

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet**

**Budget Estimates Hearings 2005-2006, 23 and 24 May 2005**

**Question: PM 43**

**Outcome 1, Output 1**

**Topic: Beaudesert Rail**

**Hansard Page: F&PA 32-33:**

**Senator Evans asked: Can you also check whether or not the Prime Minister's Office or the Prime Minister received any correspondence from Beaudesert Shire Railway Support Group Inc?**

**Senator Hill: I do not know that you can check correspondence with the Prime Minister through a third party...**

**Senator Evans: The department has given evidence about its other correspondence on this matter. For completion of the correspondence flow, I was just trying to complete the loop by finding out whether there was correspondence between the Prime Minister's Office, PM&C or the parliamentary secretary and the Beaudesert Shire Railway Support Groups Inc.**

**Senator Hill: You can ask the Prime Minister if he received correspondence from a third party. You can ask the department whether it gave advice to the Prime Minister in relation to any correspondence from a third party.**

**Senator Evans: I will ask both, if it makes you happy. I presume both will be taken on notice.**

**Senator Hill: OK.**

**Answer: The Prime Minister received correspondence from members of the Beaudesert Shire Railway Support Group. The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet provided advice in relation to correspondence that was referred to the Prime Minister by the Member for Forde, Mrs Kay Elson MP.**