

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government

Supplementary Budget Estimates 17-20 October 2011

Question: 8

Topic: QLD RDA Committees

Asked By: Senator MACDONALD

Type of Question: Hansard F&PA 111

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 2 December 2011

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Senator IAN MACDONALD: It is an advertisement in the *Courier Mail* on 31 August 2011, headed 'Regional Development Australia', and says that the Australian Government and the Queensland Government are 'seeking volunteers with vision, drive and community experience who are able to represent the broad interests of their region, understand local challenges and achieve results,' and so on. It is an ad put in by you so I assume you know what it is.

Mr Carmichael: Yes, that is an advertisement for expressions of interest for RDA committees in Queensland. Advertising dates in Queensland were the 31 August to 7 September....

Senator IAN MACDONALD: Were they from a broad cross-section of the community?

Mr Carmichael: Do you want me to tell you by RDA?

Answer:

For the 73 vacancies for RDA committees in Queensland, 162 Expressions of Interest were received from a broad cross section of the community.

The advertising to attract applicants focussed on regional population centres and the locations where the vacancies exist.