

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2010–11 (May 2010)**Questions on Notice index—Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

Answers to QON taken during the Budget Estimates hearing, or written QON submitted thereafter, are due on **9 July 2010**.

QON No.	Department/ Agency	Senator	Hansard Reference	Question
PM 1	OOSGG	Ronaldson	24/5/10 57	Senator RONALDSON —In relation to the speechwriter and the EA to the official secretary, can you provide me with details of what the advertising process was there—either now or on notice? Mr Fraser —Certainly, I will take that on notice.
PM 2	OOSGG	Ronaldson	24/5/10 58	Senator RONALDSON — How long has Ms Chapple been there for? Mr Brady —I am not sure how long she was with the— Senator RONALDSON —But how long was she employed on a casual basis? Mr Fraser —I do not think I have here with me the details of that, but I can certainly take that on notice for you.
PM 3a	OOSGG	Ryan	24/5/10 70	Senator RYAN —I would like to go back to the issue of the wine cellar. When did you file with the committee the answer to that question on notice? Mr Fraser —That was filed, according to my recollection, at COB on the date that the material was due. Senator RYAN —I am just checking because I, being the person who asked that question, woke up to read it in the <i>Sunday Age</i> before I had received a copy of it myself. I cannot recall off the top of my head, but would that have been the day before it appeared in the newspaper? Mr Fraser —I do not believe so. The Friday was the deadline, and it was submitted by the deadline. Senator RYAN —It appeared in the <i>Age</i> on 27 March. Could you check what date it was filed and let us know?
PM 3b	OOSGG	Ryan	24/5/10 70	Senator RYAN ...Did you speak to the journalist involved about this article? Mr Brady —No, I did not. Senator RYAN —Did anyone in your office do so? Mr Brady —I am not aware, but I did not. Senator RYAN —If you could check with your media unit whether anyone in your office did so, that would be much appreciated.
PM 4a	OOSGG	Ryan	24/5/10 70	Senator RYAN ... You also mentioned that the speechwriter who is now being employed in a full-time capacity...

				<p>Senator RYAN—How many of the 251 speeches would this person have prepared? Mr Brady—I think we will have to take that on notice.</p>
PM 4b	OOSGG	Ronaldson	24/5/10 70	<p>Senator RONALDSON—Can you take on notice how much Ms Chapple was paid for those services? Mr Brady—Yes, we will.</p>
PM 5	OPC	Ronaldson	24/5/10 82	<p>Senator RONALDSON... Has the Office of the Privacy Commissioner been asked or instructed to provide the current government with any type of brief or report on issues of media or political interest at any time since the 2007 election?... Ms Curtis—No, not under the requirement to give a listing of events or things of interest in the privacy field that are coming up. I do not provide a brief or commentary on them. Senator RONALDSON—On that request of 18 months ago, in what form were you given that? Ms Curtis—I probably would need to take that on notice because I cannot remember the exact format it came in. My recollection is of an email.</p>
PM 6	OPC	Ronaldson	24/5/10 83	<p>Mr Pilgrim—We were required under the previous government, when we were part of the Attorney-General’s Department, to identify a small number of key areas prior to estimates hearings and, if we thought they were of a significant nature, to provide a briefing. It was usually two or three issues. ... Ms Curtis—We provide a more extensive briefing. Senator RONALDSON—Indeed. Can you provide me, please, with the form of request that that came in, or was it part of the same email that you were referring to earlier on? Ms Curtis—It was a different email. Senator RONALDSON—Will you provide the committee with a copy of that as well? Ms Curtis—I will endeavour to do so.</p>
PM 7a	OPH	Ronaldson	24/5/10 86	<p>Senator RONALDSON—I read about this and I asked my secretary to ascertain whether I had been invited to this exhibition. She could find no evidence of that. If indeed I had been and it has gone through elsewhere, then I apologise, but are you able to indicate whether as the shadow minister responsible for the museum I was or was not invited to the exhibition? Ms Cowie—My recollection is that it was a small event. It was intended to be a very modest event. Partly the reason for that was that it was to take place in the Opposition Party Room and therefore the list of invitees was limited. Senator RONALDSON—So I take it that is a no. Ms Cowie—I would have to check that.</p>
PM 7b	OPC	Ronaldson	24/5/10 87	<p>Senator RONALDSON—Sorry, Ms Cowie, I am reluctant to interrupt: were any other shadow ministers invited to this exhibition opening? Ms Cowie—I would have to check that.</p>
PM 8	APSC	Ryan	24/5/10 89-90	<p>Senator RYAN ...However, the most recent budget indicated an increase of 5,003, an 81 per cent increase over the increase estimated in last year’s budget. Could you enlighten us as to</p>

				<p>why there had been an increase on the proposed increase in APS staffing levels?</p> <p>...</p> <p>Mr Sedgwick—Sure. But, as I say, these are big numbers and if you have workload formulas that drive funding of Centrelink and various other agencies, for example, those numbers go up and down through the course of the year. If you like, we will take the question on notice and try and get you some data. But, based on past recollections, it may not be easy to get you your answer.</p> <p>Senator RYAN—Thank you.</p>
PM 9	APSC	Ryan	24/5/10 91	<p>Senator RYAN— I have got some questions about <i>Ahead of the game</i>—commonly known as the Moran review...</p> <p>There is a broad discussion, I appreciate, throughout the report about efficiency and on page 30 it mentions that there was one small agency that revealed that corporate costs represented: ... approximately \$5 million out of an annual appropriation of \$15 million ...</p> <p>This was part of the suggestion that there was the opportunity to ‘improve efficiency in small agencies’. I was wondering what agency that was?</p> <p>Mr Sedgwick—I honestly cannot remember, if indeed I ever knew what that agency was. It should not be too hard to find it, though.</p>
PM 10	APSC	Xenophon	24/5/10 97	<p>Senator XENOPHON—Can I just ask the APSC, finally, in terms of other jurisdictions with respect to the protection of whistleblowers. You may wish to take this on notice. Has an analysis been done of what other countries do, what other whistleblower protection legislation does, whether it is at the state or federal level overseas, in the context of giving protection to whistleblowers who have been victimised? In other words, are there stronger sanctions or penalties or other mechanisms that would discourage prejudicial behaviour against those who have spoken out?</p> <p>Mr Sedgwick—I do not know the answer to that question.</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON—I am happy for you to take on notice whether you have looked at that.</p>
PM11	APSC	Ryan	24/5/10 102	<p>Senator RYAN—I appreciate that. Given some of the previous questions that were talking about how graduates needed to come in, I just wanted to put those figures on the record and have them confirmed—that that there has already been a 12 per cent decline in the number of graduates since the government came to office. Senator Ludwig and I discussed this last time at some length.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig—I do recall that discussion.</p> <p>Mr Sedgwick—But I do not have the numbers in front of me, so I cannot—</p> <p>Senator RYAN—Feel free to correct them on notice if you wish.</p>
PM 12	OCO	Ronaldson	24/5/10 103	<p>Senator RONALDSON—Did you hear my questions of the Privacy Commissioner in relation to the article by Cameron Stewart in the <i>Weekend Australian</i>?</p> <p>Mr Brent—I heard some of those questions, yes...</p> <p>Mr Brent—You are asking me to delve quite deeply into my memory banks but I seem to</p>

