#### **Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration**

#### ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Additional Budget Estimates Hearing – February 2009
Department of Finance and Deregulation
Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Outcome 3, Output 3.1

Topic: Staffing in Senator the Hon Penny Wong's office

**Question reference number: F79 Type of Question: Written** 

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 9 April 2009

Number of Pages: 3 Senator Johnston asked:

- 1. Please provide the names, salaries, titles and responsibilities of all staff in Minister Wong's office.
- 2. Please indicate what their salaries were in October 2007 (or when they started).
- 3. Please indicate what their salaries are now.
- 4. Please identify which staff have government cars as part of their package.
- 5. What model vehicles do they drive?
- 6. What is the cost of the vehicle packages?
- 7. Which staff are entitled to fly business class?
- 8. What is the home base for each of the staff?
- 9. If they are not located in Sydney or Canberra, what is the reason?

#### **Answer:**

1. Classifications and salary ranges are provided so as not to identify personal information of individual employees. As at 25 February 2009:

Number of Employees per Classification	Salary Range
1 x Senior Adviser (Chief of Staff – Cabinet)	\$100,900 to \$136,100
1 x Senior Media Adviser	\$85,500 to \$116,400
4 x Adviser	\$77,869 to \$114,916
1 x Assistant Adviser	\$64,920 to \$77,869
1 x Executive Assistant / Officer Manager	\$52,580 to \$64,920
1 x Secretary / Administrative Assistant	\$41,419 to \$54,253

Note: Excludes Electorate Employees

The Department of Finance and Deregulation is not aware of the designated titles that may be used in individual offices or the responsibilities of individual employees.

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2.	Classification February 2009	As at October 2007 or Commencement with Minister	Classification: As at October 2007 or Commencement with Minister	Salary Range: As at October 2007 or Commencement with Minister
	Senior Adviser (Chief of Staff – Cabinet)	November 2008	Senior Adviser (Chief of Staff – Cabinet)	\$100,900 to \$136,100
	Senior Media Adviser	October 2007	Assistant Adviser	\$58,005 to \$71,307
	Adviser	March 2008	Adviser	\$74,516 to \$109,967
	Adviser	January 2008	Adviser	\$74,516 to \$109,967
	Adviser	February 2008	Adviser	\$74,516 to \$109,967
	Adviser	January 2008	Adviser	\$74,516 to \$109,967
	Assistant Adviser	March 2008	Assistant Adviser	\$62,124 to \$74,516
	Executive Assistant / Officer Manager	February 2008	Executive Assistant / Officer Manager	\$50,316 to \$62,124
	Secretary / Administrative Assistant	December 2008	Secretary / Administrative Assistant	\$41,419 to \$54,253

Note: Excludes Electorate Employees

- 3. As per question 1.
- 4. Nil.
- 5. N/A.
- 6. Chiefs of Staff are entitled to cash in lieu of a private-plated vehicle of \$18,540.
- 7. Employees above the classification of Adviser are entitled to travel at business class.

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8.	Classification	Home Base
	Senior Adviser (Chief of Staff – Cabinet)	1 x Adelaide
	Senior Media Adviser	1 x Adelaide
	Adviser	4 x Canberra
	Assistant Adviser	1 x Canberra
	Executive Assistant / Officer Manager	1 x Canberra
	Secretary / Administrative Assistant	1 x Canberra

Note: Excludes Electorate Employees

9. Senator Wong's ministerial office is located in Adelaide.