

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 Hearing 25-29 May 2009

Question: PM111a-b

Outcome 1, Output 5

Topic: Official gifts received by Prime Ministers Keating and Hawke

Senator: Ronaldson

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 10 July 2009

Number of pages: 1

- a) **Can the Committee be provided with a list of official gifts received by Prime Minister Keating, and the ultimate disposition of these gifts? If not, why not?**

- b) **Can the Committee be provided with a list of official gifts received by Prime Minister Hawke, and the ultimate disposition of these gifts? If not, why not?**

Answer: As indicated in answer to question PM48a-h from the Additional Estimates hearings on 23-27 February 2009, records relating to gifts received prior to 1996 are stored on obsolete computer software. Accordingly, retrieving the requested information about Prime Ministers Keating and Hawke would be onerous and time-consuming for the department, and would be an unreasonable diversion of resources.