

**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:** National Security Adviser

**Senator:** Senator the Hon Penny Wong

**Question reference number:** 59

**Type of Question:** Written

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

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

Who made the decision to abolish the position of National Security Adviser?

When was Dr McCarthy informed?

On what date was the position abolished?

Why was the abolition of the position not announced?

**Answer:**

Dr McCarthy's position was not abolished, rather, her title was amended by the Secretary of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet shortly following the change of government.

Her current title of Associate Secretary is in line with the simplification of departmental titles across government. Her role has not changed.

Dr McCarthy frequently travels internationally with the Prime Minister and continues to provide national security advice.