

**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 19 October 2009

**Question: PM66**

**Topic: Advice to state governments or state members of parliament regarding upcoming community cabinets**

**Type of Question: Hansard, F&PA 19 October p96**

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 4 December 2009**

**Number of pages: 1**

**Senator RYAN-Can I also ask the same questions of you, Ms Beauchamp. Do you advise state governments or state members of parliament of upcoming community cabinets?**

**Ms Beauchamp-Not that I am aware of.**

**Senator RYAN-If it is different, I would appreciate-**

**Ms Beauchamp-If they are local members and engaged in that particular community-I would have to take that on notice.**

**Answer:** As part of the planning for a Community Cabinet meeting, PM&C's Community Cabinet Secretariat contacts the relevant Premier's or Chief Minister's Department about five weeks before the scheduled meeting to advise the proposed date, location and time. At that time, the Secretariat advises the date on which the meeting and its location will be announced publicly (the date of the first newspaper advertising).

The Secretariat also seeks advice from the Premier's/Chief Minister's Department about appropriate contacts within the state or territory department of education (or equivalent) to initiate discussions about suitable venues for the meeting.

The Community Cabinet Secretariat does not advise state or territory members of parliament of upcoming Community Cabinet meetings.

\*Note – In Tasmania, the regional cabinet function is managed from the Premier's Office, and the Premier's Department has requested we contact the relevant adviser directly.

\*\*Note – In Queensland and Western Australia, the Premier's Department has requested that contact with the Department of Education be via the relevant Minister's Office.