

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: Telephone call to President Trump

Senator: Wong, Penny

Question reference number: 14

Type of question: FPA Monday 27 February 2017, page 56

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

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator WONG: Did you liaise with Mr Trump's team?

Mr McKinnon: I think that was done within the PM's office, but I would like to confirm that.

..

Senator WONG: Was that the first occasion on which you became aware that the call was proceeding?

Mr McKinnon: I would like to check that. It was a while ago and I do not recall in what sequence we heard that the call was occurring and what exactly went before it or after it.

Answer:

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) did not liaise with President Trump's team in setting up the phone call between the Prime Minister, the Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP, and President Trump on 29 January 2017.

PM&C became aware the 29 January phone call would take place when a briefing request was received from the Prime Minister's Office on 28 January 2017.