

Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Additional Estimates Hearings 18 February 2008**



Question: PM11

Outcome 1, Output 4

Topic: Responsibilities of Senator Faulkner

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Senator Fifield asked: Senator FIFIELD - It may assist the committee, and it probably falls under general questions, if Senator Evans was able to outline what the formal responsibilities of Senator Faulkner are in his capacity as a portfolio minister in the Prime Minister and Cabinet portfolio.

Senator Chris Evans - Do we have a copy of that we can table?

Dr Morauta - I am not sure what we have on that.

Senator FIFIELD - Given that Senator Evans is representing the Prime Minister and the portfolio as a whole here, I think it would assist us if we at least knew what the specific formal portfolio responsibilities of Senator Faulkner were.

Senator Chris Evans - I am happy to get that for you in detail.

Answer: In his capacity as Cabinet Secretary, Senator Faulkner has responsibility for matters relating to: Cabinet business and processes; the Cabinet Implementation Unit; Community Cabinet; matters relating to integrity in government, including freedom of information and privacy policy and Ministerial responsibility for the Commonwealth Ombudsman, the Privacy Commissioner, the Freedom of Information Commissioner once appointed and the Information Office; a range of matters related to the governance of the Australian Public Service and public sector more broadly, including appointment processes, government advertising and matters falling within the functions of the Public Service Commissioner; honours and awards; the National Australia Day Council; and the Lobbying Code of Conduct.