Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee —Additional Estimates Hearing—February 2016

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: Oven installation costs

Question: 166

Hansard Reference p 60-61; 8 February 2016

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 1 April 2016

Senator WONG: You gave Senator Ludwig an updated table of works undertaken in the PMO and the cabinet suite in question on notice 34. There are a couple of things in there that I want to check. The electrical mechanical maintenance cost includes the installation of an oven—was the cost \$15,000?

Mr Barnes: Yes, I am aware of that.

Senator WONG: Is \$15,000 really what the oven cost or does that include something else?

Mr Barnes: I assume that is the—

Senator McKENZIE: They got a Thermomix thrown in. **Senator LUDWIG:** It would want to be for 15 grand.

Mr Stefanic: As someone who was extensively involved in the refurbishment of the kitchens at the New South Wales parliament, can I add that industrial catering equipment is quite expensive—\$15,000 would not be unusual. In fact, it is not at the upper end of pricing.

Senator WONG: Are you saying it—

Mr Stefanic: It is not an unusual cost for a commercial oven.

Senator WONG: How much did the oven cost? Is it a commercial oven? I did not know there were ovens that cost \$15,000—you learn something new every day. Can someone tell me how much of this is actually the cost of the oven and how much of this is installation et cetera? It says: 'Install oven, including the cost of oven,' so I assume—

Mr Barnes: I do not have the breakdown available to me at the moment, but I am happy to chase that up.

Senator WONG: Can you also tell me if it replaced an existing appliance or if this is a new one.

Mr Barnes: I will tell you that when I come back to you.

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Senator WONG: Shall I just go through the questions so you know what I would like to get on notice? Shall we do it that way?

Mr Barnes: Certainly. That would be great.

Senator WONG: I would like to know the breakdown of the cost between the appliance itself and the cost of installation or other costs; whether it replaced an existing appliance or was new; what type of oven and the specifications; who requested it; and whether any rationale was given for the appliance being required. And can you provide any documents or paperwork associated with the request and approval, please.

Answer

The total cost to replace the oven was \$15,535 (GST exclusive). This consisted of:

\$13,490 for the manufacture of the oven

\$740 for installation by the supplier

\$240 for delivery of the new oven and removal of the existing oven

\$120 for reconnection of oven fans

\$945 for DPS trades staff who provided electrical isolations, supervision and minor repairs to building fabric

The replacement oven is a Goldstein electric 6 plate/300 griddle double door fan forced convection oven. The oven replaced an existing 24 year old oven which was unrepairable and presented a WHS risk for chefs utilising the oven. The oven replacement was requested by the Department of Finance, Ministerial Wing Support.