

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
Budget Estimates 2015-16**

Question on Notice – No. 8

Senator Ludwig: asked the President of the Senate on 25 May 2015 the following:

Hansard, 25 May 2015, p. 101.

Senator WONG: Can I go back to who made the decision that ministerial lunch rooms needed refurbishing?

Mr Skill: That was a decision of the Secretary.

Senator WONG: At whose request? Was that at your request, Mr President?

The President: No, I do not believe so. My understanding is that it makes sense if you have tradesmen in that area working to do some glazing. Also, my understanding, and I stand to be corrected, is that it is to enable better use of that area, because there were some sound issues, where you could not have a private conversation.

Senator WONG: But who requested this? Whose NPP?

The President: I will take that on notice.

Senator WONG: Was it in your NPP, Mr Skill?

Mr Skill: No. It is not funded in the NPP. It is separate to the security work.

The President: It is not a part of the security budget.

Senator WONG: What did it come out of?

Mr Skill: It will be funded out of the DPS administered capital fund.

Senator WONG: How did you become aware of it, Mr President?

The President: Well, you can imagine the number of discussions I have had about the building and the numerous submissions I have signed off on. I just recall the glass in these two areas being part of one of the submissions, but that is as far as my recollection goes.

Senator WONG: From whom?

The President: It would have been a submission from the Secretary to the Presiding Officers to sign off on.

Mr President, the Hon Stephen Parry answers:

The works were proposed to the Presiding Officers in a submission made by the Secretary of DPS.