

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2015-16

Finance Portfolio
20 October 2015

Department/Agency: Department of Finance

Outcome/Program: 3/3.1

Topic: Furniture Relocation – office of the Attorney-General

Senator: Ludwig

Question reference number: F101

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 4 December 2015

Number of pages: 2

Question:

1. Provide an itemised breakdown of all items moved by Department of Finance for the office of Senator the Hon George Brandis from the Deputy Senate Leader's office to the Senate Leader's office
2. Provide pictures of any item of furniture moved by Department of Finance listed above
3. What was the total cost of moving these items?
4. Breakdown this cost by task/service or activity per item listed
5. Who conducted the work involved in moving each item of furniture? Was any work conducted by non-Department of Finance sources? If so, list these sources. What was the cost for procuring these services? How were they obtained? Under what policy were they engaged?
6. Provide all communication with the office of Senator the Hon George Brandis concerning the items to be moved to the Senator's new suite
7. Were items moved by Department of Finance for Senator Brandis initially not considered for transfer to the Senator's new suite?
8. Were any new items of furniture purchased for the Senator's new suite by Department of Finance? If so, itemise each item, providing a cost breakdown of each item, the source from which they were purchased, how the source was identified, who requested the item and any correspondence concerning the purchase of the items.
9. Were any modifications or changes made to the Senator's previous or new suite on his move between offices by Department of Finance? If so, itemise these changes, provide a cost breakdown of each change, who the changes were requested by, correspondence concerning these changes, who made each change and how they were selected to perform these changes.

Answer:

1. The Department of Finance relocated boxes, Departmental furniture and other items. The Department does not maintain an itemised list of items moved during relocations within Parliament House.
2. The Department did not photograph items relocated.
3. The Department is invoiced by its provider for the total cost of moving all offices and equipment associated with suite reallocations and is unable to break down individual Ministerial suite relocation costs.
4. The Department is unable to break down costs by task/service or activity per item that is relocated.
5. All relocation of Departmental items is conducted by the Department's contracted service provider, Right Now Office Renovations.
6. In relation to correspondence between the Department and individual parliamentarians on operational matters, it is not the Department's practice to release these.
7. – 9. No.