

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Additional Estimates 11-14 February 2013

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1.3 Support Services for Government Operations

Topic: YouTube Video - AFP Inquiry

Senator: Senator Ryan

Question reference number: 23

Type of Question: FPA, P110-111

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 2 April 2013

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator RYAN: One document and one of the public reports also says that the former Prime Minister has previously taken his concerns about the investigation to the Secretary of PM&C. Had Dr Watt met with the former Prime Minister about this?

Ms Leon: Dr Watt spoke with the former Prime Minister while we were conducting our own internal investigation and kept him informed about the progress of that investigation. Some of that contact was not directly with Mr Rudd but with his then chief of staff. I am not aware of any more recent contact between the secretary and Mr Rudd, but I am happy to take on notice whether there has been any.

Senator RYAN: I would appreciate that. That is all that we have for PM&C.

Answer:

Dr Watt spoke with the former Prime Minister's Chief of Staff while the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet was conducting its own internal investigation. There has been no recent contact on this matter.