

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: PM42b

Topic: Speechwriters - Coalition staff allocation

Type of Question: Hansard, F&PA 88, 25 May

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

Number of pages: 1

Senator ABETZ-Minister, are these speechwriters taken into account when determining the coalition's 21.7 per cent staff allocation?

Senator Ludwig-I don't recall how that calculation is, but I will certainly take it on notice and get back to you.

Answer: The Opposition allocation of personal staff engaged under the MOP(S) Act is determined by reference to a fixed ratio of the number of Government personal staff engaged under the MOP(S) Act. All advisers, including those involved in speech writing, are included in this calculation.