

## Estimates 2006-07 — Additional Budget Estimates, February 2007

## Questions on Notice Index—Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

QON No.	Department / agency	Senator	Hansard reference	Question	Comments
PM1	GG	Brown	F&PA 63-64	<p><b>Senator BOB BROWN</b>—Is there any imbalance between the states and territories? Is there a shortage of people being nominated from Western Australia or the Northern Territory? Do you know how that ratio stacks up?</p> <p><b>Mr Hazell</b>—The short answer is no, I do not know in that sort of detail.</p> <p><b>Senator BOB BROWN</b>—Could you find out?</p> <p><b>Mr Hazell</b>—I will try to find out for you.</p>	Answer received 16/04/07
PM2	GG	Brown	F&PA 66	<p><b>Senator BOB BROWN</b>—What percentage of nominations that go to council is rejected?</p> <p><b>Mr Hazell</b>—We have those figures. Can I take that question on notice? I think I can tell you in terms of rejections.</p> <p><b>CHAIR</b>—Is that rejection for a specific honour or for all honours?</p> <p><b>Senator BOB BROWN</b>—All nominations for honours. Could you give me a state-by-state breakdown of the number or the percentage of rejections for each of the years over the last 10 years?</p> <p><b>Mr Hazell</b>—I will look and see what I can do. I am not sure that I can give you that, but I will try.</p>	Answer received 16/04/07

QON No.	Department / agency	Senator	Hansard reference	Question	Comments
PM3	GG	Brown	F&PA 67	<p><b>Senator BOB BROWN</b>—That is not what I am asking about, though. Would you take this question on notice, because I do not expect you to answer it now: for each of the last 10 years, would you find out how many nominations have been objected to by the representative of each state and territory government—</p> <p><b>Mr Hazell</b>—Senator, I do not have access to that sort of information. It is no good telling you that I might be able to do it, because I cannot. I do not have access to that information.</p> <p><b>CHAIR</b>—We are going over old ground, I think, Senator Brown.</p> <p><b>Senator BOB BROWN</b>—No, I am putting a question on notice.</p> <p><b>CHAIR</b>—You are welcome to do that, but—</p> <p><b>Mr Hazell</b>—I will take the question on notice, but I am telling you now what the answer is more than likely to be. But I will take it on notice for you, Senator.</p>	Answer received 16/04/07
PM4	GG	Faulkner	F&PA 69	<p><b>Senator FAULKNER</b>—That is good. Finally, on notice, I ask—because you did it in answer to question on notice PM49 from Senator Evans: could you disaggregate the honours secretariat precinct works. The figure you have given is somewhere north of \$3 million, and I just wondered whether, on notice, you could disaggregate that for us.</p> <p><b>Mr Hazell</b>—I will take that on notice.</p>	Answer received 16/04/07

QON No.	Department / agency	Senator	Hansard reference	Question	Comments
PM5	PM&C	Faulkner	F&PA 73	<p><b>Mr Leverett</b>—The costs of materials that went into the coach.</p> <p><b>Senator FAULKNER</b>—Like what?</p> <p><b>Mr Leverett</b>—Doors, handles, hinges, springs—</p> <p><b>Senator FAULKNER</b>—So you have a complete breakdown of that, have you? If they are quantifiable costs, you must have.</p> <p><b>Mr Leverett</b>—There is a letter with those costs in it, yes.</p> <p><b>Senator FAULKNER</b>—A letter?</p> <p><b>Mr Leverett</b>—Yes.</p> <p><b>Senator FAULKNER</b>—Can that be provided for us, then?</p> <p><b>Mr Leverett</b>—I do not have it with me, and I will take advice as to whether it is appropriate or not. But, if it is appropriate, yes, that can be made available. I do not have it with me, though, so I cannot table it now.</p>	Answer received 06/03/07
PM6	PM&C	Ray	F&PA 75	<p><b>Mr Leverett</b>—There is a very detailed glossy brochure produced by Mr Frecklington.</p> <p><b>Senator ROBERT RAY</b>—You would have no objection to the committee having that?</p> <p><b>Mr Leverett</b>—I do not have it with me, but no, I do not.</p>	Answer received 06/03/07
PM7	PM&C	Evans	F&PA 76	<p><b>Senator CHRIS EVANS</b>—Just so I am clear, Mr Frecklington wrote to the Prime Minister or the Prime Minister's office and the cabinet submission went forward under the PM's signature?</p> <p><b>Dr Morauta</b>—I do not think we said that.</p> <p><b>Senator CHRIS EVANS</b>—Who sponsored it to the cabinet? People do not just write a letter to the cabinet. Which department sponsored it?</p> <p><b>Mr Leverett</b>—I do not know whether that is a question we would normally answer. I would need to take advice.</p>	Answer received 06/03/07

QON No.	Department / agency	Senator	Hansard reference	Question	Comments
PM8	PM&C	Faulkner	F&PA 77	<p><b>Mr Leverett</b>—Yes, but letters to the Prime Minister are, in most cases, forwarded to the department.</p> <p><b>Senator FAULKNER</b>—Yes, in most cases; but, with this Prime Minister, not in all cases. We do not usually have this sort of situation for funding projects. Dr Morauta, how often can you point to any other precedents for payment of any other projects like this?</p> <p><b>Dr Morauta</b>—That is something we would have to take on notice. It is not something I have come prepared to answer today.</p>	Answer received 14/05/07
PM9	PM&C	Evans	F&PA 78	<p><b>Senator CHRIS EVANS</b>—Did you receive representations from local members of parliament in support of this grant?</p> <p><b>Mr Leverett</b>—The only representations I recollect were from Mr Frecklington’s local state member—an independent member of the New South Wales parliament. I recall a letter from him, but I do not recall any other letters in support of the project.</p> <p><b>Senator CHRIS EVANS</b>—Perhaps you could take that on notice for me to see whether your recollections are correct.</p>	Answer received 06/03/07
PM10	PM&C	Faulkner	F&PA 79	<p><b>Senator FAULKNER</b>—You said that we were paying for the doorhandles, and it says in this article this it is New Zealand gold ‘encrusted with sapphires and diamonds’.</p> <p><b>Dr Morauta</b>—I think we are struggling with the detail, because we do not have the material in front of us as to what we paid for. I think Mr Leverett probably said ‘things like doorhandles’. Perhaps we should get the document before us. We can tell you exactly what it was that we paid for at a later stage on notice.</p>	Answer received 06/03/07

