

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet**

**Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings 2006-2007, 30 October 2006**

**Question: PM 5**

**Outcome 1**

**Topic: Advisers**

**Hansard Page: F&PA 53:**

**Senator Ray asked: Senator ROBERT RAY – You might also confirm that the Prime Minister has approved a senior adviser, three advisers, five assistant advisers and one admin assistant to Senator Boswell at a cost of over \$700,000 a year?**

**And you might be able to help me with this: when did the Leader of the National Party in the Senate cease to have any executive responsibilities – that is, cease to be a parliamentary secretary?**

**Answer:** At 1 November 2006, Senator Boswell had a staffing establishment of nine: one senior adviser, two advisers, five assistant advisers and one secretary/administrative assistant. Two positions – one adviser and one assistant adviser – were vacant at this time. The senior adviser is employed on a part-time basis of 30.00 hours per week.

The salary range for a government senior adviser (non-Cabinet) at 1 November 2006 was \$85,500 - \$116,400 per annum, plus parliamentary staff allowance. Salary ranges for other positions were as set out in Attachment A to the Members of Parliament Staff (Commonwealth) Certified Agreement 2003-2006.

Senator Boswell ceased to be a parliamentary secretary on 7 October 2003.