

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates 27 May-6 June 2013

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1 Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: Revenue

Senator: Senator Sinodinos

Question reference number: 8

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Question:

Senator SINODINOS: In the speech, the PM said:

Treasury now estimates that this reduction—

This is in revenue—

will increase to around \$12bn by the end of the financial year.

Was that number provided for the PM's speech from the department? Was that from the PMO? What was the process?

Dr de Brouwer: I will confirm on that specific number.

Mr Hazlehurst: Would you mind restating that question?

Senator SINODINOS: It says:

Treasury now estimates that this reduction—

This is in reference to receipts—

will increase to around \$12bn by the end of the financial year.

Mr Hazlehurst: I will confirm that during the course of the day, but I am pretty certain they are the numbers from MYEFO.

Answer:

The \$12 billion figure used by the then Prime Minister in her address to the Per Capita Reform Agenda Series on 29 April 2013 was the estimated downgrade to tax receipts in 2012-13 compared with the 2012-13 Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook estimate. The then Prime Minister's speech stated that this figure was prepared by the Department of the Treasury.