QON No.	Department / agency	Senator	Hansard reference	Question	Comments
PM11	PM&C	Ray	F&PA 93	<p><b>Senator ROBERT RAY</b>—I asked a question last time, question on notice PM11, about how many of the Prime Minister’s staff have personal classifications that place them at a higher salary level. The answer given was five. Would that approximately equate to the same sort of ratio that applies to other ministers’ offices, or even the Leader of the Opposition’s office, or is it a little higher?</p> <p><b>Ms Belcher</b>—I would need to take that on notice. This was not an answer that the department was able to provide.</p>	Answer received 14.03.07
PM12	PM&C	Ray	F&PA 93	<p><b>Senator ROBERT RAY</b>—I know it is hard, but can you give an explanation at all, Minister, as to why three people are being paid outside a salary band approved and set by the Prime Minister?</p> <p><b>Senator Minchin</b>—You are asking me why?</p> <p><b>Senator ROBERT RAY</b>—Yes, I am wondering why. We have salary bands. The Prime Minister sets them, yet he then pays three of his own staff outside of those bands. I am just wondering why?</p> <p><b>Senator Minchin</b>—I had better get you an answer on that. I am not going to ad lib an answer.</p> <p><b>Senator ROBERT RAY</b>—No, I said it you knew, tell us. If you do not know—</p> <p><b>Senator Minchin</b>—I will have to get you answer to that.</p>	Answer received 20.03.07

QON No.	Department / agency	Senator	Hansard reference	Question	Comments
PM13	PM&C	Ray	F&PA 97	<p><b>Senator ROBERT RAY</b>—In contradiction to that, Minister Minchin, they have just read the letter, so I think they know who it was addressed to. If they do not want to say, let us have that out, but let us not just get delayed and delayed because they do not want to answer it.</p> <p><b>Senator Minchin</b>—If they do not feel in a position to answer it, they will take it on notice and get you an answer.</p> <p><b>Senator ROBERT RAY</b>—No, they will give us a reason why they do not want to answer it. If they have the knowledge and they refuse to answer it, all we would then require is a reason why they will not answer it.</p> <p><b>Senator Minchin</b>—You can ask for a reason, but they may wish to ask for advice as to whether they should indicate the name of the recipient of the letter.</p> <p><b>Senator ROBERT RAY</b>—Then they should say that; that would be good.</p> <p><b>Dr Morauta</b>—I was trying to see if there was a quick way of resolving the issue. I do not believe there is. We need to take that one on notice.</p>	Answer received 06/03/07
PM14	PM&C	Ray	F&PA 97	<p><b>Dr Morauta</b>—We indicated before that there was a long list of items, some of which were what we funded against and some of which were not. We want to give you a list of the ones we funded against and not include the ones we did not choose to fund. To get that list, we have to segment what we rec'd. It is this list of what we funded against that we want to give you.</p> <p><b>Senator ROBERT RAY</b>—Why can't we see what you did not fund? What is so confidential about that?</p> <p><b>Dr Morauta</b>—We would need to take advice on that, but I thought the most reasonable answer was to give you what we funded against. I will take advice on whether we can tell you what we declined to fund.</p> <p><b>Senator ROBERT RAY</b>—The relevance of the question is that we would then like to ask why you chose these items to fund—what criteria you used to fund these ones and not fund others. That is why it is relevant. I do not know where the confidentiality comes in.</p>	Answer received 10.04.07

QON No.	Department / agency	Senator	Hansard reference	Question	Comments
PM15	PM&C	Wong	F&PA 101	<p><b>Senator WONG</b>—Were any minutes of any meetings kept in this period prior to the establishment of the task force in early January?</p> <p><b>Ms Goddard</b>—I would have to take that on notice. I do not know. I would have to check.</p>	Answer received 10.04.07
PM16	PM&C	Wong	F&PA 113	<p><b>Senator WONG</b>—I am not asking about advice. You gave evidence about the Prime Minister giving some indication of parameters to the task force, and I am asking: what were the parameters that he indicated?</p> <p><b>Ms Goddard</b>—I am not sure it is appropriate for me to answer that.</p> <p><b>Senator WONG</b>—Are you taking that on notice or are you simply saying it is not appropriate?</p> <p><b>Ms Goddard</b>—I can take it on notice, yes.</p>	Answer received 10.04.07

QON No.	Department / agency	Senator	Hansard reference	Question	Comments
PM17	PM&C	Faulkner	F&PA 115	<p><b>Ms Goddard</b>—Again, you would have to check with my colleagues tomorrow on the pre-Christmas period, but I understand there were some initial discussions in December and there was further advice provided throughout January.</p> <p><b>Senator FAULKNER</b>—I appreciate you are trying to be helpful, Ms Goddard. I am drawing a distinction here between when advice was sought and when it was provided. I appreciate you are being helpful and fulsome in your answer—that is acknowledged—and I hear what you say about the pre-Christmas period. Was there more than one set of advice? I am not clear on what you are saying.</p> <p><b>Ms Goddard</b>—I understand, but I would need to check with my colleagues, that advice was first sought in December. I do not know when in December.</p> <p><b>Senator WONG</b>—Could you just clarify by whom advice was sought?</p> <p><b>Ms Goddard</b>—PM&amp;C sought advice.</p> <p><b>Senator WONG</b>—Dr Horn?</p> <p><b>Ms Goddard</b>—Yes, the Office of Water Resources.</p> <p><b>Senator WONG</b>—And written advice was provided to PM&amp;C in January some time?</p> <p><b>Ms Goddard</b>—Correct, yes.</p> <p><b>Senator FAULKNER</b>—Can you say when in January it was provided?</p> <p><b>Ms Goddard</b>—There was more than one set of advice provided—</p> <p><b>Senator FAULKNER</b>—I assume that from what you were saying before. You can step that out. I am not going to the content of advice; I am just going to the processes of advice.</p> <p><b>Ms Goddard</b>—I would have to check but I think the first lot of January advice was probably rec'd in the second week of January.</p>	Answer received 10.04.07



