

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016**

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet  
**Outcome/Program:** Outcome 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet  
**Topic:** Adelaide Bragg

**Senator:** Wong, Penny

**Question reference number:** 233

**Type of question:** FPA Monday 22 February 2016, Page 23

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 14 September 2016

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

Senator WONG: I would like to know the sequence of decision making. When was the date on which you did this inspection with Mrs Turnbull and Ms Marshall? I want to know the decision-making process around the direct tender. You have given slightly inconsistent evidence, so this will give you the opportunity to clarify that. You said you were to decision maker, but you are not sure that you were. When was the decision made, by whom and what was your involvement? What communications with Mrs Turnbull or the Prime Minister were had in relation to this matter?

Ms E Kelly: Yes, Senator Wong.

**Answer:**

In mid to late 2015, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) began preparations to return stored furniture and household goods to The Lodge following the completion of the remedial building works. These preparations involved identifying items requiring refurbishment or restoration, including original Ruth Lane-Poole pieces.

In late September, senior PM&C officials (including the Deputy Secretary Governance) discussed a range of matters with the Prime Minister, the Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP, and Ms Turnbull, including furniture restoration matters.

On 30 September 2015, Ms Turnbull accompanied departmental staff including the Deputy Secretary Governance and the then First Assistant Secretary, Ministerial Support Division (former FAS MSD), to the Hume storage facility to inspect stored items. Mrs Angela Marshall, Adelaide Bragg consultant and Australiana Fund councillor, also attended.

Under the Commonwealth Procurement Rules (CPR), procurements under \$80,000 may be undertaken by limited tender (including by direct source). Given the low level of risk involved, for procurements under \$10,000, single quotes are possible if the decision-maker is satisfied about the requisite skills/qualifications/expertise of the supplier and that the procurement is value for money.

In order that the Prime Minister and Ms Turnbull could relocate to The Lodge as soon as possible after practical completion, PM&C placed a priority on furniture restoration. In this instance, following the inspection, the former FAS MSD (the decision-maker) was satisfied Adelaide Bragg was uniquely placed to undertake the project and the procurement met all relevant CPR criteria.

Adelaide Bragg was engaged to provide interior design services including:

- a furniture layout plan, and
- written advice on fabric choices for existing furniture, including specifications for reupholstering significant pieces.

The contract commenced on 14 October 2015 and finished on 13 January 2016.