

**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:** 1.1.1 Domestic Policy

**Topic:** Poker machine reform - Wilkie agreement

**Senator:** Senator Abetz

**Question reference number:** 16

**Type of Question:** FPA, P70, 13 February

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

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

Senator ABETZ: In that case, Minister, please take on notice whether the Prime Minister obtained any other advice from any other department prior to 2 September in relation to her agreement with Mr Wilkie generally and particularly in relation to section 7 of that agreement, headed poker machines. When did the Prime Minister first become aware of her inability to perform the agreement with Mr Wilkie in relation to the 2014 timeline?

Mr Ronalds: I am not in a position to answer that question. I do not know the answer.

Senator ABETZ: Would you take it on notice, please.

Mr Ronalds: I will take it on notice.

[...]

Senator ABETZ: I want to know the date when the Prime Minister was first told.

Senator Chris Evans: I said I would take it on notice. I am giving you some advice that the sort of detail you are after would probably be best pursued at FaHCSIA. You can take or not take that advice.

**Answer:**

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet did not provide advice to the Prime Minister that the agreement with Mr Wilkie MP could not be fulfilled in accordance with the timelines in the agreement.