QON No.	Department / agency	Senator	Hansard reference	Question	Comments
PM18	PM&C	Wong	F&PA 116	<p><b>Senator WONG</b>—You identified the \$5.8 billion for infrastructure changes as being a funding component where funds could be expended outside the Murray-Darling Basin. Has there been an indication, in terms of your internal costing, of what proportion you are assuming will be spent outside the Murray-Darling Basin?</p> <p><b>Ms Goddard</b>—I do not have that detail.</p> <p><b>Senator WONG</b>—They are PM&amp;C’s costings, aren’t they?</p> <p><b>Ms Goddard</b>—They are done by the task group which is led by the Office of Water Resources in PM&amp;C. Those staff have now moved, as I explained earlier, and they are the ones involved in the detailed costings. They would be better able to answer those questions.</p> <p><b>Senator WONG</b>—Will they say to me if I ask them about this tomorrow, ‘These are the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet’s costings and we cannot answer questions about them’?</p> <p><b>Ms Goddard</b>—You asked me that earlier, and I said that I would hope not. They are the people who have the detail on these costings. I am happy to take the question on notice, but I do not have that information.</p> <p><b>Senator WONG</b>—If you could.</p>	Answer received 10.04.07

QON No.	Department / agency	Senator	Hansard reference	Question	Comments
PM19	PM&C	Faulkner	F&PA 117	<p><b>Senator FAULKNER</b>—But there has been no suggestion to the states that the \$10 billion is going to be spent in the Murray-Darling Basin.</p> <p><b>Senator Minchin</b>—The states had a very detailed letter sent to them on the basis of our offer, where the money would be spent and how. It is up to the states to respond to that. If they have suggestions as to a different mix, then obviously that will be considered.</p> <p><b>Senator FAULKNER</b>—What does that letter say about where the money will be spent—forget about the how, just where?</p> <p><b>Senator Minchin</b>—The letter and the attachments indicate where we propose the money will be spent.</p> <p><b>Senator FAULKNER</b>—That is not a secret for this committee, so what is the where?</p> <p><b>Senator Minchin</b>—That was published, wasn't it, where the money is to be spent. You just do not have the percentage. We will get that.</p> <p><b>Senator FAULKNER</b>—What is it?</p> <p><b>Senator Minchin</b>—I do not know. We will take it on notice. I do not know when the environment estimates are. If they are on tomorrow morning, you can get it tomorrow morning. If we can get it tonight, we will.</p>	Answer received 10.04.07

QON No.	Department / agency	Senator	Hansard reference	Question	Comments
PM20	PM&C	Ray	F&PA 124	<p><b>Senator ROBERT RAY</b>—Mr Leverett, I will repeat the question. I refer to an answer to a question taken on notice, I think from Senator Evans. We have been kindly provided with information about the expenses for visiting dignitaries—usually heads of government or heads of state. Looking through them all, there is an item of ‘other expenses’. That is generally fairly low for most of them, but in two cases it seems to me, on the face of it, to be high. I do not understand what ‘other expenses’ are. For the former Prime Minister of Fiji it is \$43,306 and for the first Prime Minister of Cambodia it is \$68,677. What I am really asking is: what constitutes ‘other expenses’?</p> <p><b>Mr Leverett</b>—It can be a range of things. I will have to take it on notice and try and find out for you tonight, if I can, why those two are so high. I think in the case of Cambodia, for instance, there is a significant cost in there for interpreters for that particular visit. That is clearly not the case for Fiji. I will need to quickly check that for you.</p>	Answer received 10.04.07
PM21	PM&C	Evans	F&PA 126	<p><b>Senator CHRIS EVANS</b>—Did the security detail stay with Mr Howard?</p> <p><b>Ms Belcher</b>—No. A separate security detail had flown to Broome.</p> <p><b>Senator CHRIS EVANS</b>—Had they gone by RAAF or by a commercial flight?</p> <p><b>Ms Belcher</b>—I do not know about that. I would need to take that on notice.</p>	Answer received 10.04.07

<b>QON No.</b>	<b>Department / agency</b>	<b>Senator</b>	<b>Hansard reference</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>PM22</b>	PM&C	Evans	F&PA 127	<p><b>Senator CHRIS EVANS</b>—I read a press report that said it was based on the cost of a Qantas business class fare, but that is not the normal method of calculation, is it?</p> <p><b>Ms Belcher</b>—I do not think so.</p> <p><b>Senator CHRIS EVANS</b>—So you cannot tell me how much the personal contribution was?</p> <p><b>Ms Belcher</b>—No—I do not know.</p> <p><b>Senator CHRIS EVANS</b>—How do we find out? Would we have to ask the Special Minister of State?</p> <p><b>Ms Belcher</b>—Yes, or I could take that on notice.</p>	Answer received 14.03.07
<b>PM23</b>	PM&C	Evans	F&PA 127	<p><b>Senator CHRIS EVANS</b>—Do we know the cost of sending a specific jet to Broome to collect the Prime Minister.</p> <p><b>Ms Belcher</b>—No.</p> <p><b>Senator CHRIS EVANS</b>—Could you take that on notice for me? We do not know the cost; we do not know what Mr Howard was billed; and we do not know what the normal arrangements are; but otherwise we are going pretty well in this inquiry. You will take all those issues on notice for me?</p> <p><b>Ms Belcher</b>—Yes.</p>	Answered 15/02/08
<b>PM24</b>	PM&C	Evans	F&PA 131	<p><b>Senator CHRIS EVANS</b>—Are you telling me you only had to provide 21 vehicles?</p> <p><b>Mr Henderson</b>—No, you are pushing me beyond the detail that I have here. I will just check whether Mr Harper has any detail. If you want a disaggregation of that aggregate figure, I will have to take that on notice.</p>	Answer received 14.03.07
<b>PM25</b>	PM&C	Evans	F&PA 131	<p><b>Senator CHRIS EVANS</b>—Yes, I am just giving you the chance to make sure that is right. I understand the Comcar drivers drove vehicles, but I was told they were private hire vehicles and not Comcar. I may be wrong; that is why I am asking you the question. I do not doubt your evidence; I am just saying that it has been put to me that you actually</p>	Answer received 14.03.07

