Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2013-2014

Finance Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of Finance

Outcome/Program: 3.1

Topic: Statement of Standards (Mr Furnival)

Senator: Wong

Question reference number: F53

Type of question: Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 102-3, 25 February 2014 **Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** Friday, 11 April 2014

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator WONG: Are you aware that the statement of standards actually requires of staff that, if they retain a directorship of a company, they are required to obtain the written agreement of their minister and the Special Minister of State? Did you provide such an agreement to Mr Furnival, in accordance with the statement of standards?

Senator Ronaldson: As you are aware from the statement of Ms Cain, the processes had started to divest those shareholdings, so at that stage there was no intention on the part of Mr Furnival to retain an interest that might require my concern.

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Senator WONG: Do you have the statement of standards? **Senator Ronaldson:** I will take that question on notice.

Answer:

Consistent with the Statement of Standards for Ministerial Staff, members of staff are required to provide a statement of their private interests to their employing Minister and the Special Minister of State. This information relates to the personal affairs of an individual staff member. It is provided on a confidential basis and it is not practice, of either past or present governments, to divulge personal information about individual staff.