

1 The Prime Minister's office has expressed concerns regarding the usability of the Prime Minister's dining and sitting rooms. In particular, the following concerns have been raised:

- (a) the current appearance of the dining room, due to deterioration of silk wall paneling, deterioration of wall mirrors and low levels of light;
- (b) the proportions (width v length) are uncomfortable for dining functions;
- (c) inadequate space provided by the dining room for dining functions. Seating for 20 people is often required however currently the dining room caters for a maximum of 16 people. The dining room is currently unused and temporary tables are set up in the sitting room for dining functions, requiring relocation of the sitting room furniture each time;
- (d) there is a requirement for further seating in the sitting room as it is difficult to seat more than four people adequately in the sitting room with the current furniture layout. Additional guests must be offered dissimilar seating which is not desirable due to a differentiation in the status of guests which this practice implies;
- (e) The table and four chairs by the Sitting Room window are not used by the Prime Minister; and
- (f) The Sitting Room curtains do not continue to the floor due to the removal of the previous banquet seating.

Outcomes

2 The outcome will include design development and documentation of:

- (a) The removal of the wall between the dining and sitting rooms. This will allow for the flexible arrangement of seating and dining furniture according to engagements.
- (b) The refurbishment to both rooms to create one integrated space. Any refurbishment work should refer to the original design intent of the Prime Minister's suite as outlined in the Central Reference Document.
- (c) Modifications to furniture layouts and fittings, and the provision of additional furniture to accommodate the concerns outlined in paragraphs 1(c) and 1(d).
- (d) Modifications to building services as a result of the wall removal.