<b>QON No.</b>	<b>Department / agency</b>	<b>Senator</b>	<b>Hansard reference</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Comments</b>
				hired vehicles for the purpose. Answer rec'd 14.03.07 <b>Mr Henderson</b> —There may have been some additional vehicles. I will take that on notice.	
<b>PM26</b>	PM&C	Evans	F&PA 132	<b>Senator CHRIS EVANS</b> —So the evidence to me will be: did the Comcar drivers drive Comcar vehicles or did they drive hire vehicles? <b>Mr Henderson</b> —I will take that on notice as well.	Answer received 14.03.07
<b>PM27</b>	PM&C	Evans	F&PA 132	<b>Senator CHRIS EVANS</b> —We take an interest in what you are doing. Obviously, it will be a big item of expenditure if we spent \$1 million on the transport in Canberra. I will ask you on notice to give me the transport costs and the breakdown for each of these meetings. I assume in that there will be a car hire cost as well, unless we have been able to borrow cars from Defence or somewhere else.	Answer received 14.03.07
<b>PM28</b>	PM&C	Evans	Written	Attached	Answer received 10.04.07
<b>PM29</b>	PM&C	Milne	Written	Attached	Answer received 3.07.07
<b>PM30</b>	PM&C	Wong	Written	Attached	Answer received 10.04.07
<b>PM31</b>	GG	Wong	Written	Attached	Answer received 16.04.07
<b>PM32</b>	ONA	Wong	Written	Attached	Answer received 30.03.07 from ONA
<b>PM33</b>	ANAO	Wong	Written	Attached	Answer received 29.03.07
<b>PM34</b>	APSC	Wong	Written	Attached	Answer received 13/03/07
<b>PM35</b>	OMB	Wong	Written	Attached	Answer received 29.03.07
<b>PM36</b>	IGIS	Wong	Written	Attached	Answer received 14/03/07
<b>PM37</b>	PM&C	Wong	Written	Attached	Answer received 14/03/07

<b>QON No.</b>	<b>Department / agency</b>	<b>Senator</b>	<b>Hansard reference</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>PM38</b>	GG	Wong	Written	Attached	Answer received 16.04.07
<b>PM39</b>	ONA	Wong	Written	Attached	Answer received 30.03.07 from ONA
<b>PM40</b>	ANAO	Wong	Written	Attached	Answer received 29/03/07
<b>PM41</b>	APSC	Wong	Written	Attached	Answer received 04/04/07
<b>PM42</b>	OMB	Wong	Written	Attached	Answer received 13/03/07
<b>PM43</b>	IGIS	Wong	Written	Attached	Answer received 14/03/07
<b>PM44</b>	PM&C	Wong	Written	Attached	Answer received 14.04.07
<b>PM45</b>	GG	Wong	Written	Attached	Answer received 16.04.07
<b>PM46</b>	ONA	Wong	Written	Attached	Answer received 30.03.07 from ONA
<b>PM47</b>	ANAO	Wong	Written	Attached	Answer received 29/03/07
<b>PM48</b>	APSC	Wong	Written	Attached	Answer received 04/04/07
<b>PM49</b>	OMB	Wong	Written	Attached	Answer received 13/03/07
<b>PM50</b>	IGIS	Wong	Written	Attached	Answer received 14/03/07
<b>PM51</b>	PM&C	Wong	Written	Attached	Answer received 11.05.07
<b>PM52</b>	GG	Wong	Written	Attached	Answer received 16.04.07
<b>PM53</b>	ONA	Wong	Written	Attached	Answer received 30.03.07 from ONA
<b>PM54</b>	ANAO	Wong	Written	Attached	Answer received 13.04.07
<b>PM55</b>	APSC	Wong	Written	Attached	Answer received 04/04/07
<b>PM56</b>	OMB	Wong	Written	Attached	Answer received 13.03.07

<b>QON No.</b>	<b>Department / agency</b>	<b>Senator</b>	<b>Hansard reference</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Comments</b>
PM57	IGIS	Wong	Written	Attached	Answer received 11.05.07
PM58	PM&C	Wong	Written	Attached	Answer received 10.04.07
PM59	PM&C	Evans	Written	Attached	Answer received 26.03
PM60	PM&C	Evans	Written	Attached	Answer received 10.04.07
PM61	PM&C	Evans	Written	Attached	Answer received 26.03.07
PM62	ONA	Evans	Written	Attached	Answer received 30.03.07 from ONA
PM63	ONA	Evans	Written	Attached	Answer received 30.03.07 from ONA
PM64	PM&C	Ludwig	Written	Attached	To be answered by Defence
PM65	PM&C	Evans	Written	Attached	Answer received 1.05.07
PM66	PM&C	Nettle	Written	Attached	Answer received 10.04.07
PM67	PM&C	Evans	Written	Attached	Answer received 10.04.07
PM68	PM&C	Evans	Written	Attached	Answer r received 14.03.07
PM69	PM&C	Evans	Written	Attached	Answer received 26.03.07
PM70	PM&C	Evans	Written	Attached	Answer received 10.04.07
PM71	PM&C	Evans	Written	Attached	Points 1 and 2 to be answered by PM&C and points 3 and 4 by GGs  PMC answer received 10.04.07  GG answer received 26.04.07