				<p>recall it was both by a phone call and follow-up email.</p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—Will you provide the committee with a copy of that email, please, in relation to this matter?</p> <p>Mr Brent—As I said before I answered that, I am relying on my memory so I cannot guarantee there is an email, but we will have a look and see if we can find one.</p>
PM 13	OIGIS	Trood	24/5/10 108	<p>Senator TROOD—Do you keep any statistics about the country of origin of the people who are complaining about ASIO?</p> <p>Dr Thom—I do not have the statistics with me.</p> <p>Senator TROOD—But you do keep the statistics?</p> <p>Dr Thom—I think we do have some breakdown but I am not sure of the exact breakdown.</p> <p>Senator TROOD—Could you take that on notice for me?</p> <p>Dr Thom—I can. Could you clarify the question?</p> <p>Senator TROOD—What I am interested in is the country of origin of the complaints about the speed with which ASIO is undertaking its assessments.</p>
PM 14a	OIGIS	Trood	24/5/10 108	<p>Dr Thom—I do not have a complete breakdown—205 were made from individuals located in Christmas Island immigration detention centre.</p> <p>Senator TROOD—Do you mean that you do not have the breakdown with you or you do not keep the statistics?</p> <p>Dr Thom—I am not sure exactly how we breakdown those numbers. I do not have them with me.</p> <p>Senator TROOD—You are not sure whether you do that kind of thing or you are not sure whether or not you actually compile those numbers? Perhaps you could explore that with your office.</p> <p>Dr Thom—I can do.</p>
PM 14b	OIGIS	Trood	24/5/10 108	<p>Senator TROOD—Perhaps you can provide that information on notice as well, that is to say the categories in relation to these complaints by asylum seekers. Would it include people who come by other means? The phrase that ASIO uses is, I think, ‘irregular maritime rivals’.</p> <p>Dr Thom—I think it does, but I would need to clarify that and get back to you.</p>
PM 15	OIGIS	Trood	24/5/10 109	<p>Senator TROOD—I see. Apart from ASIO, have there been any significant increases in the demands on the Inspector-General with regard to other agencies?</p> <p>Dr Thom—I have been in the position for six weeks and I am not aware of any. None have been brought to my attention and I do not have any statistics indicate that.</p> <p>Senator TROOD—Maybe you can take that on notice as well just to see whether or not there hasn't been.</p> <p>Dr Thom—Yes.</p> <p>Senator TROOD—I think the Director-General of ASIO just used the word ‘surge’ in relation to some of the evidence he has given. Has there been a surge in demand for your services in relation to any other agency or any other area of work besides ASIO? I would be interested to know.</p>

				<p>Dr Thom—Not that I am aware of.</p> <p>Senator TROOD—Can you take that on notice.</p>
PM 16 ¹	ONA	Trood	24/5/10 110	<p>Senator TROOD— There was a question on notice in October 2009 which said that there were 10 positions currently vacant at ONA...</p> <p>I have a list here, a table that was provided in answer to that question. It has two opensource collection positions, an economic analyst, a transnational issues analyst, two Middle East and African analysts, a terrorism analyst, a China analyst, a South Asia analyst and an information services officer. Have those positions been filled?</p> <p>Mr Gyngell—From the look of this list, there are probably two open-source analysts and one Middle East analyst position which have not yet been filled, but I can get you the details of the comparison between those two lists.</p> <p>Senator TROOD—I would be grateful if you would do that.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator TROOD—I am happy for you to take on notice to update that list and provide me with the most recent information you have in relation to those positions which were unfilled in October 2009 and any positions you may now have that are unfilled. If you could provide the time that they have been vacant, I would be grateful.</p> <p>Mr Gyngell—Yes.</p>
PM 17	PM&C	Trood	24/5/10 111-112	<p>Senator TROOD—In other words, you are not getting any contributions at all, pretty well! Is this question an item on the agenda for the intelligence review?</p> <p>Mr Gyngell—So far as I know, that has not been established by the government.</p> <p>Senator TROOD—You have not seen the terms of reference yet?</p> <p>Mr Gyngell—No.</p> <p>Senator TROOD—Minister, can you tell me: is that a matter that is—</p> <p>Senator Ludwig—I think we are caught by the same issue. When the government goes forward, I think this is a question for—would it be the Attorney-General's?</p> <p>Mr Gyngell—No, it would be the Prime Minister.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig—The Prime Minister. When that announcement is made, you will obviously be apprised of the terms of reference at that point.</p> <p>Senator TROOD—I see. But I can perhaps ask tomorrow whether or not any—</p> <p>Senator Ludwig—I do not think I am going to advance.</p> <p>Senator TROOD—No, I do not expect that, but I could at least determine whether or not there is any progress being made.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig—We can take that on notice and see what we can say about that.</p>
PM 18	ANAO	Cameron	25/5/10 24	<p>Mr P White—There was an audit—Audit report No. 24 2008-09—which I think was tabled early in 2009. From memory, I think Work Choices may have been in it.</p>

¹ Answer received 28/5/2010

				<p>Senator CAMERON—Did that report find that contracts had been let without any contract documentation being signed for Work Choices advertising?</p> <p>Mr P White—I would have to check and get back, but I think from memory that is the case. I would have to check that, though.</p>
PM 19	PM&C	Ryan	25/5/10 26	<p>Senator RYAN—You may need to take this on notice, Senator Ludwig, but you referred to the contractual appointments—I believe you used the term ‘contract’—of the independent panel.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig—Yes, you needed then to check with Finance about what the arrangements are. I do not have Finance officials with me today.</p> <p>Senator RYAN—As well as Senator Kroger’s question about the criteria for their appointment, could I also ask you to consider the criteria for their re-appointment? They only have two-year terms, so I would be interested in material that related to any criteria that relates to re-appointment because, obviously, one’s independence can relate to one’s certainty of tenure.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig—I will take that on notice.</p>
PM 20	ANAO	Mason	25/5/10 43	<p>Senator MASON—That is fine; that is your view. Can we move on to the school survey, which I mentioned very briefly in the references committee hearing...</p> <p>Can the raw data that relates to the 3,159 principals be made available to the committee?</p> <p>Dr Clarke—I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Mr McPhee—The only thing I would want to be careful of is that, as Dr Clarke said earlier, some of the comments are actually narrative comments and we would want to retain the confidences of those. We can try and give you as much data as possible, as long as it protects the individual respondents.</p> <p>Senator MASON—I want the privacy of the individuals to be maintained.</p> <p>Mr McPhee—Within those parameters, I am happy to have a look at that.</p>
PM 21	PM&C	Ronaldson	25/5/10 53	<p>Senator RONALDSON—I think Minister Macklin is the Commonwealth representative on this ministerial group, isn’t she?</p> <p>Ms Cross—I believe she is one of the Commonwealth representatives—</p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—Who else is there?</p> <p>Ms Cross—I would need to get some further information to answer your questions in detail.</p>
PM 22	PM&C	Ronaldson	25/5/10 54	<p>Senator RONALDSON—How many times has the Prime Minister been down to Victoria to have a look at the reconstruction or the bushfire areas?</p> <p>Dr Grimes—We would have to take a question of detail like that on notice.</p>
PM 23	PM&C	Ronaldson	25/5/10 54, 64	<p>Senator RONALDSON—When these discussions were taking place between the PMO and the Victorian government in relation to the chair, I assume that when Ms Nixon was put up as a candidate to head this commission that matter was discussed with the Commonwealth.</p> <p>Dr Grimes—I do not think any of us here have personal knowledge of the discussions that occurred at that time. We would have to take that question on notice. We do not have officers</p>

				<p>here who were involved in decision making at that time. None of us at the table here was in PM&C at the time in question.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—Do you have any answers for me—I presume someone has been beavering around for the last 20 minutes—in relation to the involvement of the PMO in the appointment of Ms Nixon?</p> <p>Dr Grimes—No, I do not have any further information for you on that.</p>
PM 24	PM&C	Payne	25/5/10 56	<p>Dr Grimes—Indeed. As you could imagine, all of our branches, certainly in my group and many of the branches in the other groups of the department, do have involvement in COAG-related policy matters and so embedded in their budgets is funding to support COAG processes. In fact, I do not even think it would be feasible for us to be able to extract financial information at that level of detail. However, we do provide a budget to our COAG unit, and we would certainly be able to provide you with information on the funding allocation for our COAG unit. That includes base funding. The amounts you are referring to here are additional funding that has been allocated in this budget. Of those amounts, those that are specifically earmarked against COAG-related matters would include the \$1.5 million in 2010-11, the funding for the CRC, which of course is allocated over three years, and then some portion of the \$12 million is supporting our work on health reform, which is being undertaken under the auspices of COAG.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE—And you will provide me with as much information as you can in terms of the totality of that?</p> <p>Dr Grimes—If you like, we could take on notice the funding allocation for the CRC, which is an identified unit, and also the COAG unit in our department.</p>
PM 25	PM&C	Payne	25/5/10 58	<p>Senator PAYNE—Specifically on that Darwin meeting, if that was genuinely the Closing the Gap COAG meeting—and it was by any standards, and certainly by the standards of previous meetings, an expensive meeting—your answer to my question notes that departmental advisers attended from PM&C, from Treasury, from Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government and the Productivity Commission. How can you have a meeting on Closing the Gap in Indigenous affairs without FaHCSIA?</p> <p>Dr Grimes—I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE—What do you think, Dr Grimes? Is it possible to legitimately hold the meeting on Closing the Gap without FaHCSIA in attendance?</p> <p>Dr Grimes—I think this probably reflects the areas where COAG was seeking specific briefing, but I would have to take that on notice.</p>
PM 26a	PM&C	Payne	25/5/10 59	<p>Senator PAYNE—Can I ask about the most recent COAG meeting, which was held over two days and you included the Sunday night in that. I assume you will have to take some of this on notice. Can you advise the committee in relation to that meeting what hours senior officials worked during the period of the COAG meeting?</p>

