

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012-2013

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of Finance and Deregulation

Outcome/Program: General

Topic: Availability of press releases

Senator: Cormann

Question reference number: F1

Type of question: Hansard F&PA Committee page 39-40, 23 May 2012

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 6 July 2012

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator CORMANN: Why is it that press releases from the finance minister are generally available much more slowly than press releases from the Treasury ministers?

...

Senator Wong: Senator, can I finish, please. My recollection is that we have set up our media list distribution through the Parliament House network, not the finance network. This is from the office. Is that right?

Mr Murphy: I think that is correct.

Senator Wong: In part that is because we do use my electorate office, for example, for transcription more than the previous finance minister did—which ensures a saving, you should be pleased to know—and that there was a problem with the Parliament House network on that day. But can I take that on notice and we will check it.

Answer:

As discussed during the hearing, the Minister's office distributes media materials through the Parliament House email network, not the Department of Finance and Deregulation email network.

During the week beginning 7 May 2012, significant delays were experienced with the Parliament House email network. Please refer to the notification distributed by the Department of Parliamentary Services on 10 May 2012 notifying of slow Outlook performance and delays in emails sent to and from external contacts.