

Senate F&PA Committee

Tabled Document

Inquiry: Supp. Budget Estimates 11-12

Date/Time: 3:05pm, 17/10/11

Witness Name: PM&C.



**Australian Government**

Organisation: **Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet**

**Dr Ian Watt AO  
Secretary**

Mr Paul Bailey  
Managing Editor  
*The Australian Financial Review*

cc Mr Garrett Jones  
Letters Editor

Dear Mr Bailey

Both Brian Toohy and John Kehoe are labouring under the mistaken belief that the Special Adviser to the Prime Minister, the former Secretary of the Treasury, Dr Ken Henry AC, has responsibilities for advising the Prime Minister on a broad range of economic issues ("Henry's conflicts of interest" and "A clean break would be more comforting", October 8-9).

Dr Henry's role as Special Adviser is limited to his leadership of work on the White Paper on Australia in the Asian Century, announced by the Prime Minister on 28 September 2011. This is a part-time role for which he will be paid on a pro rata basis. He is not performing any other work for the Government and he is not advising the Prime Minister or the Treasurer on economic issues, as both Mr Toohy and Mr Kehoe imply.

Yours sincerely

I J Watt  
13 October 2011