

**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:** Cabinet handbook requirements - statistics

**Senator:** Senator Ryan

**Question reference number:** 52

**Type of Question:** FPA P22, 22 May 2012

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

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

Senator RYAN: Do you keep statistics on the number of items that go into cabinet that do not meet the various notice requirements that might come in under the line?

Ms Leon: We certainly track every submission as to its progress. Whether we aggregate that into statistics I would have to take on notice for you, Senator.

**Answer:**

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet keeps records of the items which are considered by the Cabinet as matters without submission (sometimes referred to as 'under the line').

These records would include numerous items considered by the Cabinet such as oral updates, presentations and comebacks during Budget. Further information on the types of business which may constitute matters without submission is available in the Cabinet Handbook. [http://www.dpmc.gov.au/guidelines/docs/cabinet\\_handbook.pdf](http://www.dpmc.gov.au/guidelines/docs/cabinet_handbook.pdf)