

Senate Finance & Public Administration Legislation Committee

Hansard Tuesday 25 May 2004

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Australian Public Service Commission

Budget Estimates 2004 - 05

Question: PM 28

Topic:

The responsibility for coordinating the government's response and putting material to ministers to consider on that one lies with the Prime Minister's department. You will recall one of the points I raised in this is that the Public Service Commissioner is only responsible for code of conduct and values for Australian Public Service employees and not for MOP staff, and hence it would not be the role for the commission to put together material for the response. But certainly the commission did provide the Prime Minister's department with its views on the possible response for that. I think it was in January. I would have to check for an exact date, but I am pretty sure that our advice to the Prime Minister's department was given at about the end of January.

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Senator Forshaw asked: Could you confirm that?

Answer:

The Public Service Commissioner advised the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Public Service about the Committee's Report on its inquiry into the Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984 in October and November 2003. It was that advice that was provided to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.