

**Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration**

**ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**Finance and Deregulation Portfolio**

**Department of Finance and Deregulation**

**Supplementary Estimates Hearing – October 2010**

**Outcome 3, Program 3.1**

**Topic: Ministerial Submissions**

**Question reference number: F31**

**Type of Question: Written**

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 3 December 2010**

**Number of Pages: 1**

**Senator Bernardi asked:**

- a) Did the Government, Minister or his office return any documents to the Department once the caretaker conventions began?
- b) Did these documents include Ministerial submissions, briefs or notes?
- c) How many unread, unsigned or undealt with Ministerial submissions, briefs or notes were sent back?
- d) What was the date of the earliest such document that was sent back from the Minister's office and the date of the last?
- e) Did the Minister or his office request prior to the calling of the election that no more submissions, briefs or notes be sent?

**Answer:**

- a) Yes.
- b) Yes.
- c) Four briefs and thirteen items of ministerial correspondence were returned to the department after the commencement of the caretaker conventions. One ministerial item was returned to the Australian Electoral Commission and one to ComSuper.
- d) The period for the return of documents was 16 July – 14 September 2010
- e) No.