

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Question Taken on Notice

Question Number: 1-6

Output Number: Opening Statement

Date: 15/06/2021

From: Mr Yingiya Mark Guyula

To: Hon Michael Gunner

Portfolio: Chief Minister

Agency: Chief Minister and Cabinet

Subject: Provision of Research Services for Independent Members

QUESTION:

As an Independent member of parliament, my ability to equally participate has been greatly diminished this term of parliament. This term there are no scrutiny committees. I am also told by the Speaker that I can only ask one question a week in Question Time. There are no researchers for the Independent members of parliament.

In 2016, the Chief Minister made the decision to provide researchers for the Independent members of parliament. By end of term there were two researchers for seven Independent members. This term there are three Independent members. Could you advise why there are not researchers for the Independent members this term? Just to be clear, I am talking about the roles that Ms Creed and Ms McCall held last term.

ANSWER:

Government will discuss this issue with the new Clerk when they commence.