				<p>Dr Grimes—I would not have that information here with me but officials would have worked extended hours during that period. Mr Rimmer may be able to provide any further information on that.</p> <p>Mr Rimmer—I think we would want to take the exact hours on notice.</p>
PM 26b	PM&C	Payne	25/5/10 59	<p>Senator PAYNE—Can you tell us, then, how many Commonwealth staff, Commonwealth advisers, were involved in attending those meetings?</p> <p>Dr Grimes—I would not be able to tell you at the moment. I will have to take that on notice.</p>
PM 26c	PM&C	Payne	25/5/10 59	<p>Senator PAYNE—When you take that on notice, can you advise whether there were any complaints received relating to the work required of staff or officials regarding the length of the meeting, the hours they had to work, the duration, the staffing levels or any changed requirements in relation to service over that time?</p> <p>Dr Grimes—We are not aware of any complaints from staff over that period.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE—But you will take that on notice.</p> <p>Dr Grimes—We can take it on notice and provide any further information if there is any, but Mr Rimmer and myself are not aware of complaints by staff.</p>
PM 27	PM&C	Payne	25/5/10 59	<p>Senator PAYNE—Dr Grimes, when did you say you thought you would be able to confirm the cost of that meeting?</p> <p>Dr Grimes—I might just check for a moment with the relevant officer to give you an indication.</p> <p>Apparently we are waiting on some outstanding invoices. We are not in a position to give you a precise time but what I could indicate is that we will go back and attempt to finalise that as soon as possible. But it may be a matter of some days before we could do that.</p>
PM 28	PM&C	Payne	25/5/10 60	<p>Senator PAYNE—And you are indicating to the committee that there is not really a contingency plan for if plan A does not work?</p> <p>Mr Rimmer—The government has not made decisions about the matters that you are referring to.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator PAYNE—Other than finding my way into the chamber of the House of Representatives and asking the Prime Minister himself, I am rather restricted to asking through this process, unless the minister would like to assist me about whether there is another plan for a COAG meeting to continue the discussions which seem to not have a contingency plan.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig—I can take that on notice and see what response we can get for you.</p>
PM 29	PM&C	Payne	25/5/10 63	<p>Senator PAYNE—I understand that. I would like to ask one question about the COAG Reform Council report on the seamless national economy. That was one report that the CRC indicated was due by June 2010.</p> <p>What is the status of the other reports which the CRC is meant to produce by June 2010?</p> <p>Dr Grimes—I am not sure we will be able to answer those questions. Mr Perry may have some information on how the CRC is travelling. To the best of my knowledge, they are travelling on time with each of their reports.</p>

				<p>Senator PAYNE—On time, on schedule, on budget?</p> <p>Dr Grimes—They have some benchmarking reports to come out on national agreements. There is a series of reports to be published shortly, in June 2010. Mr Perry can correct me if I have any of these details incorrect. There is the <i>National Healthcare Agreement: baseline performance report</i>; the <i>National Disability Agreement: baseline performance report</i>; the <i>National affordable Housing agreement: baseline performance report</i>; and the <i>National Indigenous reform agreement: baseline performance report</i>. I understand each of those are on track at the moment. Mr Perry indicates that is the case. Later, in August 2010, the CRC is proposing to report on the aggregate pace of activity across the COAG reform agenda—the National Partnership Agreement on the Elective Surgery Waiting List Reduction and its annual progress report—and then other reports are later in 2010, running into 2011. We could always provide further information to you from the CRC. I do not think that would be a problem at all.</p>
PM 30a	PM&C	Ronaldson	25/5/10 67	<p>Senator RONALDSON—Yes, I do. Minister, do you recall that on 3 February this year the <i>Age</i> ran an article under the heading ‘Fitzgibbon’s \$150,000 from developer’</p> <p>...</p> <p>Minister, are you also aware that the Deputy Prime Minister in a personal explanation on 3 February at 12.20 pm... Minister, in relation to Ms Gillard’s claim in her personal statement that ‘the government made appropriate checks and determined no further action was required,’ could you please detail the nature, the focus and the scope of those checks?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig—I am happy to. I will take that on notice and I will get to back to that committee.</p>
PM30b	PM&C	Ronaldson	25/5/10 67	<p>Senator RONALDSON—Will the Prime Minister instruct Ms Gillard to provide the committee with a complete record of all communications, both formal and informal, via email, telephone or in person by anyone from her ministerial office or in DEEWR and Slater and Gordon relating to allegations involving the Liu-Fitzgibbon relationship, including times, dates, names of participants and minutes of those communications?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig—I am happy to take it on notice</p>
PM 30c	PM&C	Ronaldson	25/5/10 68	<p>Senator RONALDSON—Minister, is it true, as reported by both the <i>Age</i> and the <i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> that the Deputy Prime Minister has already rejected an FOI request regarding communications on this topic between her office and Slater and Gordon?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig—I would have to confirm that, but again I am happy to take it on notice to see. That would be a matter about which I will try to find further information and get back to you.</p>
PM 30d	PM&C	Ronaldson	25/5/10 68	<p>Senator RONALDSON—Are you personally aware of whether that has been refused? There have been two refusals for—</p>

				<p>Senator Ludwig—FOI requests do not come to me.</p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—I am asking you whether you have personal knowledge of it.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig—I will go back and check my record to see. There is a range of FOI requests that have come across my desk—in my previous role as human services minister and as cabinet secretary and Special Minister of State. I do not want to provide any inaccurate information to the committee. I am happy to go away and have a look at my records.</p>
PM 30e	PM&C	Ronaldson	25/5/10 68	<p>Senator RONALDSON—Is it also true, as reported by the <i>Age</i>, that the rationale for DEEWR’s rejection of this FOI request was that: ... records of correspondence between Ms Gillard’s office and the law firm did not constitute an “official document of a minister” and were consequently not covered by the FOI Act.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig—That may be a question that you might have to direct to either Slater and Gordon and/or the Deputy Prime Minister. If you are asking me, I will inquire in terms of PM&C and see if we have any information or, in my role, see if I can provide you with anything.</p>
PM 30f	PM&C	Abetz	25/5/10 71-72	<p>Senator ABETZ—No, re-reading statements in <i>Hansard</i> does not answer fresh questions. Are we agreed? Can anybody at the table advise us as to whether or not it can be agreed that Ms Gillard had written communication with Slater & Gordon on this matter? Can anybody assist us on this?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig—I have answered the question.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—It is unknown—is that what you are telling us?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig—I would check my records. I cannot recall it.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—All right. Can you please take these questions on notice, and ask the Deputy Prime Minister to answer them: was there a written communication between Ms Gillard and Slater & Gordon in relation to this matter? If so, was that written communication by Ms Gillard signed off as Deputy Prime Minister, or on her Deputy Prime Minister letterhead? And then, of course, it follows: how, then, can it be asserted that this correspondence was not in pursuit or in the clothing of her public authority as Deputy Prime Minister and therefore clearly subject to FOI? If this correspondence was on a plain sheet of paper and deemed to be private correspondence, where she did not claim to be Deputy Prime Minister, then it might not fall into the FOI category. But I would have thought it is a huge jump to assert it is not FOI-able if the minister has signed off as or used the title of Deputy Prime Minister in any of that correspondence. As you cannot answer, please take all of that on notice.</p>
PM 31	PM&C	Ronaldson	25/5/10 73	<p>Senator RONALDSON—In light of this further example of another legendary prime ministerial dummy spit, are you aware of whether security was called anytime during what that highly regarded <i>Age</i> journalist, Katharine Murphy, described as a ‘bruising enough outburst by Mr Rudd’?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig—I will take it on notice. I am not aware of that, no.</p>

