

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
HIGH COURT OF AUSTRALIA

Question No. 25

Senator Barnett asked the following question at the hearing on 8 February 2010:

Excluding the cascade waterfall, air conditioning and asbestos problems, please provide details of other High Court structural problems and the costs to fix them?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

Following from a public safety risk assessment of the Court precinct, the Court engaged a consulting team to conduct a condition audit and prepare a management plan for the precinct. This management plan was separately costed by a quantity surveyor. The management plan identified 18 items of prime concern and 67 other items.

The Court is in the process of engaging an architectural team to prepare a master plan to address structural problems in the precinct. This may involve a staged approach, with priority being given to problems affecting public safety. Costs of addressing safety concerns are anticipated to exceed \$4 million.