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Allan Behm will be available for interview during June.

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NO, MINISTER

So You Want To Be A Chief of Staff?

by Allan Behm

'A rare, insightful, intelligent and witty account.'—Greg Combet

'Invaluable insight from an experienced insider into the closed world of callow political advisers and their disastrous impact on the performance of many Ministers.'—Terry Moran

Nothing prepares a person for the job of Chief of Staff to a Commonwealth Minister. There are no professional development courses, no specialist recruitment agencies and no training manuals.

It was into this vortex that Allan Behm became Chief of Staff to Greg Combet in 2009, the minister responsible for managing carbon pricing and the pink batts crisis.

A seasoned troubleshooter, Behm has an uncanny ability to anticipate and deflect political crises. By his measure success as a chief of staff is being an invisible force.

Allan Behm was Greg Combet's Chief of Staff in the Defence Materiel, Climate Change and Industry portfolios. In 2001 he established Knowledge Pond, an international consultancy advising on political and sovereign risk, strategy and security. Behm is currently the CEO of PTSD-ANZ, a not-for-profit supporting people with post-traumatic stress disorder and their families.

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