

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: **Parliament House Security Works**

Question: **52**

Written **Senator Wong**

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

1. Based on the evidence given at the 2015–16 Budget Estimates hearings, is it correct that the upgrade of the lunch rooms in the Ministerial Wing was not part of the New Policy Proposal and that the funding did not come out of the security works budget?
2. Noting Mr Skill gave evidence that the status of the works was “Some small joinery work, but most of the cost associated with it is glazing” (BE Hansard page 141), and the answer to BE QoN 48 indicates that the cost of the lunch rooms’ refurbishment is \$575,322, and the President evidence that (BE Hansard page 141):

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.

Was the purpose of combining this work with the security works to save money?

3. If this was the case, at over \$500,000, does this represent a saving?
4. What is the extent of the glazing work?
5. Has it been completed?
6. Where are these rooms located in the Ministerial Wing?

Answer

1. Yes. The lunch room upgrades were not part of the New Policy Proposal (NPP) for Security Upgrades. The lunch room works are not being funded from the Administered capital funding allocated for the NPP.
2. The purpose of combining this work with the security works was to gain efficiencies by undertaking the works concurrently with security upgrade works and achieve savings compared to doing the works separately.
3. It is expected that undertaking the works separately would have incurred higher costs.
4. The glazing is to infill between the top of the curved balcony wall and the ceiling in both first floor lunch rooms.
5. No, the works are programmed to be completed on 8 December 2015.
6.
 - Ground floor, West side: MG.62
 - Ground floor, East side: MG.49
 - First floor, West side: M1.43
 - First floor, East side: M1.25