

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
—Budget Estimates Hearing—May 2014**

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **Queen's dining set**

Question: **295**

Written: **Senator Wong**

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 11 July 2014

1. Why do current arrangements for the use of the Queen's dining set not prohibit its use for non-parliamentary purposes, including Liberal Party fundraisers in the Speaker's suite?

Answer

1. The dinner service was purchased by the Prime Minister's Department for the Queen's visit in 1954. We understand that it was then used in the Parliamentary Refreshment Rooms. Ownership of the service was transferred to the Joint House Department in 1964. There are no specific guidelines or protocols associated with its use.

The dinner service has been made available for use by the Presiding Officers since Parliament House was opened in 1988.