

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Outcome/Program: Outcome 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet
Topic: Prime Minister's declaration of interests

Senator: McAllister, Jenny

Question reference number: 43

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Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 14 September 2016

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Ms E Kelly: The content of the advice was considered by the Governance Committee of cabinet. It is not for me to speak about the content of matters considered by cabinet.

Senator WONG: No, she did not ask you about the content. We are asking whether, as a consequence of the advice, which we are not seeking—obviously we cannot—was any action taken by the Prime Minister in relation to his holdings? Any restructuring? Any dispossession? That is the question.

CHAIR: That goes to the advice itself—

Senator WONG: No, it does not.

CHAIR: which has been through cabinet. It should be protected by the cabinet.

Senator WONG: No.

Senator Brandis: I think we may say, Senator Wong, that the Prime Minister, having received the advice, observed it.

Senator WONG: Did that or did that not include any change to his arrangements?

Senator Brandis: I will take that on notice.

...

Senator McALLISTER: Will the Prime Minister make this advice public?

Senator Brandis: That is a matter for him. I will take it on notice. I would not expect so. That is not the ordinary practice, but I will take the question on notice.

Answer:

The Prime Minister, the Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP, has put in place arrangements that are consistent with the advice provided by Mr Michael Thawley AO, the then Secretary of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

As the advice was prepared for the consideration of the Governance Committee of Cabinet the Prime Minister does not propose to make the advice public.