

Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Budget Estimates Hearing 26 May - 27 May 2008



Question: PM59

Outcome 1, Output 5.3

Topic: Meeting with Mr Crumlin

Hansard Page: F&PA 68-69

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked: -...My question to you is: having established that Mr Crumlin did attend the Lodge on Australia Day, was there a meeting in addition to his attendance at this reception? Was there a separate meeting? Who attended this meeting, or was it held in front of the 135 guests?

Senator Faulkner-I do not know if it was done at all. I am not aware of any meeting. I do not even know whether the Prime Minister had a conversation with the aforementioned Mr Crumlin or not. All I can do in relation to that, having provided you with the information, is take it on notice, unless one of the officials beside me or behind me is able to assist you. But I certainly cannot and I do not think you would expect me to be able to?I will take your question on notice.

Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS-?Was there a meeting? I would appreciate if you could investigate whether there was a meeting. If there was a meeting, who attended that meeting? What follow-up was there in relation to that meeting?

Answer: The long standing practice is not to make any comments on private meetings or conversations which the Prime Minister may have.