Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Additional Estimates Hearings 18 February 2008



Question: PM94

Outcome 1, Output 4

Topic: Community Cabinet

Hansard Page: Written Question

Senator Ronaldson asked: What additional security measures have been put in place to ensure that Community Cabinet discussions remain private? Including sweeping for listening devices or the like

Answer:

Community Cabinets are conducted as public, not private, meetings which include:

- (a) an open question and answer session with the Prime Minister and other Cabinet Ministers; and
- (b) scheduled individual meetings between members of the public and specific Cabinet Ministers.

Community Cabinet meetings may be held in conjunction with regular Cabinet meetings which are held in private. The appropriate level of security for each Community Cabinet and Cabinet meeting is assessed and provided by relevant agencies. It would not be appropriate, for security reasons, to provide details of the security arrangements.