PM 32	PM&C	Ronaldson	25/5/10 73	<p>Senator RONALDSON—I think I will make the judgment about whether they are outstanding matters for the purposes of Senate estimates. Because the Prime Minister’s office was a party to this dispute over payment and because the response to a question on notice I submitted to Ms Gillard’s department on the topic was totally unsatisfactory, I will ask you on what date this outstanding catering bill was finally paid, which I understand it has been?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp—I have not got that date in front of me. I will have to take that on notice.</p>
PM 33a	PM&C	Abetz	25/5/10 76	<p>Senator ABETZ—I return to the Crown Casino. We agreed that the Prime Minister did dine at the Nobu restaurant...</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—I am asking one question at a time. That is not in dispute. Is it in dispute that any of the Prime Minister’s personal staff were also at the dinner?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig—I am not aware of whether they were.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Can you take that on notice, please.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig—I can certainly take it on notice.</p>
PM 33b	PM&C	Abetz	25/5/10 76	<p>Senator ABETZ—Were any of the Prime Minister’s personal security detail at the dinner or outside the room?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig—I would have to take that on notice, too.</p>
PM 33c	PM&C	Abetz	25/5/10 76	<p>Senator ABETZ—Can you find out whether on any occasion during the evening the personal security detail found it necessary to enter the room because they were concerned about raised voices? You can take that on notice as well.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig—I will see what information I can provide in relation to it.</p>
PM 34a	PM&C	Abetz	25/5/10 Previous ref 74 76	<p>Senator ABETZ—Yes, saving the Prime Minister from himself possibly. I move on to the disputed account that Senator Ronaldson pursued. Is it agreed that the Prime Minister’s office actually received the account for \$1,767 for this food and drink?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp—I will have to take that on notice.</p>
PM 34b	PM&C	Abetz	25/5/10 76	<p>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 nonpayment of the account? Do you need to take that on notice?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp—Yes, I would like to satisfy myself of all the details.</p>
PM 34c	PM&C	Abetz	25/5/10 76	<p>Senator ABETZ—All right. This communication asserts the invoice covers the payment for catering the PM’s office said they would pay following the passing of the Fair Work Bill. Can you take on notice whether or not the Prime Minister or anybody in the Prime Minister’s office agreed to foot the bill? If so, who and on what basis did they do a backflip on this? They do backflips even on little restaurant bills, but there you go.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig—I will take those on notice.</p>
PM 35	PM&C	Abetz	25/5/10 78	<p>Senator ABETZ—If you doubt that, please take it on notice and find out whether or not on this particular day the hardcopy version of the media monitoring had this particular article removed, and if it was removed, on whose authority was it done and who made the decision.</p>

PM 36	PM&C	Abetz	25/5/10 79-80	<p>Ms Beauchamp—Question on notice 2498 to 2500 was provided on 13 May; 2501 on 13 May; 2503 on 1 April; 2504 on 11 March.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Do you know what? I think by the time I get an answer to this there will have been an election and everybody will have forgotten about Copenhagen. But take it on notice and see what you can find out for us please.</p> <p>Mr Cairns—Certainly.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator Ludwig—I am open to suggestion on this one. What you want to know is (a) what questions have been tabled and which are still outstanding. Is that where we are at?</p>
PM 37	PM&C	Ronaldson	25/5/10 80-81	<p>Senator RONALDSON—Yes, the carbon footprint has been offset by the Dutch government with the purchase of new brick kilns which apparently have lower emissions than existing kilns. Do we have any information on these kilns such as where they are and by whom they are manufactured or built?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp—I do not have any further information on that.</p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—Can you take that on notice for me? Is that a yes?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig—Yes, we will take it on notice.</p>
PM 38	PM&C	Ronaldson	25/5/10 81	<p>Senator RONALDSON—How many staff in PM&C work on issues relating to climate change and the proposed ETS?</p> <p>Dr Grimes—I might confer with one of my colleagues to see if we can give you an estimate of the number of staff. It is a relatively small number of staff. Part of our difficulty, as you would appreciate, is that we may have staff that work part time on greenhouse and related matters and work can extend across different parts of the department, including the international part of the department, but we might be able to give you a rough estimate. If you are happy for us to take on notice, we will take it on notice.</p>
PM 39	PM&C	Ronaldson	25/5/10 81-82	<p>Senator RONALDSON—Maybe I did not make it clear. Can I have the numbers, please—not the numbers that went to Copenhagen because we have all that on notice—of PM&C staff who are working on issues relating to climate change and the proposed, now dumped, ETS. So you are taking that on notice, are you?</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—Will you take that on notice for me?</p> <p>Dr Grimes—to be involved but on a part-time basis. I am not sure that we can actually give you an accurate figure, because it will depend on any point in time. As you would appreciate, the workloads can vary.</p>
PM 40	PM&C	Abetz	25/5/10 82	<p>Senator ABETZ—All right, but perchance he will address the parliament and one would imagine at least a few or more days notice would be given to enable parliamentarians to get here unless it is during the proposed sitting fortnight after this one. That was all I was seeking to pursue, but if we are not going to get any further, we are not going to get any further and we will move on. I move on to question on notice PM 26, Community Cabinet Hobart and</p>

				<p>Bathurst costs. At the additional estimates I was provided with some answers with a table, but the answer said: ‘The following table provides the available costs and estimates of costs where final figures are not yet available.’ Are final figures now available for the Hobart and Bathurst Community Cabinet meetings? If not, when is it anticipated that there would be such final figures and why does it take so long to get the final figures, or does the Prime Minister dispute the drinks bill for these events as well?</p> <p>Dr Southern—I am checking my notes here to see if I have the final costs for those two meetings, if you could bear with me.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Take it on notice. I do not want to delay the committee’s time on this.</p> <p>Dr Southern—Okay. We would have had the final costs come in since the time we answered the questions.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—So you are sure that there will not be any further delay.</p> <p>Dr Southern—There should not be.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—If you can advise us of that as well that will be helpful.</p> <p>Dr Southern—Certainly.</p>
PM 41	PM&C	Abetz	25/5/10 87	<p>Senator ABETZ—I did ask that and you are quite right. So let us start with the Prime Minister’s personal office. How many speechwriters are there?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp—As I indicated, I would have to take it on notice. I am not sure how many officers are dedicated speechwriters. However, I understand that some of the advisers do undertake speech-writing functions.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Also, just in case people want to get a bit cute—it may be that they are not fully dedicated to speech writing because they might make a cup of tea for the Prime Minister from time to time—if their duties include speech writing, amongst other things. I just want to completely define that. So you will take that on notice, Minister, for the Prime Minister’s personal office?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig—Yes. I have indicated I will see what I can find.</p>
PM 42a	PM&C	Abetz	25/5/10 87	<p>Senator ABETZ—Are these speechwriters from time to time called upon to travel to Brisbane or elsewhere to liaise with the Prime Minister as to the contents of future speeches?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp—I cannot recall the officers in question, in response to this question on notice, having been called to Brisbane.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—All right—asked to go to Brisbane or requested to go to Brisbane? Did they ever end up in Brisbane for whatever reason, even of their own volition, paid for by the taxpayer, to get instructions or discuss potential speeches?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp—I will have to take that on notice to see if they have actually gone to Brisbane to assist with speechwriting.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Mr Lewis, in relation to the speechwriter question, can you see whether you can find out</p>

