

**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:** FOI – PMO

**Senator:** Wong, Penny

**Question reference number:** 39

**Type of question:** FPA Monday 27 February 2017, page 81

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

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

Senator WONG: Did you provide administrative support in relation to this application?

Mr Arnaudo: I think we would have because we would have done the acknowledgement of a FOI request having been received. If the Prime Minister's office had asked us to do anything in relation to that request, we would have tried to assist.

Senator WONG: Everything you said is in the 'would have'. What did you do?

Mr Arnaudo: I would have to take it on notice in relation to that particular request. There is quite a large number of requests that the Prime Minister's office receives over any time, and, other than right now being able to provide that answer in general terms, we provide that sort of administrative support to the Prime Minister's office to respond to FOI requests that are made to that office.

**Answer:**

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) provided the following administrative support to the Office of the Prime Minister (PMO) in relation to these Freedom of Information (FOI) requests.

- Acknowledgement of initial request
- Providing updates to applicants when required
- Drafting of decisions in accordance with instructions of the PMO
- Notification of decisions to applicants.

The support provided was consistent with PM&C's usual support to the PMO in relation to FOI requests.