

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: Rudd video - cost of investigation

Senator: Senator Ryan

Question reference number: 47

Type of Question: FPA P107, 21 May 2012

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

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator RYAN: How much did this investigation cost? I fear there would be two costs here. You may not have the first, which is the internal costs of the investigation, but presumably you would have the cost of employing an outside contractor to either verify or undertake some of this forensic examination?

Ms Leon: I certainly would not be able to provide the internal costs, because we do not record staff time?

Senator RYAN: I appreciate that.

Ms Leon: and it was nearly all staff time. I would have to take notice the amount that we provided to the external company. It would not have been a large amount, because what they essentially did was due diligence on the process that we had undertaken and some advice about the forensic deep-dive into the computer. But I would have to take on notice the exact amount.

Answer:

The cost for the due diligence was \$6,050 excluding GST and the forensic assistance \$5,768 excluding GST.