<b>QON No.</b>	<b>Department / agency</b>	<b>Senator</b>	<b>Hansard reference</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>PM72</b>	PM&C	Evans	Written	Attached	Answer received 10.04.07
<b>PM73</b>	PM&C	Evans	Written	Attached	Answer received 26.03.07
<b>PM74</b>	PM&C	Evans	Written	Attached	Answer received 22.05.07
<b>PM75</b>	PM&C	Evans	Written	Attached	Answer received 10.04.07
<b>PM76</b>	PM&C	Evans	Written	Attached	Answer received 10.04.07
<b>PM77</b>	PM&C	Evans	Written	Attached	Answer received 26.03.07  *Insufficient information provided
<b>PM78</b>	PM&C	Evans	Written	Attached	Answer received 13.04.07
<b>PM79</b>	PM&C	Evans	Written	Attached	Answer received 3.07.07
<b>PM80</b>	PM&C	Evans	Written	Attached	Answer received 14.03.07
<b>PM81</b>	PM&C	Evans	Written	Attached	Answer received 14.03.07
<b>PM82</b>	PM&C	Evans	Written	Attached	Answer received 13.04.07
<b>PM83</b>	PM&C	Evans	Written	Attached	Answer rec'd 10.04.07  *83.1 INTERIM answer  *83.10 *Insufficient information provided
<b>PM84</b>	PM&C	Evans	Written	Attached	Answer received 14.03.07



<b>QON No.</b>	<b>Department / agency</b>	<b>Senator</b>	<b>Hansard reference</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>PM85</b>	PM&C	Evans	Written	Attached	Answer received 27.04.07
<b>PM86</b>	PM&C	Milne	Written	Attached	Answer received 10.04.07
<b>PM87</b>	PM&C	Ludwig	Written	Attached	Answer received 14.05.07
<b>PM88</b>	GG	Ludwig	Written	Attached	Answer received 16.04.07
<b>PM89</b>	ONA	Ludwig	Written	Attached	Answer received 30.03.07 from ONA
<b>PM90</b>	ANAO	Ludwig	Written	Attached	Answer received 29.03.07
<b>PM91</b>	APSC	Ludwig	Written	Attached	Answer received 04/04/07
<b>PM92</b>	OMB	Ludwig	Written	Attached	Answer received 13.03.07
<b>PM93</b>	IGIS	Ludwig	Written	Attached	Answer received 14/03/07
<b>PM94</b>	PM&C	Evans	Written	Attached	Answer received 14.05.07

Please note that answers 1 - 94 are due by 30 March 2007.

### Written QON

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#### **PM 28 (EVANS)**

Please provide full details of the Official Development Assistance (ODA) eligible expenditure and activities undertaken by the Department since 2000-2001 to date.

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#### **PM 29 (MILNE)**

1. Was your Department or any of its agencies informed that the location of the rescue of SIEVX survivors was reported to be 07 40 00S / 105 09 00E? If so by whom was this information provided? On what date? Please provide copies of any file notes and other documents related to this information being provided to your

Department or agency.

2. Was your Department or any of its agencies informed of an Indonesian Police Report dated 24 October 2001 which included the location of the rescue of SIEVX survivors - ie: 07 40 00S / 105 09 00E? If so by whom was this information provided? On what date? Please provide copies of any file notes and other documents related to this information being provided to your Department or agency.

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**PM 30 - 36 (WONG) FOR ALL DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES**

*RECRUITMENT AGENCY SPENDING*

- (1) What sum was spent on recruitment agencies in 2006 by each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio?
- (2) Will the Minister provide a list of the recruitment agencies which are used by the department and agencies in the Minister's portfolio?
- (3) What functions do recruitment agencies perform for departments and what would be the likely impact on departmental outcomes from reduction in recruitment spending on external agencies?
- (4) What benefit-cost assessments have been done which benchmark internal recruitment processes and/ or on utilising on line recruitment portals?

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**PM 37 - 43 (WONG) FOR ALL DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES**

*OPINION POLLS/ MARKET RESEARCH*

- (1) What sum was spent on opinion polls, focus groups or market research in 2006 by each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio?
- (2) Will the Ministers provide a list of the opinion polls, focus groups, or market research agencies what are used by department and agencies in the Minister's portfolio?
- (3) How much of the opinion polls, focus groups or market research expenditure of agencies or departments was conducted at the request of the Minister's office?
- (4) What benefit-cost assessments have been done which assess the returns from opinion polls, focus groups of market research?

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**PM 44 - 50 (WONG) FOR ALL DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES**

*ADVERTISING CAMPAIGNS*

- (1) What sum was spent on each of the active advertising campaigns for each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio?
- (2) In attachment A – a list of active campaigns that were tabled in on 30 October 2006 at Senate Estimates, what were the actual costs for those which have been completed as relevant to each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio?
- (3) At the Budget Estimates in May 2006, the Budget Papers listed the following Pending Campaigns (from Budget Papers: period up to 4 years)

Campaign	\$M
Smart Card	47.3
Child Support Reform	36.1
Promote Private Health Cover	52.1
Medicare direct mail	17.5
New family law arrangements	19.9
Independent contractors	<15
Pensions real estate/assets test	5.9 (at least, over 2 years)
Smart Traveller	13.1
Alcohol abuse	25.2
Citizenship	4
Disease risk factors	
Child care rebate	
Family Law arrangements	

Illicit drugs and mental illness	
Living in Harmony Initiative	

(4) For those campaigns which are relevant to each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio, what is the:

- (a) planning progress for campaigns;
- (b) likely start dates; and
- (c) media spend.

**PM 51 - 57 (WONG) FOR ALL DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES**

*MONITORING USE OF WATER IN DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES*

- (1) Is there any requirement to provide details of how much water is used and how much water is saved in the annual reports of each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio?
- (2) Is water usage monitored for each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio?
- (3) What is the water usage for each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio?
- (4) For each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio, can information be provided on whether dual flush toilets are in place in the buildings they occupy?

**PM 58 (WONG)**

The proposal for the Prime Minister's \$10billion Murray-Darling basin water was not taken to Cabinet, yet the decision to purchase a private gift for the Queen at the cost of \$250,000 was taken to Cabinet.

When is a proposal for expenditure of taxpayer's money is required to go through Cabinet?

**PM 59 (EVANS)**

*Iraq Military Commitment*

Is PM&C aware of the cost of the Iraq military commitment?

