

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Budget Estimates Hearings 2005-2006, 23 and 24 May 2005

Question: PM 51

Outcome 1, Output 4.5

Topic: Value of Australiana Fund items

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Senator Faulkner asked: What are the values of the pair of hall chairs and console table provided by the Australiana Fund for Kirribilli House?

Answer:

The pair of hall chairs, cedar and paint, c.1830, were provided to Kirribilli House in January 2004. The Australiana Fund has advised that the value was \$18,000 for the pair. These chairs are not the hall chairs that there was recent media comment about.

The console table, Tasmanian Blackwood, c.1835, was provided to Kirribilli House in September 2004. The Australiana Fund has advised that the value of the table was \$18,000.

The Australiana Fund (the Fund) was established as a private company in 1978 to encourage direct public participation in the acquisition and preservation of a permanent collection of works of Australian artistic and historical interest for the four official residences.

The Fund's acquisitions are financed from its own resources and through direct public participation in the form of private and corporate donations. The Commonwealth does not provide any funding for Fund acquisitions.