

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

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **Prime Minister's Office renovations – disposal**

Question: **194**

Hansard Reference **p 101, 20 October 2014**

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 31 December 2014

Senator FAULKNER: And with the curtains in the dining and sitting rooms, the cushions in the sitting room and the three-seater lounge—I use these as examples; there might be many others but I am not going to go there—what happened to the previous items? Given the abysmal record of DPS in relation to disposal—and that is being pretty moderate I think—what happened?

Ms Mills: The curtains would not have been reusable. I can check where they are, but they would have gone through the standard process that we now have. They were obviously purposed for that area. They were 25 years old and they were not reusable. The only other thing that would have been taken from that room is a small table, with four chairs, that had been placed in the alcove that previously had the fixed seating. That was no longer required. That table is in the building and being re-used in another office. The four chairs were standard chairs that were also able to be re-used.

Senator FAULKNER: My question on notice will pick up the detail over the past year or so in a more complete picture. That is fair enough.

Answer

Excluding the dining chair and sofa covering fabrics, which were in place for more than 20 years and were disposed of due to reaching their end-of life use, no assets were disposed of during the refurbishment works for the Prime Minister's Office. While the condition of the old curtains, mirrors and silk wall panels is very poor, they have nevertheless been placed in storage.