

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**Supplementary Budget Estimates 20-24 October 2014**

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet  
**Outcome/Program:** Outcome 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet  
**Topic:** FoI Applicants

**Senator:** Senator the Hon Joe Ludwig

**Question reference number:** 66

**Type of question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 5 December 2014

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

I refer you to QoN response 186 – from Budget Estimates in May 2014.

1. What verification process was done to answer this question? Please detail.
2. What communication was sent between the department and the Prime Minister's Office in attempting to verify this question? Please detail types of communication and quantity.
3. How much time was spent verifying this answer?

**Answer:**

1. Departmental officers who provide the administrative support to decision makers in the Prime Minister's Office and in the Department were asked if they were aware of the names of FOI applicants having been disclosed for non-official purposes.
2. Consistent with long standing practice across government, the answer was provided to the Prime Minister's office for review prior to the Department submitting the answer to the Committee.
3. The Department spent approximately one hour verifying the answer to PM 186.