

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2014

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Australian Public Service Commission

Outcome/Program: 1.1

Topic: Woden Training Centre chairs

Senator: Smith

Question reference number: 25

Type of question: FPA, Monday, 26 May 2014 p. 104

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

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator SMITH: And the explanation. I would like to move on briefly to training centre chairs—\$42,000 worth of training centre chairs. It does not tell me how many chairs. I am wondering if anyone can provide me with an explanation of whether they are—
Mr Sedgwick: We will answer that question on notice.

Answer:

The Commission runs a large-scale training operation at the Woden Training Centre on a fee-for-service basis. In 2011, following feedback from participants and programme facilitators on the existing non-adjustable chairs, the Commission purchased 100 ergonomic chairs for use in the Woden Training Centre in order to meet its formal work health and safety obligations in relation to providing a safe training environment for people of all ability levels. The ergonomic chairs are more suited to an interactive training room environment and allow participants to adjust the height of their chairs according to their height and other individual requirements, reducing the risk of discomfort and injury.

The chairs that were replaced are now used more appropriately as short-term visitor chairs.