

**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 18-21 October 2010**

**Question: PM27**

**Asked By: Senator Fierravanti-Wells**

**Topic: 'Sleight of hand on hospitals', article from Weekend Australian  
7-8 August 2010**

**Type of Question: FPA 77, 18 October**

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

**Number of pages: 2**

**Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS-My question goes to the documents that were produced to the journalist, Mr Sean Parnell, who wrote this article. The article refers to an FOI request. I assume certain documents were produced for him or to the organisation that he works for. My question is: were the documents produced by Prime Minister and Cabinet, or the Department of Health and Ageing or any other department that you may be aware of? That is my first question.**

**Mr Rimmer-The department of health, I think, were the subject of the FOI application. I think that in the normal course of events, as is routine on these kinds of matters, we were consulted, or the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet was consulted, about the FOI to check that we had relevant documents-that kind of thing. Beyond that, I would have to take the question on notice for the detail of the process.**

**Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS-So, to obtain a copy, I will ask the Department of Health and Ageing.**

**Mr Rimmer-Sure.**

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**Answer:**

As indicated by Mr Rimmer at the October Senate Estimates hearing, the Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA) was the recipient of Mr Parnell's FOI request in relation to *A National Health and Hospitals Network for Australia's Future*.

Therefore, DoHA was responsible for providing documents under this FOI request.

Any request for these documents is best directed to DoHA.