If so, what is the most up-to-date total expenditure for the post-war occupation period for:

- Australian joint Task Force Headquarters
- OBJ- West
- Australian Army Training Team
- SecDet (Baghdad)
- C-130 detachment
- AP-3C detachment
- Naval contingent in the Arabian Sea
- The Tri-Service Force Level Logistics and Communications Group?

Does PM& report expenditure to the Prime Minister and his Office on a weekly, monthly, quarterly, six-monthly or on an as-required basis?

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**PM 60 (EVANS)**

*Alleged Australian Aid to Iraq 'Falling into Wrong Hands'*

What actions has PM&C initiated, or been involved in, to investigate the *Australian Financial Review* reporting of alleged corruption and waste of Australian aid to Iraq?

What follow-up action has the Department undertaken as a result of the investigations?

What actions has the Department instigated to ensure that aid is being distributed in accordance with the stated government objectives?

Has the Department informed the Prime Minister and/or his office on these matters? If so, when?

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**PM 61 (EVANS)**

Afghanistan Military Commitment

Is PM&C aware of the cost of the military commitment to Afghanistan? If so, what is the most up-to-date total expenditure for the commitment?

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**PM 62 (EVANS)**

*Iraq*

Is ONA monitoring the effects of the movements of displaced peoples within Iraq and from Iraq?

Does ONA agree with the UN High Commissioner's for Refugees estimate that displaced Iraqis total some three million?

Has ONA produced assessments to inform government on the effect of such movements of displaced peoples?

Does ONA now assess Iraq to be in a civil war?

When was Australia provided with a copy of the United States National Intelligence Estimate (NIE) of January 2007? Has ONA reviewed its assessments in the light of the January 2007 NIE and informed government?

Has President Bush's 'Surge Strategy' altered ONA's assessment for those Iraqi areas in which ADF elements are deployed?

Has ONA undertaken assessments on the effectiveness of aid programs to Iraq? If so, when?

Has ONA assessed the accuracy of recent media reporting that aid programs to Iraq have been corrupted and are wasteful? If so, when?

Has ONA assessed the effectiveness of Australia's aid program to Iraq? If so, when?

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### **PM 63 (EVANS)**

#### *Afghanistan*

When did ONA last produce an assessment on Afghanistan? Is one currently in progress?

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### **PM 64 (LUDWIG)**

#### *Special purpose VIP fleet of Boeing Business Jets*

This question has been sent to both Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and the Department of Defence for the relevant department to provide a response.

With regard to the special purpose VIP fleet of BBJs, could the department:

1. Indicate the dates that each aircraft was first delivered.
2. Provide details of all subsequent work (excluding routine maintenance checks but including additional work done at the same time as routine maintenance) performed or requests for work to be performed, in particular:
  - a. Which aircraft the work was performed on

- b. When the work took place.
- c. Where the work took place.
- d. Who performed the work (e.g. name of contractor)
- e. What date the work was requested.
- f. Who it was requested by.
- g. A detailed description of the work requested (covering engine maintenance and/or replacement; changes to seating configuration; internal fit-out and finish e.g. reupholstering)
- h. A detailed description of the work done where differing from work requested and as described in part (g)
- i. Whether any of the work was covered by warranty. If so detail which work was done under warranty and detail any other work done at the same time including the value of any additional payments.
- j. The cost of each contract.
- k. Whether the work performed satisfied the original request.

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## **PM 65 (EVANS)**

### *Kokoda Track – Frontier Resources*

When did the Department first become aware that Frontier Resources had an exploration licence and an intention to mine areas that incorporate the Kokoda Track?

What contact has the Department had with Frontier Resources over the issue?

What contact has the Department had with Papua New Guinea over this issue?

When was the decision taken to send a delegation to Papua New Guinea in regards to this issue?

What was the outcome of this delegation?

- Were any reports made – if so can we please have a copy?
- What was the cost of this delegation?
- Who went on this delegation?

Did the Department establish an IDC on this issue? If yes when was it established and who are its members? How often does the IDC meet and report on these matters?

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## **PM 66 (NETTLE)**

Please provide the total cost and a breakdown of particular areas (security, transport, accommodation etc) of Vice-President Dick Cheney's visit to Australia?

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**PM 67 (EVANS)**

*State Coach Britannia*

The 2006-07 MYEFO states that \$0.4 million will be allocated to assist with the construction and transportation of the Coach.

Can the Department confirm that the Commonwealth will be assisting with the cost of transporting the Coach to England?

If so, how much has been allocated for this purpose?

What is the total estimated cost of transporting the Coach to England?

Can the Department confirm when construction of the Coach will be completed?

Can the Department confirm when the Coach will be sent to England?

In relation to the \$250,000 in funding provided by the Department in December 2006 towards the construction of the Coach:

- a) Was this funding provided through a funding agreement?
- b) Was this funding provided through a contract?
- c) Was the funding provided as a grant?
- d) What conditions were placed on the provision of the funding?
- e) Was all the funding (\$250,000) provided in December 2006 or was the funding provided in instalments?
- f) Was the recipient required to provide evidence of the costs of the materials that were being funded? E.g. receipts for the purchase of materials
- g) What acquittal process did occur in relation to the funding?

Is the Department considering providing additional (beyond the \$250,000) funding to this project, given the approval for up to \$350,000?

Has the Department provided funding to a similar project in the last five years? If so provide details.

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**PM 68 (EVANS)**



*Government Communications Unit*

Please provide a breakdown of all active advertising campaigns for 2006-07 coordinated by the GCU as February 2007, including:

- a) the name of each active campaign,
- b) the advertising department,
- c) the purpose,
- d) the dates of advertising activity, and
- e) the cost of media placement for each campaign.

Please provide a breakdown of any and all advertising campaigns that have been approved by the MCGC but for which no advertising material has been made public (i.e. gone to air, appearing in print). For each campaign, please indicate the nature of the campaign, the anticipated media spend and the anticipated dates over which the campaign will take place.

Please provide a breakdown of current staffing levels within the GCU as well as a breakdown of the public service grades of staff employed within the unit.

