

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 23-27 February 2009

Question: PM18

Outcome 1, Output 5

Topic: DLO travel

Hansard Page: F&PA 68

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

Senator Ronaldson asked: That is my expectation as well, but I need to ask the question. Do any of the DLOs travel with their ministers back to their electorate offices or non-Canberra ministerial offices in non-sitting weeks, do you know?

Answer: Departmental Liaison Officers (DLOs) do not routinely travel with their Minister or Parliamentary Secretary to electorate or non-Canberra ministerial offices in non-sitting weeks. However, some DLOs occasionally travel either with their Minister or Parliamentary Secretary, or independently, for portfolio-related business or to facilitate the consideration of portfolio-related documents. Such travel is in accordance with the role of DLOs to facilitate liaison on administrative and policy matters between a Minister and the department and its agencies.