				some information over the dinner break? I would be obliged if you could.
PM 42b	PM&C	Abetz	25/5/10 88	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.
PM 43	PM&C	Abetz	25/5/10 88	Senator ABETZ —So nobody in Prime Minister and Cabinet writes articles that are sometimes then placed in foreign papers, or indeed Australian papers, under the name of the Prime Minister? Ms Beauchamp —I will have to take that on notice.
PM 44	PM&C	Abetz	25/5/10 88	Senator ABETZ —Yes, so for the flight that took the Prime Minister to Tasmania for the launch of the state Labor campaign, can we be advised who else the Prime Minister chose or agreed to have accompany him on that flight and return to Canberra? Mr Lewis —We can check and give you an answer, but I think Defence would be in a position to give you the manifests.
PM 45	PM&C	Ronaldson	25/5/10 90	Senator RONALDSON —Mr Marshall left the communication minister's office within days of the grant of a \$250 million Commonwealth government communications contract. Did the minister consult with you or the Prime Minister's office about the probity issues involved with Mr Marshall's new job with Alcatel? Senator Ludwig —I will take that on notice. I will check because you have asked not only my office but for a broader answer. To ensure that we have the facts I will take it on notice and get back to you.
PM 46	PM&C	Ronaldson	25/5/10 91	Senator RONALDSON —Would you provide the committee with a complete record of all communications both formal and informal, via email, telephone or in person, to or from a minister or MOPS staff member of the Rudd government in its widest context regarding Mr Marshall's new position with Alcatel including times, dates, names of participants and minutes of those communications? Senator Ludwig —I will see what I can find for you.
PM 47	PM&C	Fierravanti-Wells	25/5/10 96-97	Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS —I am aware of that, Dr Grimes, because in answers to questions in estimates Ms Halton, who is secretary of the health department, admitted that, indeed, there was not a plan and indeed there was not even the back of an envelope plan for health reform. Might I invite you, Dr Grimes, to go and have a look at Ms Halton's comments of 10 February, and if you wish to add anything further to your answer please do so.
PM 48	PM&C	Fierravanti-Wells	25/5/10 97/98	Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS —It might be your recollection, and my question to you is: when did you first commence work on the establishment of this commission? Dr Grimes —I assume—and this is just an assumption—that we would have addressed a matter like that in incoming government briefing or shortly after the election. Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS —I am interested to understand when and who actually did the running of this. Dr Grimes —Going to the level of very specific details and dates—

				<p>Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS—I am.</p> <p>Dr Grimes—Obviously, it is a couple of years ago. Something like that would have to be taken on notice.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS—Dr Grimes, could you take on notice: when was work relating to the commission first commenced and who drove it—was it the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet or was it the Department of Health and Ageing? The next question is: how did you interact with the department of health and at what point did you start that interaction with the department of health in relation to the reform commission's work?</p> <p>Dr Grimes—I am happy to take on notice.</p>
PM 49	PM&C	Fierravanti-Wells	25/5/10 99	<p>Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS—Can I just ask, Dr Grimes, for you to please take that on notice, because my understanding is that there was quite a bit of involvement by your department. For the record, for those 21 or 22 visits—I understand it is 21 visits—that the Prime Minister undertook, I would appreciate if you could take on notice your department's involvement, whether they were chosen by the Prime Minister or by Minister Roxon and her entourage, or whether they were your—</p> <p>Dr Grimes—I am happy to take that on notice and see if there is anything else we can add, but as I indicated before it may be something better addressed by Health and Ageing.</p>
PM 50	PM&C	Fierravanti-Wells	25/5/10 103	<p>Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS—I want to ask specifically: how did the Commonwealth actively engage with the states? How many meetings were conducted? You will have to take this on notice. Where were the conducted? Who attended? What meetings were held within the Prime Minister's office? Who was involved from the Prime Minister's office? Was the health department involved? Was Treasury involved? Was the health minister involved? When was the Prime Minister's plan revealed to the states?</p> <p>Mr Rimmer—Some aspects of that we can talk about now but some we might need to take on notice.</p>
PM 51	PM&C	Abetz	25/5/10 107	<p>Senator ABETZ—I have an interest in this area. The actual agreement between the states and the Commonwealth has not been finalised by way of a legally binding agreement.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—So the answer is yes. Thank you. When was the last contact with Western Australia over this issue?</p> <p>Mr Rimmer—Senator, I think we would have to take that on notice.</p>
PM 52	PM&C	Abetz	25/5/10 108	<p>Senator ABETZ—Have you sought detailed legal advice as to the binding nature of this and whether you can do it without Western Australia?</p> <p>Mr Rimmer—I would like to take the question on notice. There are a number of departments involved and I want to make sure that I give correct information.</p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—Are you aware of any departments that have sought legal advice?</p> <p>Mr Rimmer—Not that I am personally aware of but I would want to check.</p>

PM 53	PM&C	Humphries	25/5/10 110	<p>Senator HUMPHRIES—Are you saying that the provisions that guarantee a role for local government in NAHA are only provisions effectively for the benefit of the state governments that signed those agreements and that local governments cannot take any comfort from the protection that they are afforded by that agreement because the states that signed the agreement can effectively negotiate their way away from those obligations in the case of these particular projects?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp—I would have to take that on notice to answer that question in particular because I would need to look at exactly what the arrangements are in the NAH Agreement.</p>
PM 54	PM&C	Humphries	25/5/10 110	<p>Senator HUMPHRIES—If I may interrupt, I understand that point and I am not arguing in this case that extraordinary measures should not be taken. I am just trying to understand how it is possible for a national agreement, signed by all the governments of Australia, to be ousted by bilateral decisions between the Commonwealth and certain states that are inconsistent with the NAH Agreement. That is what I want to find out. Can I also ask you to take on notice, if there are such breaches—what I would characterise as a breach of an agreement such as NAHA—what penalties or sanctions are available within the agreement for states that do not comply with the terms and the obligations that they have under NAHA.</p>
PM 55	PM&C	Humphries	25/5/10 111	<p>Senator HUMPHRIES—What status does the NAHA have if its terms have been at least partly set aside by these individual agreements for stimulus housing projects?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp—I will take that on notice.</p>
PM 56a	PM&C	Ryan	25/5/10 111	<p>Ms Beauchamp—In relation to the website for the national stimulus plan, all the funding is broken down by electorate.</p> <p>Senator RYAN—All of it?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp—I think it is all listed on the website—yes.</p> <p>Senator RYAN—Is the funding broken down on the basis of electorates currently in the House of Representatives or is it also broken down on redistributed electorates in states that have had redistributions since the last election?</p>
PM 56b	PM&C	Ryan	25/5/10 111	<p>Senator RYAN—Firstly, if this data has been broken down inside the department for electorates in states that have been redrawn, I would appreciate confirmation of that having been done by the Coordinator-General.</p> <p>Secondly, I would like to know when that was undertaken. Thirdly, could that information be provided to the committee. If the website only includes current electorates but the department and the government have access to information based on new electorates, that would be of interest to the committee. Are you happy to take that on notice?</p> <p>Mr Hoffman—We will take that on notice. We receive information from the department that is administering the programs—so, for social housing it comes from FaHCSIA, and so on. They provide it to us in a database feed which is characterised by electorates as they currently stand, as Ms Beauchamp said. So we do not have, to my understanding, information on the basis of new electorate boundaries. We would receive that in future from the relevant</p>

				departments. But, as we said, we will take that on notice and confirm that.
PM 57	PM&C	Abetz	25/5/10 119	Senator ABETZ —Can I ask the question again, and I will do it slowly: is it correct that officials in Kevin Rudd’s and Peter Garrett’s departments assessed the risk of death or injury under the government’s insulation program to be extreme three times in the three months before the first of the four young workers was killed? Is that a correct statement? Ms Beauchamp —I was not there at the time. I will have to take that on notice, because I am not too sure what the document is you are referring to.
PM 58	PM&C	Ludlam	25/5/10 121-122	Senator LUDLAM —As a participant in all the committees, I can assure you that it was not the committee work that held things up. We will move on. Can you point to where in the portfolio budget statements the funding appropriation for this office is? Mr Sheehan —My understanding is that it does not appear within the PBS but that the money is within the forward estimates and that funding of \$1.36 million over four years was allocated in the last budget to fund the establishment of the office of the monitor. Senator LUDLAM —If it is not in this PBS, do I find it in the Attorney-General’s Department PBS? Where is that money? It must be on somebody’s balance sheet somewhere. Mr Sheehan —I would have to take the question on notice to get further detail on that. I understand it is in our forward estimates, but I have no further detail.
PM 59	PM&C	Ludlam	25/5/10 125	Mr Sheehan —This was clarifying a final statement from Mr Ludlum before he left on the final question. CHAIR —As he has already left the room, would you put that on notice? Mr Sheehan —Certainly.
PM 60 – 70	All departments and agencies	Barnett	Written	See attached below
PM 71	ANAO	Ronaldson	Written	See attached below
PM 72	PM&C	Ronaldson	Written	See attached below
PM 73	PM&C	Siewert	Written	See attached below
PM 74	PM&C/OIGI S	Xenophon	Written	See attached below
PM 75	PM&C	Birmingham	Written	See attached below
PM 76	OSGG	Ronaldson	Written	See attached below
PM77	PM&C	Fifield	Written	See attached below
PM78	PM&C	Ryan	Written	See attached below
PM79	PM&C	Ryan	Written	See attached below
PM80	PM&C	Ryan	Written	See attached below
PM81	PM&C	Ryan	Written	See attached below

