

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

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **Queries about Question on Notice 42**

Question: **35 – amended**

Hansard Reference **p 52–53; 19 October 2015**

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 4 December 2015

Senator GALLAGHER: A number of items on QON 42 appear to be repeated—for example: 'remove coffee machines' on 9 January 2014 and 'remove existing coffee machine' on 10 January 2014. Can you explain that?

Dr Heriot: I cannot see it, but I am happy to investigate that.

Senator GALLAGHER: I am happy for that to be taken on notice. There is also a question just surrounding the repair to the doors in the Prime Minister's foyer on 10 and 13 January and a repair to doors on 21 May 2014. Again, if you could just provide a bit more information about those.

Dr Heriot: Certainly.

Senator GALLAGHER: I do not want to talk about anecdotal stories here, but have there been recent works done around the Prime Minister's suite's doors?

Dr Heriot: We are doing security works—

Senator GALLAGHER: Yes, I am aware of that—as part of the upgrading of that corridor?

Dr Heriot: Yes.

Senator GALLAGHER: No, this would be in relation to the Prime Minister's office. Could you have a look at that.

Dr Heriot: I am not aware of anything, but we will look at that.

Senator GALLAGHER: Thank you. It was more recently, around the time of the changeover. Again, if you would not mind taking on notice: why the cost to repair lights in QON 42? This seems quite substantial. It was \$2,227.50, and there was also quite a cost related to the artworks being removed. Could you provide more information on that.

Answer

Question on Notice 42 had indicated 2 line items relating to "Coffee Machines". However in effect there was only one Coffee Machine removed but the work was conducted over 2 hours on one day and a 1 hour followup the next day. Hence the 2 line items.

In relation to the two noted repairs to the Prime Minister's foyer door (10/1/2014 and 13/01/2014) they were two different days of work to rectify the door issue. This work was to repair the clear finish on the doors damaged as part of furniture moves. The works on 21/05/2014 was on the Prime Ministers Dining Room doors and was to replace worn pivot hinges.

There have been no recent works on the PMO Doors.

The \$2,227.50 spent on repair of lights, was conducted in different locations within the Prime Minister's Office and Suites over a period covering 17/1/2014 to 17/6/2014.

In relation to the artworks movements costs, refer to the following table.

| Date | Work undertaken | Cost |
|------------|---|------------|
| 08/04/2014 | 14 Parliament House Art Collection (PHAC) artworks removed and placed in storage to create space for an Australian War Memorial (AWM) display to be installed in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and Cabinet Room | \$1,144.00 |

| Date | Work undertaken | Cost |
|-------------|--|-------------|
| 10/04/2014 | 7 PHAC removed and placed in storage to create space for an AWM display to be installed in the PMO and Cabinet Room. | \$506.00 |