

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Budget Estimates Hearing 27 May-6 June 2013**

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Outcome/Program:** 1.1 Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Topic:** Security waivers for international staff

**Senator:** Senator Ryan

**Question reference number:** 43

**Type of Question:** FPA, Tuesday 28 May 2013, page 5-6

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 12 July 2013

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

Ms Leon: The requirement to get a security clearance has not been waived except in the sense that I already spoke—that there is a necessity to grant an interim waiver while a security clearance is processed. But I think what must be being referred to is that we can waive the citizenship requirement for people are undertaking a security clearance process. And we have done that for other people coming to the department from the UK, New Zealand or whatever.

Senator RYAN: Have you done it before for someone in the Prime Minister's office?

Ms Leon: I would have to take that on notice. We would have to go back through our records for that.

**Answer:**

The Department has granted a waiver for one other staff-member in the Prime Minister's office since 2007.