

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Supplementary Budget Estimates 19 October 2009

Question: PM65(a-c)

Topic: Community cabinet meetings

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Senator RYAN-[a] ...Minister, if I can ask you this in your capacity as Cabinet Secretary: do you or your office inform the CCTSU of the dates and locations of upcoming community cabinet meetings following advice from the department of them being called or your directive to the department to call them?

Senator Ludwig-I will take that on notice.

[...]

Senator RYAN-[b] ... I should clarify: my previous question I am also asking you in your capacity as representing the Prime Minister. So: if his office has undertaken similar action in informing the CCTSU.

Senator Ludwig-All right. I thought you had only limited it to me.

Senator RYAN-No, I am asking you in that capacity as well. I would also like you to answer, again, in your capacity as representing the Prime Minister as well as Cabinet Secretary: does his office, or you or your office, inform the Labor Party of the dates and locations of upcoming community cabinet meetings? [c] And, if so, I would like to know the dates of such advice and when it was provided.

Senator Ludwig-I will take that on notice and have a look at that.

Answer: The Cabinet Secretary's Office has advised that neither his Office nor the Prime Minister's Office advise either the CCSTU or the Australian Labor Party (excepting the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party) of dates and locations of upcoming Community Cabinet meetings.