

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government

Budget Estimates 25 May 2011

Question: 33

Topic: Independence of the Inspectorate

Asked By: Senator HUMPHRIES

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 8 July 2011

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Given that the taskforce is departmental, and the Inspectorate is 'appointed', how has the Government ensured the Inspectorate's independence from Government?

Answer:

The Australian Government Reconstruction Inspectorate has been established by the Prime Minister to function independently of Government. The reporting line of the Inspectorate is to Cabinet. The Inspectorate is supported by a separate administrative team within the Taskforce to assist in maintaining its independence.