

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: Senate Order on public interest immunity claims

Senator: Senator the Hon Penny Wong

Question reference number: 87

Type of Question: Written

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

Number of pages: 1

Question:

With reference to the answer to question on notice 80 from the Supplementary Budget Estimates round:

Why does the Department not document communications with the Office of the Prime Minister related to the making of public interest immunity claims?

Can details of all documented communications be provided?

Answer:

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet will from time to time have discussions with the Office of the Prime Minister and other ministers within the Prime Minister's portfolio on the operation of the 2009 Senate Order and making claims of public interest immunity. Whether such communications are documented will depend on the circumstances.