

**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:** Craig Thompson Statement - advice provided by PM

**Senator:** Senator Ronaldson

**Question reference number:** 69

**Type of Question:** FPA P99, 21 May 2012

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

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

Senator Chris Evans: I heard Mr Thomson's statement. I understand he referred to advice he had taken without specifying from whom the advice came. That is obviously in the first-

Senator RONALDSON: Sorry, can I stop you there. I did not suggest that he had. I asked you-

Senator Chris Evans: No, no. And I am getting to your main point, which is that I do not know who provided him with that advice. That is a question that should primarily be directed to him. But, to the extent that your question refers to the Prime Minister's role, I am happy to take that on notice and see if there is anything she wishes to say in response to your query regarding Mr Thomson.

Senator RONALDSON: Thank you, Minister. That is in the context of the direct quote "from a variety of people", which is what I am asking the question about. Are you able to say when the Prime Minister had her last conversation with the member for Dobell, what the nature of that conversation was and what was discussed during that conversation?

**Answer:**

Please see the answer to PM65.