

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: Senate Order 20(c)

Senator: Rhiannon, Lee

Question reference number: 17

Type of question: FPA Monday 27 February 2017, page 59

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

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator RHIANNON: Since your department is responsible for the statement of ministerial standards, are you aware if other departments or agencies are complying with the order?

Senator Brandis: No.

Senator RHIANNON: So you are not aware or they are not complying? What does the 'no' mean?

Senator Brandis: You have asked me if I am aware.

Senator RHIANNON: So you are not aware?

Senator Brandis: Correct.

Senator RHIANNON: Isn't that part of your job to know, and do you just need to take it on notice or is it not something you give attention to?

Senator Brandis: I will take it on notice if you wish me to. Are you asking me to take it on notice?

Senator RHIANNON: No, I am asking you, with the staff here, if you can supply that information now.

Senator Brandis: Well, I can't, but, if you want, I will take on notice the question:—

Senator RHIANNON: Okay, if you can take it on notice, please.

Senator Brandis: what departments and agencies are compliant with this order.

Senator RHIANNON: Does your department comply with the order?

Senator Brandis: I will have to take that on notice as well.

Senator RHIANNON: Seriously, you do not know if your department complies with the order?

Answer:

The Order is directed to ministers in the Senate, not departments and agencies.