

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet  
**Outcome/Program:** Outcome 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet  
**Topic:** Economic Impact Assessment

**Senator:** Wong, Penny

**Question reference number:** 12

**Type of question:** FPA Monday 27 February 2017, page 54

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 13 April 2017

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

Senator WONG: On the economic impact assessment, you gave a very general answer, but we have been discussing it. I would like to know the number of times you have provided written advice to your minister setting out the issues requiring decision in respect of methodology and assessment.

Dr Kennedy: I would have to take that on notice.

Senator WONG: Have you ever provided it to Senator Sinodinos?

Dr Kennedy: I personally have discussed it with—

Senator WONG: Vous not tu—so, the department, all of you.

Dr Kennedy: I will have to take on notice whether we have provided written advice...

Senator WONG: About how many times ministers have been advised about options.

Dr Kennedy: I came into my role in April of last year and I had a discussion with Minister Sinodinos once the government was returned. That is probably all I can tell you now, here in front of you, but I can go back and look on notice about the pattern of written advice that happened before me around this issue.

Senator WONG: What about after that? After your first conversation with Senator Sinodinos after he had been given this, was any written advice provided—like a decision brief setting out 'You need to tell us', broad options or 'You need to make some decisions about these things'?

Dr Kennedy: I will have to take that on notice. I cannot recall here.

**Answer:**

Yes. The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet provided written advice about assessing the economic impact of the Regulatory Reform Agenda to then Cabinet Secretary, Senator the Hon Arthur Sinodinos AO, on 21 October 2016.