

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Additional Estimates 13-16 Feb 2012

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1.1 Domestic Policy

Topic: Minister for Social Inclusion - New DLO

Senator: Senator Fifield

Question reference number: 24

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Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator FIFIELD: Correct. So we cannot blame it on the nature of the briefing from the PM&C if he had not had the benefit of that. But you can take that on notice. Is there a DLO or an adviser in the minister's office specifically responsible for social inclusion? There are often DLOs for specific portfolio responsibilities in a minister's office. Is there one for social inclusion?

Mr Ronalds: I think the arrangements in the minister's office are still being worked out.

Senator FIFIELD: Thank you. You can take that on notice as well.

Answer:

Mr Butler has been allocated two departmental liaison officers (DLOs) to support his roles as Minister for Mental Health and Ageing, Minister for Social Inclusion and Minister Assisting the Prime Minister on Mental Health Reform. The DLOs provide support to Mr Butler across the entire range of his ministerial responsibilities.

One or more of Mr Butler's personal staff have a role in social inclusion matters, along with other matters for which Mr Butler has responsibility.