

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates Hearing 21-24 May 2012

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1.3 Support Services for Government Operations

Topic: Queens Diamond Jubilee - 50th anniversary celebrations

Senator: Senator Polley

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Question:

CHAIR: Could you inform the committee about the process that took place for the celebration of the 50th anniversary-the golden anniversary of the Queen's ascension? Is there anything different in the consultation for these celebrations compared to those that took place for the 50th?

Ms Leon: Those of us who are at the table were not involved in this process at the 50th year point, but I understand that they were somewhat more modest than the diamond jubilee celebrations are intended to be. I am not sure how detailed our records are from that period, but we could take on notice for you what information we can find from the golden jubilee.

CHAIR: It would be interesting to see what the government of that day did and the processes they went through as opposed to what is happening now for the 60th. If there is any further information, that would be appreciated committee.

Answer:

The Department's records covering the period of the Golden Jubilee are all now in the National Archives. We have consulted those records, but they are not definitive or conclusive. Any further research would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources.

The information we have been able to locate suggests that for the Golden Jubilee in 2002, commemorative stamps and coins were issued by Australia Post and the Royal Australian Mint respectively, and a gift – a montage of previous stamps and coins featuring The Queen – was also presented.