

Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Additional Estimates Hearing – February 2010

Department of Finance and Deregulation

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Outcome General, Program General

Topic: Pressure on APS staff

Question reference number: F60

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 26 March 2010

Number of Pages: 1

Senator Ryan asked:

The Canberra Times reported on 4/12/09 that "ministers or their advisers pressured one in four executive-level bureaucrats to breach their duty to be apolitical, impartial or accountable in 2008-09."

a) Did any Department of Finance and Deregulation staff report that they felt that ministers or their advisers pressured them to breach their duty to be apolitical, impartial or accountable in 2008-09?

b) Did any staff report that they felt that the Minister for Finance and Deregulation or her advisers pressured them to breach their duty to be apolitical, impartial or accountable in 2008-09?

Answer:

a) No.

b) No.