

**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:** Lodgement of Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

**Senator:** Senator the Hon Penny Wong

**Question reference number:** 27

**Type of Question:** FPA, Monday 24 February 2014, page 110

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 11 April 2014

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

Senator WONG: On notice, I would like the dates on which draft answers to every question were submitted to the Prime Minister's office.

**Answer:**

Please refer to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's answer to Senate Parliamentary Question No. 130 (copy attached). The proposed answers to all 354 senate estimates questions on notice were provided progressively to the Prime Minister's Office. To provide specific dates in relation to each question would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

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Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

**Minister representing the Prime Minister in the Senate**

**SENATE QUESTION**

Lodgement of Questions on Notice

**Question No. 130**

**Senator Penny Wong** asked the Minister representing the Prime Minister in the Senate on 24 January 2014:

With reference to the lodgement of answers to questions taken on notice during the Supplementary Budget Estimates hearings of the Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee in November 2013:

- (1) Is the Prime Minister, the Minister representing the Prime Minister in the Senate, or the Secretary of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet responsible for the department's failure to lodge answers by the deadline of 17 January 2014 set by the committee.
- (2) On what date or dates did the department submit answers for review and/or clearance to the Office of the Prime Minister.

**Senator Abetz** – The Prime Minister has provided the following answer to the honourable Senator's question:

All the Department's responses to questions on notice for the November 2013 hearing were lodged on 12 February 2014.