

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 Hearing 24 May-3rd June 2010

Question: PM34b

Topic: Outstanding catering bill - Communication

Type of Question: Hansard, F&PA 76, 25 May

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 9 July 2010

Number of pages: 1

Senator ABETZ-All right, take it on notice. You are entitled to do so, but with great respect I find it hard to believe that the department is not aware of this. Can the department also advise whether the Prime Minister's office, on 9 September 2009, received communication from the Deputy Prime Minister's office expressing concern about the non-payment of the account? Do you need to take that on notice?

Ms Beauchamp-Yes, I would like to satisfy myself of all the details.

Answer: The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet has no specific knowledge of the matter however it is noted that the provision of service was instigated by the then Deputy Prime Minister's Office and was paid for personally by the then Deputy Prime Minister.