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: 1.1.4 Support Services for Government Operations

Topic: Rudd video - IT technology

Senator: Senator Ryan

Question reference number: 48

Type of Question: FPA P108, 21 May 2012

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

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Ms Leon: I understand that the process of transferring the film onto the computer is quite a time intensive one and that it is more efficient to edit it before putting it onto the computer.

Senator RYAN: What do they edit it on then?

Ms Leon: They edit it from the tape, I understand, and only the final edit goes onto the computer.

Senator RYAN: I do not profess to be able to come up with Star Wars but I have a Mac, and no-one edits these things on a camera; in fact, they would not have requested Macs in order to edit them on a camera because they were requesting them for what you said earlier, which was a particular capacity: video editing.

Ms Leon: That was the advice of our IT people at the time, so I am happy to take on notice a more detailed description of that technology, if that would be of assistance.

Senator RYAN: I understand what you are saying, but it then negates the specific request for the Macintosh computer that is not connected to the parliamentary network.

Senator Chris Evans: Senator Ryan, I think we understand where you are trying to get to. I think the officer's advice is slightly different to your understanding. I think we will take it on notice. I think we know what you are after and we will get an answer to that.

Answer:

Departmental staff were not involved in the video recording or editing process.