

**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:** Advice on claim of public interest immunity

**Senator:** Senator the Hon Joe Ludwig

**Question reference number:** 9

**Type of Question:** FPA, Monday 24 February 2014, page 82

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

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

Senator LUDWIG: In terms of the claim of public interest immunity, have you sought—and I am not asking for the content—advice from the Attorney-General or the Attorney-General’s Department or the Australian Government Solicitor, through the Attorney-General’s Department, as I think your earlier evidence suggests is the line of communication, about how that claim would be exercised?

Ms Kelly: Yes.

Senator LUDWIG: And when was that? I am happy for you to take it on notice.

Ms Kelly: It would have been in December or January, Senator. I am not sure of the exact date.

**Answer:**

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet sought advice on public interest immunity from the Australian Government Solicitor in December 2013. The advice was received on 23 December 2013.