

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
2006-07 Additional Budget Estimates Hearings
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio
Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General

QUESTION: PM52

Senator Wong asked:

- (1) Is there any requirement to provide details of how much water is used and how much water is saved in the annual reports of each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio?
- (2) Is water usage monitored for each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio?
- (3) What is the water usage for each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio?
- (4) For each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio, can information be provided on whether dual flush toilets are in place in the buildings they occupy?

Response:

- (1) The Office is not required to report on water usage in its annual report.
- (2) Water extracted from Lake Burley Griffin in Canberra for irrigation purposes is monitored against the water abstraction limit allocated by the National Capital Authority.
- (3) Water extracted from Lake Burley Griffin for the watering of heritage landscape at Government House Canberra in 2006 was 94.21 megalitres. While there is a 124,000 litre underground rainwater storage tank at Admiralty House, there has been no metering of water usage for heritage landscape watering from this tank in 2006.
- (4) Ninety percent of toilets at Government House are dual flush toilets. Toilets at Admiralty House have water governors to restrict water usage.

Acquisitions – furniture and fittings \$4,666; plant and equipment \$7,004; kitchen equipment \$120; gardening equipment \$1,152

Contracted services – office cleaning \$6,025; sanitary services \$150; waste removal and recycling \$1,447; garden waste removal and recycling \$1,239; pest control \$430.