

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Department of Finance and Administration

February Additional Estimates Hearings 2003-04 – 17 February 2004

Question: F14

Outcome 3 Efficiently Functioning Parliament, Output 3.1.1 Service to Senators, Members and their Staff

Topic: Government Members Secretariat

Hansard Page: F&PA 57

Senator Faulkner asked:

Senator Faulkner – Who is in charge of the Government Members Secretariat these days? Who is the chief shebang there? The chief staffer? We know that Mr Lloyd does not have any role. You do not know who it is? You know who it was, don't you Senator Mason?

Chair – Yes, I think I do

Senator Faulkner – Do you know who it is?

Chair – No.

Senator Abetz – I am not sure who is the person in charge of the Government Members Secretariat. I can take it on notice.

Answer:

The Chief Government Whip, Mr Jim Lloyd MP is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Government Members Secretariat.

Date: 24 March 2004

Cleared by (SES): Ian McAuley/Lembit Suur

Group/Branch: Parliamentary and Corporate Support

Contact Officer: Sean Giddings

Telephone No: 6215 3590

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Department of Finance and Administration

February Additional Estimates Hearings 2003-04 – 17 February 2004

Question: F15

Outcome 3 Efficiently Functioning Parliament, Output 3.1.1 Service to Senators, Members and their Staff

Topic: Government Members Secretariat

Hansard Page: F&PA 57

Senator Ray asked:

Senator Ray—It says here in the document that you have given me that they have one senior adviser, four advisers, three assistant advisers and one secretary admin assistant. That gives a total of nine in all. I was wondering—because I want to have these people called before the committee—would it be the senior adviser that would be regarded as being in charge of this unit?

Senator Abetz—I am not sure that you can make that assumption.

Senator Ray—That is why I am asking.

Senator Abetz—It seems reasonable, but I would need to check that out.

Answer:

The Chief Government Whip, Mr Jim Lloyd MP is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Government Members Secretariat.

Date: 24 March 2004

Cleared by (SES): Ian McAuley/Lembit Suur

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Department of Finance and Administration

February Additional Estimates Hearings 2003-04 – 17 February 2004

Question: F16

Outcome 3 Efficiently Functioning Parliament, Output 3.1.1 Service to Senators, Members and their Staff

Topic: Government Members Secretariat

Hansard Page: F&PA 57

Senator Faulkner asked:

Senator Faulkner – Who is in the current staff leadership position in the Government Members Secretariat?

Senator Abetz – I can take that on notice. I do not know who is in that position.

Answer:

The Chief Government Whip, Mr Jim Lloyd MP is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Government Members Secretariat.

Date: 24 March 2004

Cleared by (SES): Ian McAuley/Lembit Suur

Group/Branch: Parliamentary and Corporate Support

Contact Officer: Sean Giddings

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Department of Finance and Administration

February Estimates Hearings 2003-04 – 17 February 2004

Question: F17

Across all Outcomes

Topic: Government Members Secretariat

Hansard page: F&PA59

Senator Ray asked:

Senator ROBERT RAY—I just thought there might have been if there had been a restructure. You will need to take this on notice. Could I have a breakdown of the expenses of the government secretariat that you supply in terms of salaries; ministerial staff allowance; cost of supplying equipment, including computers; any newspaper subscriptions; and any travel expenses? I think you get the story. Could you give me the across-the-board expenses that you have to supply to the Government Members Secretariat, as the department is a conduit to that? By all means take it on notice.

Senator Abetz — Yes.

Answer:

The costs associated with the operation of the Government Members Secretariat (GMS) for the period 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003 borne by the Department of Finance and Administration are as follows:

2002/2003

Payment Type	Amount (GST Exclusive)
Travel Expenses (including Fares, Car Transport Costs, Motor Vehicle Allowance ¹ and Travel Allowance)	\$159,338.61
Ministerial Staff Allowance/ Parliamentary Staff Allowance	\$106,560.08
Salaries ²	\$614,952.36
Administrative Expenses ³	\$77,936.00

¹ Motor Vehicle Allowance is paid to staff who use their own vehicle for approved travel purposes.

² Salaries includes Employer Superannuation, allowance in lieu of Private Plated Vehicle and payments in lieu of annual leave.

³ Administrative Expenses includes all administrative support expenses such as the supply of equipment, stationery, computers, newspapers, etc