

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Budget Estimates Supplementary Hearings 2003-2004, 3-4 November 2003

Question: PM 28 & 29

Outcome 1, Output 4.4

Topic: Government Branding

Hansard Page: F&PA 11

Senator Faulkner asked:

28. Could you please give us a copy of the internal guidelines or criteria, if there are, any to be applied?

29. What material or evidentiary support or basis is a department or agency required to provide for an exemption?

Answer:

28. There are no formal guidelines for exemption. Each request for exemption was assessed on its individual merits taking into account the status of the agency, funding sources, required autonomy and whether the agency is in a competitive market for its activities.

29. Agencies seeking exemption were required to provide a written request setting out the reasons in support of their application.

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Senator Faulkner asked: You might like to take on notice the departmental processes - assuming this would have been coordinated by Mr Williams - and whether it went to the departmental secretary before the decision by the Prime Minister. Please outline those.

Answer: The Government Communications Unit coordinated all requests for exemption. A brief, prepared for the Prime Minister's consideration, was signed by the Secretary of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.