PM82	PM&C	Ryan	Written	See attached below
PM83	PM&C	Ryan	Written	See attached below
PM84	PM&C	Ryan	Written	See attached below
PM85	PM&C	Ryan	Written	See attached below
PM86	PM&C	Ryan	Written	See attached below
PM87	PM&C	Ryan	Written	See attached below
PM88	PM&C	Ryan	Written	See attached below
PM89	PM&C	Ryan	Written	See attached below
PM90	PM&C	Ryan	Written	See attached below
PM91	ANAO	Ryan	Written	See attached below
PM92	PM&C	Ryan	Written	See attached below
PM93	PM&C	Trood	Written	See attached below
PM94	PM&C	Trood	Written	See attached below
PM 95	OIGIS	Trood	Written	See attached below
PM 96	PM&C	Trood	Written	See attached below
PM 97	PM&C	Trood	Written	See attached below
PM 98	PM&C	Trood	Written	See attached below
PM 99	PM&C	Trood	Written	See attached below
PM 100	PM&C	Trood	Written	See attached below
PM 101	PM&C	Trood	Written	See attached below

Written QON

Staffing

PM 60 – All Departments and Agencies – Senator Barnett

How many permanent staff recruited since additional estimates (Feb 2010)?

What level are these staff?

How many temporary positions exist or have been created since additional estimates?

Since additional estimates, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?

Staffing – efficiency dividend/budget cuts

PM 61 – All Departments and Agencies – Senator Barnett

Have staffing numbers been reduced as a result of the efficiency dividend and/or other budget cuts?

- Since the efficiency dividend was introduced?
- Since additional estimates?
-

If so, where and at what level?

Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details ie. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc.

If your Department/agency has been identified in the budget as delivering further efficiencies (savings), how will these be delivered? (for example, if the budget papers say ‘improvement to strategic work practices’ or similar, what are these and how will they be delivered?)

What changes are underway or planned for graduate recruitment, cadetships or similar programs? If reductions or increases are envisaged please explain including reasons, target numbers etc.

Government Advertising

PM 62 – All Departments and Agencies – Senator Barnett

What communications programs has the Department/Agency undertaken since additional estimates and what communications programs are planned to be undertaken?

For each program, what is the total spend?

(by ‘communications program’ it is meant communication of a government message to the public – possibly by advertising (print, television etc), possibly through the erection of signs, plaques etc, or through other mediums. The recent (current) Government TV advertising campaign on health reform and specific health initiatives are examples, BER signage is an example, advertising on the Government’s proposed new tax system would be another example.)

A breakdown of how much was spent/is planned to be spent on each program/initiative should be provided.

Hospitality

PM 63 – All Departments and Agencies – Senator Barnett

What is the Department's hospitality spend FYTD?

Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.

For each Minister/Par Sec's office, please detail total hospitality spend FYTD.

Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.

Board Appointments

PM 64 – All Departments and Agencies – Senator Barnett

What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio?

What is the gender ratio of appointments made to boards since the Government came to office in November 2007?

Grants

PM 65 – All Departments and Agencies – Senator Barnett

Has the Department complied with interim requirements relating to the publication of discretionary grants?

Freedom of Information

PM 66 – All Departments and Agencies – Senator Barnett

Has the Department/agency received any advice from the Government or any other source on how to respond to FOI requests?

How many FOI requests has the Department received?

How many have been granted or denied?

How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests?

Community Cabinets

PM 67 – All Departments and Agencies – Senator Barnett

What was the cost of Ministers travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings held since additional estimates?

How many Ministerial Staff and Departmental officers travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meeting?

What was the total cost of this travel?

What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office?

Reviews

PM 68 – All Departments and Agencies – Senator Barnett

What is the total number of Reviews *both completed and ongoing* in the portfolio/agency or affecting the portfolio agency since November 2007?

Please provide a breakdown of reviews completed since the government came to office (only those commenced after the current government came to office) including

- when those reviews were provided to Government,
- estimated cost of producing each review (and total cost) and

- if the Government has responded to the review or information about when the Government has indicated it will/will not respond to the review.

How many reviews are ongoing?

How many reviews have been completed since additional estimates?

What further reviews are planned in the portfolio/agency?

Consultancies

PM 69 – All Departments and Agencies – Senator Barnett

How many consultancies have been undertaken or are underway since November 2007? Please identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the contract, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc).

Please also include total value for all consultancies, including figures for total *spending* on consultancies and also *value of contracts awarded*? Provide total figures since November 2007 and a breakdown on these figures for FY 2008/09 and 2009/10 FYTD.

Is the Department/agency up to date with its reporting requirements on the Government's tenders and contracts website? Are the figures available on that site correct?

How many consultancies are planned for this calendar year? Have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and if not why not? In each case please identify the subject matter, duration, projected cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known.

All answers should be current at the time the answer is submitted.

Government Payment of Accounts

PM 70 – All Departments and Agencies – Senator Barnett

Has the portfolio/agency paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (ie. within 30 days)? If not, why not, and what has been the timeframe for payment of accounts? Please provide a breakdown, average statistics etc as appropriate to give insight into how this issue is being approached.)

For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year?

Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?

BER Audit Report

PM 71 – ANAO – Senator Ronaldson

71a -On what date did you submit the draft BER audit report to the Deputy Prime Minister's office?

71b – Is there anything in the Auditor-General Act that would prohibit a person from confirming the fact that they had received a draft audit report?

71c – Was the Deputy Prime Minister correct in her assertion on the 16 April 2010 edition of Channel 9's *Today* show that the Auditor-General Act prohibits her, not from divulging the details of a draft audit report, but merely providing confirmation of its receipt?

71d – If the Deputy Prime Minister's assertions about the Auditor-General Act are incorrect, did the ANAO take any steps to inform the Deputy Prime Minister of her mistake?

General Contract Questions

PM 72 - PM&C Outcome 1.4 Support Services for Government Operations – Senator Ronaldson

72a – In relation to PM&C Contract Notice Views:

- CN266357 from 1 Feb 2010 to 26 Feb 2010 in the sum of \$28,384.40 with Network Printing Studios for the “printing of report”?
- CN261309 from 22 January 2010 to 22 January 2010 in the sum of \$25,979.80 with RTM Pty Ltd for “report printing”; and
- CN266373 from 15 March 2010 to 15 March 2010 in the sum of \$57,674.99 with Cre8tive Australasia for “design and printing”?

what was the printed document in question related to each of these contracts, and how many hardcopies of each document were produced?

72b – In relation to PM&C Contract Notice View CN258726 dated 18 Dec 2009 to 17 Dec 2014 in the sum of \$222,550 with Design 5 Architects Pty Ltd for “conservation advice, property works program and management – The Lodge and Kirribilli House”, can you provide the particulars involved with this contract, including an itemised list of services to be supplied in which location and according to which timetable?

72c– In relation to Contract Notice View CN263858 in the sum of \$48,543 for a “Café Upgrade Works” with Monaro Interiors, can a detailed list of all works undertaken under this contract be provided?