Please provide a breakdown of all travel expenses incurred by the GCU since figures were last supplied through the estimates process. Please breakdown the total travel spending as:

- a) air travel,
- b) ground transport, and
- c) accommodation, meals and incidentals.

Please also indicate the dates over which these total expenses were occurred.

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**PM 69 (EVANS)**

*APEC 2007 Taskforce*

Please indicate the total of spending on travel by taskforce staff since November 2006. Please provide a total figure as well as a breakdown by:

- a) international air travel,
- b) domestic air travel,
- c) ground transport,
- d) accommodation, means and incidentals.

Please refer to question PM 45 from October / November 2006 Estimates hearings and provide an updated response to part 5 of that question. Please provide a breakdown of all expenditure items greater than \$10,000 for the categories 'other administration costs' and 'capital equipment purchased', should such costs have been incurred.

Please provide a breakdown of all expenditures greater than \$10,000 included under 'other administration costs' (expenditure since May 2006) in response to PM 45, part 6 from the October / November 2006 Estimates hearings.

Please provide a breakdown of all expenditures greater than \$10,000 included under 'capital equipment purchased' (expenditure since May 2006) in response to PM 45, part 6 from the October / November 2006 Estimates hearings.

Has the Canberra-based component of taskforce staff moved into the new accommodation at One National Circuit to date? If so, please indicate the date on which the move was completed.

Please provide details of current taskforce staffing levels, broken down by public service grade. For each category, please indicate the number of ongoing and non-ongoing staff.

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### **PM 70 (EVANS)**

#### *Prime Minister's Overseas Travel*

Please refer to the response to question PM 46 from the October / November 2006 estimates hearings. Please provide additional information by indicating, for each of the five journeys described in that response, the name of accommodation (hotel etc) where the Prime Minister stayed and the cost of the Prime Minister's personal accommodation.

Please refer to question PM46 from the October / November 2006 estimates hearings. Please provide an updated response to that question, in relation to journeys subsequent to those listed in response to PM 46. In addition to the figure for total accommodation costs for each trip, please indicate the total cost of the Prime Minister's accommodation (distinct from that of the party), as well as the name of the accommodation.

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### **PM 71 (EVANS)**

#### *Expenses of Current and Former Governors-General*

Please indicate the total costs of support incurred by Dr Peter Hollingworth since May 2006, broken down by:

- a) property operating expenses,
- b) staff,
- c) support, and
- d) travel.

Please refer to question PM 48 part 2 from the previous estimates round and provide an updated response to the part of that question which refers to expenses of former Governors-General.

Please provide a breakdown of the costs of any and all overseas visits by the Governor-General subsequent to those journeys described in response to PM 50 of the 2006-07 Supplementary Budget Hearings. For each journey please indicate, the dates, destinations, number in party,

cost of air transport, cost of other transport, description (including name) of accommodation, total cost of accommodation for the party (excluding Their Excellencies), total cost of accommodation for Their Excellencies, meals/drinks and incidentals.

Please refer to question PM 49 from the 2006-07 Supplementary Budget hearings and provide an updated answer to that question for the period since 1 January 2007.

(Points 1 and 2 to be answered by PM&C and points 3 and 4 by GGs)

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### **PM 72 (EVANS)**

#### *Official and State Visits*

Please refer to question PM 47 from the Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings 2006-07 and provide updated response to that question, detailing visits subsequent to those described in that previous answer.

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### **PM 73 (EVANS)**

#### *Prime Minister's Official Residences and Entertainment*

Please refer to question PM 48 from the Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings 2006-07 and provide an updated response to that question, with an itemised breakdown of all capital works, maintenance, acquisitions and contracted services at The Lodge and Kirribilli House since 1 November 2006.

Please provide a breakdown of all entertainment costs paid for with public funds (including date, nature and purpose of event, and an itemised breakdown of goods and services purchased for the event, as well as total costs to the taxpayer) for all events of an official nature at The Lodge and Kirribilli House since 1 November 2006.

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### **PM 74 (EVANS)**

#### *In relation to Kirribilli*

What was the total amount of water used at this residence in 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07(to date)? If possible can a separate figure be provided for household and grounds/garden water use.

What water saving measures were introduced in 2004-05? What estimated savings were generated by each of those measures?

What water saving measures were introduced in 2005-06? What estimated savings were generated by each of those measures?

What water saving measures have been introduced in 2006-07? What estimated savings have been generated by each of those measures?

Is bore water used at this residence? If so how much of the water used in 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07(to date) was sourced from a bore?

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#### **PM 75 (EVANS)**

*In relation to the Lodge*

What was the total amount of water used at this residence in 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07(to date)? If possible can a separate figure be provided for household and grounds/garden water use.

What water saving measures were introduced in 2004-05? What estimated savings were generated by each of those measures?

What water saving measures were introduced in 2005-06? What estimated savings were generated by each of those measures?

What water saving measures have been introduced in 2006-07? What estimated savings have been generated by each of those measures?

Is bore water used at this residence? If so how much of the water used in 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07(to date) was sourced from a bore?

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#### **PM 76 (EVANS)**

*Response to question PM53 from February 2006*

In relation to the response to PM53 from the February 2006 hearing, related to the Cabinet Implementation Unit:

- a) Was legal advice sought in preparing this response? If so, how much was spent on this advice?
  - b) Was other external advice sought in preparing this response? If so, how much was spent on this advice?
- 

#### **PM 77 (EVANS)**

*Prime Minister's meetings*

In a previous hearing the Department has confirmed that the Prime Minister met with members of the Exclusive Brethren.

Can the Department provide a complete list of all the organisations the Prime Minister has met with since 1 July 2006?

Provide the organisations met with, the date of each meeting and the location.

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**PM 78 (EVANS)**

*Carbon emissions trading Task Group*

When was the Department first made aware of the proposal to establish an Emissions Trading Task Group?

Who selected the members of the Task Group? The Prime Minister? His Office? Did the Department provide a list of names?

When were the members of the Task Group first approached to join the Group?

How many times has the Task Group met? When?

In terms of the Secretariat to the Task Group, representatives from which business organisations are on the Secretariat? What is the role of these business representatives?

