

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Additional Estimates 13-16 Feb 2012

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1.4 Support Services for Government Operations

Topic: Australia Day Function - Ben Hubbard travel with PM

Senator: Senator Brandis

Question reference number: 6

Type of Question: FPA, P61, 13 February

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 30 March 2012

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator BRANDIS: Mr Hubbard travelled in the same car as the Prime Minister from wherever she stayed in Melbourne overnight on the Thursday night out to Flowerdale on the Friday morning. Mr Hubbard knows of this confession. He knows that the Prime Minister is about to face a press availability and he does not even tell her? Are you seriously suggesting that that is a plausible or credible version of events, Minister?

[...]

Senator Chris Evans: But can I just make a point. I will take on notice whether or not Mr Hubbard was in the car. I do not know the answer to that.

Answer:

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet is advised that the Prime Minister's Chief of Staff accompanied the Prime Minister in her vehicle on the drive from Melbourne to Flowerdale on the morning of 27 January 2012.