

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 17-20 October 2011

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1.2 National Security and International Policy

Topic: Asian century white paper - PMO consultation with the Foreign Minister

Senator: Senator Ryan

Question reference number: 21

Type of Question: FPA, p 75, 17 October

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 2 December 2011

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator RYAN: Senator Evans, these are questions regarding the Prime Minister's office. Can you take on notice? Given that I assume you will not be able to answer? Whether the Prime Minister and what form the Office of the Prime Minister or the Prime Minister herself consulted with the office of the foreign minister?

Senator Chris Evans: I am happy to take it on notice. I am not sure that I would be answering questions regarding discussions between ministers or their officers, but I am happy to take the question on notice.

Answer:

Discussions between ministers and their offices relating to matters subject to Cabinet consideration are confidential.