

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Budget Estimates Hearings 2006-2007, 22-23 May 2006

Question: PM 22 & 23

Outcome 1, Output 4.4

Topic: Australiana Fund items on loan to the Prime Minister's official residences.

Hansard Page: F&PA 78 & 79

Senators Faulkner and Ray asked: a series of questions asking the department to provide details of the repairs undertaken to various items on loan from the Australiana Fund, the cost of the repairs and the value of the items.

Answer:

The following details regarding the nature and cost of repairs and the value of the items have been provided by the Australiana Fund. The Fund was not able to identify the repair costs for two of the items.

ITEM	INSURED VALUE \$	NATURE OF REPAIRS	COST OF REPAIRS \$
Gothic cabinet	150,000	Broken lock was repaired by conservator (April 2001)	297.00
China plate	350	Broken and repaired (May 2002)	Not available
Silver jewellery box	2,500	Water damage repaired by conservator (August 2003)	1,884.55
Tasmanian musk and huon pine table	12,500	Stain repaired (November 2003)	90.00
Fisher freedom casket	7,500	Small piece detached during cleaning and repair work was undertaken (August 2004)	577.50
Dining table	35,000	Small stain repaired (November 2004)	Not available
Console table	18,000	Damaged in transit, repaired by conservator (November 2004)	Met by either the carriers or the company from which it was purchased.

In the response to a question on notice from the Budget Estimates Hearings of 13 February 2006 (reference PM 57), the Department inadvertently indicated that silver salts and salt and pepper shakers were on loan from the Australiana Fund and had required repair. The items that required repair were departmental assets, not those that are on loan from the Fund.