

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012-2013

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Australian Public Service Commission
Outcome/Program: 1.1 / Human Capital Research and Analysis
Topic: Management Advisory Committee

Senator: Mason

Question reference number: 72

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Question: Senator MASON: In relation to the Management Advisory Committee, which was to advise the Australian government on matters relating to the management of the Australian Public Service, when is the last time, as an agenda item, you put on absenteeism in the Australian Public Service?...

Senator Chris Evans: I think Mr Sedgwick said he would take notice when it was on the agenda. He was trying to make the point that he was not responsible for the agenda, not to avoid giving you an answer as to when it was on. It was the way the question was phrased. We are happy to take on notice when that was on the agenda of the Management Advisory Committee in the past.

Senator MASON: All right: when it has been on the agenda over the last five years.

Mr Sedgwick: We will certainly take that on notice. But I can say to you that within the HR forums it is frequently addressed. I can also say to you that I am perfectly happy to prosecute this agenda. Whether it gets raised at a Secretaries Board or we deal with it in another way, if you would just allow me to—

Answer:

Absenteeism was not placed on the agenda of the Management Advisory Committee when it met over the last 5 years.