

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2015-16

Finance Portfolio
27-28 May 2015

Department/Agency: Department of Finance

Outcome/Program: 2/2.1

Topic: Air Warfare Destroyer Project – media release of 22 May 2015

Senator: Wong

Question reference number: F15

Type of question: Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 68, 27 May 2015

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 10 July 2015

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator Cormann: ... I was aware of the information the government decided to put into the public domain, and the Minister for Defence and I put the information into the public domain on Friday, 22 May, in the form of a joint statement.

...

Senator WONG: When was that statement finalised?

Senator Cormann: I would have to take that on notice.

Senator WONG: Was that finalised the night before?

Senator Cormann: I would have to take that on notice.

...

Senator WONG: If you could take on notice when the media release was finalised, but I have this question: when did you and Mr Andrews make a decision to release on the Friday? Was it on the Friday? Or was it on the Thursday, Wednesday or another day?

Senator Cormann: I would have to check. My recollection is that we initially decided to release the information sometime prior—which stands to reason—to 29 May 2015.

Answer:

The media statement was finalised at approximately 11 am on Friday, 22 May 2015. The decision to release the media statement on Friday, 22 May 2015 was also made that morning.