

Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Additional Budget Estimates Hearings 2006-2007, 12-13 February 2007

Question: PM 74

Outcome 1, Output 4.4

Topic: Water use at Kirribilli House

Direct on Notice:

Senator Evans asked:

In relation to Kirribilli House:

- a. What was the total amount of water used at this residence in 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 (to date)?
- b. If possible, can a separate figure be provided for household and grounds/garden water use?
- c. What water saving measures were introduced in 2004-05?
- d. What estimated savings were generated by each of those measures?
- e. What water saving measures were introduced in 2005-06?
- f. What estimated savings were generated by each of those measures?
- g. What water savings have been introduced in 2006-07?
- h. What estimated savings have been generated by each of those measures?
- i. Is bore water used at this residence?
- j. If so how much of the water used in 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 (to date) was sourced from a bore?

Answer:

a.

2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07 (to 05/01/07)
3,670 kls	2,799 kls	Data not valid – see note below	1,651 kls

A significant unexplained increase was recorded in 2005-06 and discussions with Sydney Water failed to determine the cause of the unusually high reading. Given the large fluctuation the department asked for the water meter at Kirribilli House to be checked to ensure the accuracy of future readings. Water usage decreased significantly in 2004-05 (approx 24%). Indicative usage figures for 2006-07 indicate that consumption will remain at around the 2004-05 levels.

- b. The household and grounds/gardens are not separately metered.



Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

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Additional Estimates Hearings 2004-2005, 14 February 2005

- c. The following measures were introduced in 2004-05:
 - a drip watering system was installed
 - mulching of garden beds.
- d. It is not possible to estimate what savings were achieved by each individual strategy.
- e. Drip irrigation and mulching continued at the residence.
- f. It is not possible to estimate what savings were achieved by each individual strategy.
- g. Rain water tanks have been installed to collect water from the garage and laundry roofs. This water is being used in the gardens. Dual flush toilets were installed throughout the residence.
- h. It is not possible to estimate what savings have been generated by each individual strategy.
- i. No.
- j. Not applicable.