

Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department of Finance and Deregulation [or specify Agency]

Additional Estimates Hearing – February 2008



Question: F96

Outcome 3, Output 3.1

Topic: Members of Parliament Staff - Security Clearances

Written Question on Notice

Senator Ronaldson asked:

How many Government Personal Staff have security clearances?

Answer:

Obtaining a TOP SECRET security clearance is a time consuming process; it takes the staff member time to complete all the forms and locate the required documentation to forward to the security vetting agency. Once the completed pack is returned to the security vetting agency, it typically takes over three months to process the clearance. As at 19 March 2008, 27 Government staff had had their security clearance granted or recognised.