

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates Hearing 21-24 May 2012

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1.3 Support Services for Government Operations

Topic: Renaming of Parkes place

Senator: Senator Faulkner

Question reference number: 38

Type of Question: FPA P68, 21 May 2012

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

Number of pages: 2

Question:

Senator FAULKNER: Do you mind taking on notice when Parkes Place was named? You mentioned it is comparatively recent. That might be useful and might allay some of the concerns that particularly the descendants of Henry Parkes, and there are a lot of them, have had about this matter.

Answer: As outlined in PM 61 for Additional Estimates 2012 (attached), the parkland to the north of Old Parliament House was gazetted as Parkes Place in 1928. As a result of common usage, the two north-south roads to the east and west of Parkes Place came to also be known as Parkes Place.

The east-west road on the southern edge of the lake which connects the two north-south roads currently bearing the name Parkes Place was a much more recent addition and was rebuilt at the time of the construction in 2002 of Commonwealth Place on the southern shore of Lake Burley Griffin's central basin. This road, also by common usage and for convenience, became known as Parkes Place, and it is this section of the current Parkes Place – ie the east-west road running along the southern shore of Lake Burley Griffin – that will be re-named Queen Elizabeth Terrace. This proposal has been discussed by the Chief Executive of the National Capital Authority (NCA) with the Chairman of The Sir Henry Parkes Foundation (himself a descendent of Sir Henry Parkes) and the Foundation has expressed itself as comfortable with the proposed change.

The NCA has also advised that it has prepared a comprehensive heritage management plan, compliant with the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, to protect the heritage values, including commemorative intent, of the original Parkes Place and National Rose Gardens. A copy of this plan has been provided to The

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Sir Henry Parkes Foundation and it is also available to the public via the NCA website.