

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Additional Estimates 24-28 February 2014

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1 Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: Mr Alistair Furnival

Senator: Senator the Hon Penny Wong

Question reference number: 16

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Question:

Senator WONG: No longer. Are you able, as the Prime Minister's representative, to tell me on which day the Prime Minister personally approved the appointment of Mr Alastair Furnival?

Senator ABETZ: I will have to take that on notice.

Senator WONG: I appreciate that. Can you tell me on which date or dates did the Government Staffing Committee consider Mr Furnival's appointment?

Senator ABETZ: I will have to take that on notice as well.

Senator WONG: We will be back after the break; I am sure the Prime Minister's office is watching. Can you tell me, on the occasion or occasions that the Government Staffing Committee considered Mr Furnival's appointment, whether the Prime Minister's chief of staff, or Mr Nutt, or Mr Loughnane, were in attendance at those meetings?

Senator Abetz: I will take all that on notice.

Answer:

The appointment was considered on several occasions.

Refer to responses to PM31 and PM41, Supplementary Budget Estimates, November 2013, in relation to attendance at meetings.