

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 Estimates 23-27 February 2009

Question: PM21a-d

Outcome 1, Output 5

Topic: Official gifts

Hansard Page: F&PA 75

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 9 April

Senator Ronaldson asked: -Can you detail the nature and cost of official gifts received by the Prime Minister since December 2007?

Mr Mrdak-I will take that on notice. I am not personally familiar with any gifts he has received in that period.

Senator RONALDSON-Can you also advise me how many of these have been retained by the Prime Minister.

Mr Mrdak-Again, I will take that on notice.

Senator RONALDSON-What happens to gifts which are not retained by the Prime Minister? Where are they located? Are they displayed?

Mr Mrdak-I will check that. But, predominantly, they are retained by the ceremonial and hospitality area of the department if they are not retained by the Prime Minister under the existing provisions.

Senator RONALDSON-What happens to consumable gifts-wine, et cetera-received as official gifts but not taken by the Prime Minister? Are they consumed elsewhere or stored indefinitely? What happens to consumables?

Mr Mrdak-I will check. But, predominantly, they are stored. I will check in relation to consumables?

Answer: Please see answer to PM48a-h.