

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
—Budget Estimates Hearing—May 2015**

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **Planning expenditure – PMO And Cabinet Suite**

Question: **43**

Hansard Reference **p 85; 25 May 2015**

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 10 July 2015

Senator WONG: Is there money spent on planning?

Mr Skill: In what regard? With regard to planning for works in the Prime Minister's suite or planning around the building?

Senator WONG: We are in the Prime Minister's suite at the moment, so I am asking about the costs there.

Mr Skill: There are no specific planning costs attributed to the Prime Minister's suite. There is a comprehensive planning program of routine maintenance and preventive maintenance that is undertaken across the precinct and the Prime Minister's suite is just one of the many thousands of areas within the precinct that are captured by that. However, by virtue of its status A standing it does get a high quality of service.

...

Senator WONG: So we can be clear on planning, are you saying there was no money spent on planning any structural or building works in the Prime Minister's office or the cabinet suite?

Mr Skill: In relation to these projects that were undertaken?

Senator WONG: Please stop narrowing it; generally.

Mr Skill: I cannot give you a definitive answer on that.

Senator WONG: I do not know, because you do not tell me all the projects. So I do not know all the projects. I just want to know where there has been any money allocated or expended in relation to planning structural or building works in the PMO or the cabinet suite over the last two financial years.

Mr Skill: There would have been some project paying components associated with the works that you have outlined in the column there.

Senator WONG: Any planning for works which did not proceed or have not yet proceeded?

Mr Skill: I have to take that on notice.

Answer

The only planned work over the last two financial years was the fit out of the Prime Ministers dining area undertaken in 2013-14. There were no planned works in the PMO or Cabinet Suite during 2014-15.