

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

SENATE ESTIMATES SESSION

Supplementary Budget Estimates 18-22 November 2013

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1 Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: Legal advice on recommendations of Expert Panel

Senator: Senator Dean Smith

Question reference number: 217

Type of Question: Hansard

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 17 January 2014

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator SMITH: Has any independent or external legal advice been sought on any of the five recommendations of the expert panel?

Mr Eccles: Not that I am aware of but I will again check with the Department of the Attorney-General.

Answer:

The Attorney-General's Department has advised "The Expert Panel's report, including the recommendations, was prepared by the Panel in light of the range of submissions and advice that the Panel received. The Attorney-General's Department will continue to consider technical issues covered by the Report in consultation with the Australian Government Solicitor as appropriate. The Attorney-General's Department has not otherwise sought legal advice on the recommendations of the Expert Panel."