

**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:** Poker machine reform - Labor club conflict of interest

**Senator:** Senator Ryan

**Question reference number:** 32

**Type of Question:** FPA, P82-83, 13 February

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 30 March 2012

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

Senator Chris Evans: So your interest is in the issue of whether there is any conflict of interest?

Senator RYAN: My issue at the moment is whether the department flagged this as an issue in the advice you provided to the Prime Minister. I am going to go to the other issue soon.

Senator Chris Evans: We will take that on notice.

Senator RYAN: Has the department provided any advice to the Prime Minister on means to prevent public money effectively being cycled through clubs that receive it, that are beneficiaries of public funds for the purposes of the pokies trial, then effectively coming back to the Labor Party because money by its very nature is fungible? Have you provided any advice around governance protocols and integrity protocols in order to ensure that no public funds find their way back to the party in government?

Mr Ronalds: I think that is essentially a similar question. It covers the same ground as the previous one. So we will take that on notice.

**Answer:**

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet did not provide advice on this matter.