Allocation of money in Budget Paper 2 for reforms and priorities

PM 73 - PM&C– Senator Siewert*

In Budget Paper 2 (p286) the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet receives an additional \$12 million over 3 years to support the Government’s reform agenda and implement major new priorities. Could you please outline against which reforms and priorities this money will be allocated and how much of it will be used for direct staffing costs, administrative costs (including enhancing corporate services) and consultants?

***Please note that there appears to be an overlap with PM 60 and PM 69**

Whistle-blower legislation

PM 74 - PM&C– Senator Xenophon

74a - The ongoing debacle facing the Australian Taxation Office with regards to the implementation of its new IT program is a prime example of employees who have information that could be useful to the Inspector-General's Review into the Change Program, however are fearful they'll be penalised if they do so. How would this legislation address their concerns?

74b - Did the Department consider including penalties for victimisation and compensation for whistleblowers, in line with the United States' whistleblower's protections? What did these penalties include?

Buildings' energy efficiency

PM 75 - PM&C– Senator Birmingham

Please list every building occupied by the Department.

For each building:

- Has an energy efficiency audit been undertaken? If so, what rating was achieved and what action has been taken to improve energy efficiency as a result of any audit undertaken?

Governor General's impending trip to China

PM 76 - Office of the Secretary of the Governor General - Ronaldson

- a) Is the Governor General planning or undertaking a visit to China?
- b) On what dates is the Governor departing and returning?
- c) On which of the VIP aircraft is Governor General travelling?
- d) How many passengers are accompanying the Governor General on the flight and what are their names?
- e) What are the specific purposes of the trip, including desired/expected outcomes?
- f) Which cities will the Governor General be visiting during her stay in China?
- g) In which hotel(s) will the Governor General be staying?
- h) What is the total cost of trip, itemised for:
 - i. Cost of air travel
 - ii. Cost of accommodation
 - iii. Cost of land transport
 - iv. Cost of official gifts
 - v. Cost of official hospitality
 - vi. Any other costs associated with the trip

Social Inclusion

PM 77 – PM&C Output 1.2.3, Social Inclusion – Fifield

- a) What is the role of PM & C in the government's social inclusion agenda?
- b) Is this all met within the \$14.6 million 2008-09 budget measure (budget paper No. 2, pg. 278)?
- c) Out of this funding, how much has been allocated to the Social Inclusion Unit over the forward estimates?
- d) How much funding has been allocated to the Social Inclusion Board Secretariat over the forward estimates? Or are the Social Inclusion Unit and the Social Inclusion Board Secretariat the same thing?
- e) How many people are employed within the Social Inclusion Unit and the Social Inclusion Board Secretariat in PM & C?
- f) Is funding to the Social Inclusion Board met through the \$14.6 million 2008-09 budget measure (budget paper No. 2, pg. 278)?
- g) How much funding has been allocated to the board over the forward estimates?
- h) What allowances do the members of the Social Inclusion Board receive?
- i) What expenses have the Social Inclusion Board incurred to date? Include travel, allowances, and publications.

- j) How much funding was allocated to produce the statistical data published in the Boards “*Social Inclusion in Australia – How is Australia Faring*” publication?
- k) How much did it cost to print the publication “*Social Inclusion in Australia –How Australia is faring*”?
- l) How many copies were made of the publication “*Social Inclusion in Australia –How Australia is faring*”?
- m) Was that cost of the publication met within the \$14.6 million 2008-09 budget measure (budget paper No. 2, pg. 278)?
- n) Is there a specific reason why the Social Inclusion Unit and the Social Inclusion Board secretariat are located in PM & C instead of Department who the Minister for Social Inclusion is responsible for?

Ministerial Staff Declarations

PM 78 – PM&C – Senator Ryan

- a) Has the Prime Minister received any statements of private interests from his staff since 1 December 2009, regarding the buying or selling of equities or derivatives in resources stocks?
- b) If so, can you please provide dates of when those statements were received, stocks bought or sold, and when the transaction took place?

Lodge Dinner On 24 May 2010

PM 79 – PM&C – Senator Ryan

- a) The Sydney Morning Herald reported on the 27 May 2010, that “superannuation industry representatives had dinner with the Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd, at The Lodge on Monday night where the issue was discussed.”
- b) Which superannuation industry representatives were invited?
- c) Which superannuation industry representatives attended?
- d) Who else attended the dinner at the Lodge on 24 May 2010?
- e) What was the cost of the dinner?

Staffing levels

PM 80 – PM&C – Senator Ryan*

- a) What is the total expenditure on staffing for the Department and for all portfolio agencies? What is the SES and non-SES breakdown?
- b) What are the current staffing levels for SES and non-SES officers?
- c) What have been the changes in staffing level since November 2007?
- d) Have any voluntary or involuntary redundancies been offered to staff? If so, how have staff been identified for such offers? Are there such plans for the future?
- e) What was the total cost of staffing for the Department in the financial years 2007-08 and 2008-09?

f) What are the estimated total costs of staffing for the Department in the financial years 2009-10 and 2010-11?

***There appears to be a potential overlap with PM60**

Signing of Official Documents

PM 81 – PM&C – Senator Ryan

A piece in the SMH (21/01/2010) titled "Julia Gillard should be treasurer" said that "Officials in the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet have been known to wait until the Prime Minister is out of the country to get things signed off by the acting Prime Minister." Does DPMC keep a record of the documents that the Prime Minister or Acting Prime Minister signs?

- a) Can DPMC provide the dates when Julia Gillard was acting Prime Minister?
- b) Can DPMC provide the dates when another Minister was acting Prime Minister?
- c) In total, how many days has Julia Gillard been Acting Prime Minister?
- d) In total, how many documents has Julia Gillard signed as Acting Prime Minister?
- e) In total, how many documents has Kevin Rudd signed as Prime Minister?

Robyn Kruk

PM 82 – PM&C – Senator Ryan

The SMH reported (27-Feb-2010) that "Asked about Ms Kruk's future in administering the program, he said "future department arrangements" would be determined with the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet."

- a) Has the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet made any determinations about the roles and responsibilities of Ms Kruk in the Department of Environment?
- b) Have Ms Kruk's responsibilities as Secretary been diminished since February 2010?
- c) What changes to the administrative arrangements or orders have been made since January 2010 with respect to the roles and responsibilities of the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts?
- d) On what date were each of the changes made?

Shen Neng 1 Flyover

PM 83 – PM&C – Senator Ryan

In early April the Shen Neng 1, a Chinese bulk carrier, veered off course and crashed into the Great Barrier Reef, leaking oil across the water. A procession of Labor state and federal ministers, including the Prime Minister, took helicopter flights across the wreck to inspect the damage.

- a) What was the cost to the Government of the Prime Minister's helicopter flight to see the Shen Neng 1?
- b) Did any of his staff fly with him?

c) Did any members of the media accompany the PM on the flight?

Asia Pacific Community

PM 84 – PM&C – Senator Ryan

How many times has the Prime Minister's personal envoy, Richard Woolcott, met with the Prime Minister since he was appointed? Please provide a list of dates of when they met.

Support To Designated and Former Governors-General

PM 85 – PM&C – Senator Ryan

P. 37 of the PM&C Portfolio Budget Statements shows that there is an approximately \$3 million increase from 2012-13 to 2013-14 for "Support to designated and former Governors-General". Quentin Bryce was appointed GG in September 2008. Assuming she serves a five year term, DPMC has effectively budgeted for her retirement from the position of GG.

a) Why is there an increase in 2013-14?

b) Why does DPMC expect "support to designated and former Governors-General to increase by over 500% from 2012-13 to 2013-14?"

c) Have any discussions taken place with the Governor-General or her representatives about her reappointment or otherwise at the expiry of her current term of office?

National Security Committee no show

PM 86 – PM&C – Senator Ryan

The Australian reported: "Another example. A few weeks ago, Rudd called a meeting of the cabinet's National Security Committee. The most powerful federal bureaucrats, defence chiefs, diplomats and police gathered and waited for the Prime Minister. And waited and waited. Finally, after three hours, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's new head Dennis Richardson decided he couldn't wait any longer and stalked off. Oh, and Richardson also used the f-word to express his displeasure."

a) Can DPMC confirm that the Prime Minister did not attend scheduled National Security Council meeting in early April?

b) How many scheduled meetings of the National Security Council has the Prime Minister not attended?

