

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee —Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing—October 2011

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **Billiard Tables**
Question: **29**
Hansard reference **F&PA pp.29 and 30, 17 October 2011**

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 2 December 2011

Senator FAULKNER: That is fine. I am asking whether there were any removal expenses to go to the auction house, for example.

Mr Kenny: I imagine that there would have been. We will try and get that number for you.

Senator FAULKNER: This is what is so difficult to cope with: you imagine. I am not interested in your imagination; I just want the facts.

...

Senator FAULKNER: I am trying to find out other costs. So far that sale, for \$5,000 benefit, has been a \$102,500 cost to the Australian taxpayer—plus other minor costs we do not know about. I want the whole lot, Mr Thompson. Everything: every cost borne by the Department of Parliamentary Services in relation to the debacle which was the sale of these billiard tables. So far it is \$102,500 going north. As soon as possible I really believe we ought to be provided with those figures, and it is disappointing you are not able to provide them today. Obviously it includes removal expenses if there are any, obviously it includes storage fees if there are any and obviously it includes auction house fees if there are any—and I gather there are figures in those three categories, given Mr Kenny's unsatisfactory evidence. If any other costs borne by DPS could be provided as soon as possible, I would appreciate it.

Mr Thompson: I will provide that.

Answer

1 This information was provided to the Committee in a letter on 18 October 2011.