

**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**

Budget Estimates Hearings 2007-2008, 21-22 May 2007



**Question: PM 66**

**Outcome 1, Output 4.5**

**Topic: Wine Consultant**

**Hansard Page: F&PA 79**

**Senator Faulkner asked:**

**Why is it believed now... that a wine consultant is not required? Is it because perhaps the residents of Kirribilli House are considered expert enough themselves in this art of wine tasting? I do not know. What is the reason? Why was a wine consultant required previously but is not required now?**

**Ms Hazell—I would have to take that on notice.**

**Senator FAULKNER—All the wine that was selected by the wine consultant has actually been guzzled now, hasn't it?**

**Ms Hazell—I do not think we could answer that today. We would have to take that on notice.**

**Answer:**

Instead of using a wine consultant, decisions about wine purchases under the former Government were made by the Chefs at the residences with guidance, if required, from suppliers. This guidance is a normal service provided by wine suppliers and there is no cost incurred.

All of the wine purchased on the recommendation of the wine consultant was consumed, prior to May 2007.