

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee —Budget Estimates Hearing—May 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **Heavy doors from the Marble Foyer of Parliament House**

Question: **72**

Hansard reference **Written**

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 6 July 2012

Public submissions number 10 to the Inquiry into the Department of the Parliamentary Services mentions the "significant improvement" after the disposal of 'heavy doors' from the Marble Foyer of Parliament House.

- (a) Was this change part of a larger project, if so can DPS provide details of the project?
- (b) Were moral rights holders consulted, and if so, what was their response?
- (c) How were the original doors disposed of?

[Extract from Inquiry Submission No 10

Further, other changes and improvements are being made to what is now a 30 year design. Heavy doors giving entry from the Marble Foyer to the main building at Points 2 and 3 have recently been disposed of being replaced by self opening timber doors which are significant improvement.]

Answer

- (a) The modifications to the doors leading from the Marble Foyer (Security Points 2 and 3) were part of a wider security program flowing from the 2009 Security Risk Review conducted by the Attorney-General's Department.

In addition to security requirements, complaints from disabled and elderly occupants about the difficulty of negotiating the old doors were a significant driver for the new access arrangements.

- (b) Project staff discussed the proposed solution with Mr Giurgola and Mr Guida on 10 January 2011 and 28 June 2011. This included a viewing and review of drawings, following which Mr Giurgola indicated that he was quite comfortable with the modifications.
- (c) The original doors being of painted hardwood and showing significant wear and tear were disposed of along with other builders spoil. Original Parliament House fittings (door furniture) were either incorporated in the new doors or were returned to stock as spares.