

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: PM34

Topic: Reflection Room

Type of Question: Hansard, F&PA 25 May p112

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

Number of pages: 1

Senator BERNARDI-I am familiar with the room up there-not that I have ever had cause to use it myself. I am interested in how widespread these reflection rooms are amongst departments, and in particular what was the purpose or the need to establish this two years ago.

Mr Mrdak-As I said, the department had the opportunity when we moved into the new building to make some space available. That would not have been the case in our former building. I am aware that some businesses and departments do provide such facilities but I will certainly seek some more details for you in relation to this one.

Answer: The Department's building at One National Circuit, Barton was designed with a small reflection room. The building was opened in February 2007. The reflection room offers a quiet space for staff and visitors to meditate, pray or reflect.