Official Functions

PM 87 – PM&C – Senator Ryan

a) How many functions have been held at The Lodge?

b) How many functions have been held at Kirribilli?

c) What was the cost of each of these functions?

DPMC'S Public Opinion research

PM 88 – PM&C – Senator Ryan

Answer to Question on Notice PM28a-d (Additional Estimate 2009-10) shows that DPMC has commissioned public opinion research which was provided to the Minister (presumably the Parliamentary Secretary for Social Inclusion, Sen. Ursula Stephens) which states that:

“The aim of the study was to develop an understanding of how different groups of Australian respond to the issues surrounding social inclusion.”

The cost of the research was \$79,964.

Which ministers was the research report made available to?

Can the Department provide a copy of the study?

Were copies of the study, its findings or summaries of it provided to parties or people not employed by the Commonwealth of Australia?

Risk Registers

PM 89 – PM&C – Senator Ryan

- a) How many risk registers does DPMC have?
- b) What policy areas do they cover?
- c) Can DPMC provide copies of these risk registers?

Staff Turnover

PM 90– PM&C – Senator Ryan

- a) Have any of the Prime Minister’s staff taken stress leave?
- b) How many people in the Office of the Prime Minister have had their employment terminated?
- c) How many staff does the Prime Minister have based in
 - (a) Canberra; and,
 - (b) Brisbane?
- d) How many staff have left the employment of the Office of the Prime Minister since December 2007?

P21 Audit

PM 91 – ANAO– Senator Ryan

- a) Following the receipt of a letter from the President of the Senate regarding a Senate resolution requesting the Auditor-General undertake an urgent investigation of ‘waste and mismanagement of the BER program’, did the ANAO have any correspondence with the President of the Senate regarding the audit?
- b) If so can the ANAO please provide copies of that correspondence?
- c) Given the view of the Auditor-General that he cannot undertake performance audits of the projects funded by the Commonwealth but delivered by state and territory agencies, has the ANAO undertaken any correspondence with the various state Auditors-General regarding the BER program?
- d) If so, could the ANAO provide copies of that correspondence?

Programmes administered by department and portfolio agencies

PM 92 – PM&C – Senator Ryan

- a) Please provide, in spreadsheet form, a list of all programmes administered by your Department and portfolio agencies.
- b) For each listed programme, please list:
 - (a) The name of the programme.
 - (b) Full administered expenses for each financial year of the forward estimates period starting from 2010-11.
 - (c) Full departmental expenses for each financial year of the forward estimates period starting from 2010-11.
 - (d) Allocated Average Staffing Level (ASL) for the programme in 2010-11.
- c) If that list cannot be provided, please advise the reason why simple full-expenditure financial information is not readily available for the public's information.

Cabinet's National Security Committee

PM 93 – PM&C – Senator Trood

- a) How often does the National Security Committee of Cabinet meet?
- b) Who is responsible for scheduling the meetings?
- c) How many times has the Committee met since November 2007?
- d) Have there been any occasions since November 2007 where the Committee has been kept waiting due to the absence of the Prime Minister?
- e) If so, how many occasions and how long was the Committee kept waiting?
- f) What reason was given for the Prime Minister's delayed attendance?
- g) Have any members of the Committee expressed their displeasure about having to wait for the Prime Minister? If so, whom?

Independent review of the Intelligence Community

PM 94 – PM&C – Senator Trood

- a) Why has the government decided to undertake a review of the Intelligence community?
- b) To what extent has the review been prompted by the increasing demands for intelligence on the need to protect Australia's borders, stem the increase in asylum seekers and respond to the rise of China?
- c) Why are savings made from the budget of Australian Security and Intelligence Organisation in 2009-10 being used to fund this review?
- d) When will the review be conducted?
- e) Who will conduct the review?
- f) How long is the review expected to take?
- g) What are the terms of reference for the review?

Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security - replacement

PM 95 – OIGIS – Senator Trood

- a) I understand that Dr Vivienne Thom has temporarily replaced Ian Carnell as Acting Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security. Does she still retain her position as Deputy Commonwealth Ombudsman?
- b) When is the appointment of the new Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security expected to be made?

- c) When was the position advertised?
- d) For how long was it advertised?
- e) How many applications have been received?
- f) Have interviews commenced?

International Division- Prime Minister and Cabinet

PM 96 – PM&C – Senator Trood

- a) What are the primary responsibilities of the International Division of Prime Minister and Cabinet?
- b) Have any of these areas been the previous responsibility of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade?
- c) Does the International Division have links to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade? What are those links?
- d) What is the structure of the International Division?
- e) How many staff are employed in the International Division?
- f) What is the gender breakdown of the staff in the International Division?
- g) How many of the staff employed in the international division were previously employed by Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade?

Global and Regional Architecture section- Prime Minister and Cabinet

PM 97 – PM&C – Senator Trood

- a) In an interview on the ABC on November 2, 2009 the Prime Minister discussed “a new global and regional architecture section within PM and C.”
- b) Has this “new” section been created?
- c) What is the cost of creating this “new” section?
- d) Why was this section created?
- e) How many people work within this section?
- f) What is the gender breakdown of this section?
- g) How many people employed within this section were previously employed by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade?
- h) What are the responsibilities of the section?

Counter-Terrorism White Paper

PM 98 – PM&C – Senator Trood

- a) Which agencies were responsible for the writing of the counter-terrorism white paper?
- b) What role (if any) did the Prime Minister have in the design and the content of the Counter-terrorism white paper?
- c) Was the Prime Minister, or his office, responsible for a hardening of the language of an earlier version of the white paper and for insisting that the final version include an announceable?
- d) Was there any discussion about the inclusion of the word ”jihadist” in the document?
 - i. Why was this term included? Does it give justification to a “just” war?

- e) According to the Counter-Terrorism White Paper ‘[a] second shift apparent since 2004 has been the increase in the terrorist threat from people born or raised in Australia, who have become influenced by the violent jihadist message.’ I note that the Government will provide \$9.7m over four years for targeted programs to reduce violent extremism in Australia. Is the \$9.7m the only funding/strategy to counter violent extremism in Australia? If not, what other measures are in place? What do they cost?
- f) According to the Prime Minister ‘[t]he Government is committed to concrete action to combat terrorism. We will continue to ensure that agencies are appropriately resourced, that responses are agile and can meet changing threats, and that all necessary and practical action is taken to protect Australia and Australians.’ Does \$9.7m ensure that agencies are appropriately resourced to counter violent extremism (home grown terrorism) in Australia?

Parliament House Briefing Room- Crisis Co-ordination Centre

PM 99 – PM&C – Senator Trood

- a) In answers to Questions on Notice the “PHBR will be located in the office space adjacent to the Members and Senators Library and Reading Room on the ground floor of the Ministerial Wing.”
- b) What is the budget for the development of PHBR? Is work proceeding to schedule and budget?
- c) How many staff occupy the PHBR?
- d) Will access to the PHBR be restricted?

Research Support for National Security

PM 100 – PM&C – Senator Trood

- a) What is the role of the Research Support for National Security program?
- b) How is the allocation of grants determined?
- c) The program is due to terminate on the 30 June 2012. Why is the government terminating the program?
- d) According to the **PBS 2010-11** p.29 the budget allocation for the program is:
 - i. 2010-11 \$5,027
 - ii. 2011-12 is \$3,364
 - iii. Why does the figure differ from PBS 2009-10 p.38 2011-12 \$5,100?
 - iv. Why has there been a decrease in funds for the 2011-12 year?
- e) At the Senate Estimates hearings in May last year Mr Davis indicated that that there would be a new round of applications for grants in August 2009.
 - i. How many applications were received for the August round?
 - ii. Were decisions made on the allocation of grant funds?
 - iii. How were the priority areas for research determined?

Office of National Security
PM 101 – PM&C – Senator Trood

- a) How many staff are employed in the Office of National Security?
- b) What is the gender breakdown of people employed in the Office?
- c) When does the term of the current National Security Advisor expire?