SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Group 2

Program 1.1

Question No. 35

Senator Brandis asked the following question at the hearing on 29 May 2013:

Senator BRANDIS: When was the first short list [of Federal Circuit Court appointment applicants] sent to the

Attorney-General?

Ms Glanville: We do not send the short list to the Attorney-General.

Senator BRANDIS: So you do not follow the practice that Mr Fredericks follows for the Federal Court?

Ms Glanville: There might be the running through of who has applied—

Senator BRANDIS: And who is on the short list?

Ms Glanville: Yes but it is not sent to the Attorney-General as such.

Senator BRANDIS: Is the Attorney-General either directly or through his political staff—

Ms Glanville: It is a similar process to the one that Mr Fredericks described.

Senator BRANDIS: If it is similar to the process that Mr Fredericks described, then the Attorney-General's office

would have been made aware of who was on the shortlist. Did that happen?

Ms Glanville: Yes.

Senator BRANDIS: Were they made aware of who was on the first short list?

Ms Glanville: Yes.

Senator BRANDIS: And presumably they were also made aware of who was on the second short list?

Ms Glanville: I will need to check that because in the intervening period there was a change of Attorney-General.

To be clear on that I would need to look at what impact that would have had on the process.

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

Yes, the Attorney-General's Office was made aware of who was on the second shortlist.