

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

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: Green marble [*verde issorie*]

Question: 223

Hansard reference F&PA p.44, 15 October 2012

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 30 November 2012

Senator FAULKNER: ... What were the curved walls? Can you define that for me? ... Can you tell me which are the curved walls that were identified in 2005 as having a problem, please—what area, in other words?

Ms Mills: My understanding is that they are the two areas near the chambers. If you would give me one moment, I will just read from the review... In the report, these areas are described as niches. It is not entirely clear where they are from the report. But the advice I received when I asked about this was that they were niches adjacent to the chambers.

Senator FAULKNER: Is that internal or external?

Ms Mills: I believe that they are a mix. I think they are close to the walkway areas. Sorry, I am happy to provide more detail. It is something I am still investigating myself.

Answer

The Diagnostech Building Facades and Finishes report 2005 reviewed the condition of all external facades. It made recommendations regarding the rectification, repair and monitoring required for stonework, in particular for those areas where the stonework was not meeting performance expectations. The stonework included:

- the Verdi Issorie green marble, installed in facades and soffits externally on the niches or semi-circular recesses built into the curved walls on the two sides of the central glassed linkways; minor façade detailing; internally within the glazed linkways; as well as on the external Ministerial entry;
- Carrara marble panels on the Great Verandah facades;
- Carmina granite on both faces of the Curved walls.