

Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Department of the Senate

Supplementary Budget Estimates

18 – 21 November 2013

Question: 17

Topic: Parliament House Office Fit Outs

Written: 26 November 2013

Senator LUDWIG asked:

How are additional fixtures funded?

- a) Are there any other ways Senators can fund additional fixtures?
- b) If so, what other sources can be considered?
- c) Can a Senator request an additional fixture be placed in their office and fund it themselves?

Answer:

Any additional fixtures may be funded from the department's departmental appropriation. Depending on the value and nature of the item, funding may be operational or capital.

Consistent with the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*, any fixtures in the custody or control of the Commonwealth are considered public property.

Senators may bring in personal items for their suites (for example, coat stands, artworks and other non-permanent items) but they do not have the option to self-fund additional fixtures provided by the department.