

Question: 12

Topic: Chamber refurbishment

Written: 20 March 2017

Senator Wong asked:

With reference to the 2016-17 Supplementary Budget Estimates at which Senator Wong asked the President and the Usher of the Black Rod about potential refurbishment of the parliamentary chambers, and the President advised that he was awaiting advice from the Usher, following her liaison with the Department of Parliamentary Services, about refurbishment of the Senate chamber, and page 13 of the *Hansard*, advice from the Usher that “I am hoping to be able to provide some advice to the President in the coming weeks on that project”:

Has advice now been provided?

Have any decisions been taken?

Answer:

Yes, the advice was provided by the Usher of the Black Rod on 22 February 2017.

The department's understanding is that no decisions have been taken in relation to approving the refurbishment proposal and that the Department of Parliamentary Services will be providing further advice to the Presiding Officers in relation to this matter.