

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates Hearing 21-24 May 2012

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1.3 Support Services for Government Operations

Topic: Australian Network Audit - PM/ Mr Rudd meeting 25 May

Senator: Senator Birmingham

Question reference number: 56

Type of Question: FPA P43-44, 22 May 2012

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 6 July 2012

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator BIRMINGHAM: There was meeting though that occurred on 25 May between the Prime Minister and Mr Rudd to discuss the tender. Is that correct?

Ms Leon: Yes.

Senator BIRMINGHAM: Who initiated that meeting?

Mr Simpson: I am not aware of the catalyst for that meeting.

Senator BIRMINGHAM: Minister or PMandC?

Senator Chris Evans: This is a meeting between a minister and a Prime Minister. I can perhaps take it on notice, Senator. I have got no knowledge of the detail of the meeting or who said what to whom or how the meeting occurred...

Senator BIRMINGHAM: Do we know who else was present, if anybody?

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Senator BIRMINGHAM: If PMandC are able to take on notice for me, please, that 25 May meeting as to who initiated it, what prompted it, who was present and if any records of it were kept, that would be much appreciated.

Senator Chris Evans: I think the answer to that is no, but we will take it on notice.

Answer:

The Department is unable to provide further information on this matter.