

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Budget Estimates Hearing 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:** Security waivers for international staff

**Senator:** Senator Ryan

**Question reference number:** 44

**Type of Question:** FPA, Tuesday 28 May 2013, page 6

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 12 July 2013

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

Senator RYAN: You mentioned that there is a process for the waiver of a foreign national. Are there written rules around that? Or is it again down to the Secretary's wish or the Prime Minister's wish?

Ms Leon: I do not know what the rules are off the top of my head. I would have to take that on notice.

**Answer:**

The Protective Security Policy Framework (PSPF) is published by the Attorney General's Department. The PSPF specifies the process for all Commonwealth agencies seeking to waive the citizenship requirements as they pertain to security clearances.

PM&C's security clearance process operates in accordance with PSPF.