it is two: Family and Community Services has two media advisers.

Senator ROBERT RAY—I see. Is that extra media adviser now located in the senator’s home state of Victoria?

Senator Abetz—Sorry, was that question for me?

Senator ROBERT RAY—No, it is for anyone who cares to tackle it. I am looking for the home base of the additional media adviser in Victoria.

Mr Edge—We will have to take that question on notice.

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Answer:

Personal Classifications

As at 1 February 2004, the five Government staff members with a personal classification of Special Adviser are held against the substantive positions in the offices listed below:

Name of Employer	Office	Position
The Hon Peter Costello MP	Treasurer	Assistant Adviser
The Hon Mark Vaile MP	Minister for Trade	Adviser
The Hon Ian Macfarlane MP	Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources	Adviser
Senator the Hon Chris Ellison	Minister for Justice and Customs	Adviser
Senator the Hon Rod Kemp	Minister for the Arts and Sport	Executive Assistant/ Office Manager

As at 1 February 2004, the one Opposition staff member with a personal classification of Special Adviser is held against the substantive position in the office listed below:

Name of Employer	Office	Position
The Hon Simon Crean MP	Shadow Treasurer	Adviser Level 2

Home Base of Second Media Adviser

As at 17 February 2004 the home base of the Second Media Adviser in the office of the Minister for Family and Community Services was Melbourne.

Date: 17 March 2004

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