Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates Hearing 25-29 May 2015

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: Outcome 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: Paid Parental Leave

Senator: Senator Claire Moore **Question reference number:** 81

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Question:

Senator MOORE: Have you been involved in the officers meeting or the one that is looking particularly at staff?

Ms Wilkie: Sorry, can you clarify.

Senator MOORE: I just want to know what level you have been involved at and who has been involved from the Office for Women.

Ms Wilkie: I would have to take on notice the specific individuals that would have been involved in discussions.

Senator MOORE: I am not keen on individuals; it is level, role and that kind of thing. We do not tend to go down—

Ms Carroll: Perhaps I could shed a little bit of light. Certainly Ms Cross, as the deputy secretary responsible for the Office for Women but also the broader social policy components within the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, would have been closely involved in all of those. We can take on notice the specific levels of officers that might have been involved in some of those meetings.

Answer:

As is usual practice for Budget matters which involve the Office for Women, the Head of Domestic Policy, the First Assistant Secretary of Social Policy Division, the Assistant Secretary of the Office for Women and various Executive Level and APS staff from the Office for Women were involved in paid parental leave deliberations.