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**PM 79 (EVANS)**

*Briefings on carbon emissions trading and climate change*

Can the Department provide a list of dates on which the Prime Minister was briefed on global carbon emissions trading since January 2006?

Can the Department provide a list of dates on which the Prime Minister was briefed on domestic carbon emissions trading since January 2006?

Can the Department provide a list of dates on which the Prime Minister was briefed on the link between carbon emissions and climate change since January 2006?

Did the Department brief the Prime Minister on the recently released IPCC Report which noted that it was almost certain that there is a link between human activity and climate change?

What other climate change related reports has the Department briefed the Prime Minister on since January 2006?

Can the Department provide a list of dates on which the Prime Minister was briefed on solar thermal technology since January 2006?

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**PM 80 (EVANS)**

*Humanitarian Resettlement IDC*

Which agencies are represented on this IDC?

On the list provided by PM&C why isn't DIMA listed as a member?

In relation to this IDC what is meant by the term 'humanitarian entrant'?

How many times has it met?

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**PM 81 (EVANS)**

*Consultancy of Geoffrey Cousins*

Can the Department confirm that it rec'd a letter of resignation from Mr Cousins, in relation to his consultancy with the Prime Minister, on 18 September 2006?

Under the terms of the contract did it end on that day?

If not what date, under the terms of the contract did it end?

On what date did Mr Cousins receive his last payment under this contract?

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**PM 82 (EVANS)**

*National Water Plan*

In relation to consultation on the National Water Plan, when was the Department of the Environment and Heritage first approached with a copy of the Plan and formally consulted on the details of the package?

To date has the Department of Finance and Treasury approved the costings for the \$10 billion Plan?

What is the first funded year in the Plan and what is the total spend estimated in that year?

Did the Department approach the head of the Murray Darling Basin Commission on 8 February, following reports of a leaked assessment of the Commission on the Water Plan?

Was the Department involved in discussions with the Commission to issue a retraction of comments in that assessment?

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### **PM 83 (EVANS)**

#### *Uranium Mining, Processing and Nuclear Energy Review*

Can the Department confirm that the total cost of this Review was \$3.9 million? If not, what is the estimated total cost of the Review?

Can the Department provide a detailed final breakdown of the \$3.9 million in terms of fees to panel members, domestic travel costs, international travel costs, staff costs, consultancies and other costs incurred by the taskforce?

Can the Department confirm how many days each of the Taskforce members were employed and paid for?

Has the Department briefed the Prime Minister on options for the establishment of a nuclear energy sector in Australia? If so, when?

Has the Prime Minister been briefed on the issues that would need to be considered in determining where to site nuclear reactors in Australia?

Has the Prime Minister been briefed on likely sites for nuclear reactors in Australia?

Is the Department aware of any work by other agencies to determine suitable sites for nuclear reactors in Australia?

Has the Prime Minister been briefed on the likely timetable for establishing a nuclear industry in Australia?

Can the Department confirm whether the Prime Minister has ever visited a nuclear reactor overseas? If so, when and what reactor was visited?

Has the Prime met with any organisations involved in the development or construction of nuclear reactors in the last two years? If so, list the organisations and the date and location of the meetings?

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### **PM 84 (EVANS)**

#### *Department's contract listing*

In relation to the two contracts listed on the Department's website, can the Department provide an explanation as to what goods or services were provided (beyond the one line explanation in the table):

- a) Principals Pty Ltd (\$159,675) 15/02/2006 - 31/082006
- b) Adagold Aviation Pty Ltd (\$276,900) 1/06/2004 - 31/05/2007

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### **PM 85 (EVANS)**

*Department's file title listings*

In relation to the three files listed below, can the Department provide an explanation of these files, e.g. reason for the file, issues covered, content.

2006/0853	GOVERNMENT COORDINATION - Meetings - 4526 - JOINT PARTY MEETINGS - MEETING PAPERS - 2006 - (GOV)
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2006/2690	GOVERNMENT COORDINATION - Advice - 4485 - PRIME MINISTERS XV RUGBY MATCHES - INDUSTRY POLICY BRANCH ASPECTS - BRIEFS, WORKING PAPERS AND CORRESPONDENCE - 2005 TO 2006 - (IIE)
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2006/3251	GOVERNMENT COORDINATION - Advice - 4485 - CRICKET BRIEFINGS - ADVICE TO THE PRIME MINISTER - BRIEFS, CORRESPONDENCE AND WORKING PAPERS - 2006 TO 2009 - (IIE)
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**PM 86 (MILNE)**

*Uranium Mining, Processing and Nuclear Energy Review Taskforce*

1. Why has the Taskforce not published feedback on the draft edition of *Uranium Mining, Processing and Nuclear Energy – Opportunities for Australia*?
2. How many submissions to the Taskforce were rec'd during the initial consultation process (officially 13 June 2006 until 18 August 2006)?
3. How many submissions were not published on the Taskforce's website?
4. Who were these unpublished submissions from?
5. Why were these submissions not published?

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**PM 87 - 93 (LUDWIG)**

**ALL DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES**

With regard to all grants allocated by the department/agency from 1 January 2002, could a table detailing the following information be provided:



- a. The name of the grant program
- b. The name of the grant recipient
- c. The ABN of the grant recipient (where available)
- d. The value of the grant awarded
- e. The date the grant was awarded
- f. The state of the grant recipient
- g. The postcode of the grant recipient

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**PM 94 (EVANS)**

*Carbon Emissions Trading Task Group*

Did anyone decline to be a member of the Task Group?

Will the business representatives on the Group be paid? Will they have their travel/accommodation costs met?

Is there any international travel planned for the Task Group or the Secretariat? If so indicate the countries that will be visited.

Has the secretariat prepared background or briefing papers for the Task Group? If so, how many such papers have been prepared and what topics were covered?

In terms of the discussion paper released on 7 February 2007, who in Government approved it prior to its release?

Was the Prime Minister or his Office shown a draft of this paper? If so, when? Were changes made to the paper after it was shown to the PM or PMO?

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