

Senate Select Committee on COVID-19

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: Questions related to National Cabinet following the Prime Minister's statement on 4 September 2020

Senator: Gallagher

Question reference number: 0211

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 21 September 2020

Number of pages: 1

Question:

In light of the Prime Minister's statement on 4 September 2020 that '*We've decided that this notion of 100%, absolute consensus on any issue is not a way that the National Cabinet can indeed work,*' I ask that the Department now answer questions previously asked but not answered on the basis that National Cabinet matters are confidential because it operates according to longstanding conventions of Cabinet government.

These questions include:

1. Has any recommendation of AHPPC to the National Cabinet not been adopted in full (Doc 291, 0039)
2. Which members of AHPPC have attended National Cabinet, and on what dates (Doc 291, 0041)
3. Has Minister Hunt, or have other Ministers attended National Cabinet meetings (Question answered during the hearing on 13 May – see pg. 3 of transcript)

Answer:

The answers provided to written questions 0039 and 0041, and the question answered during the hearing on 13 May 2020, remain unchanged following the statement made by the Prime Minister, the Hon Scott Morison MP, on 4 September 2020.