

# Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee —Budget Estimates Hearing—May 2012

## Answers to Questions on Notice

### Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: Furniture in PMO

Question: 106

Written Senator Faulkner

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 6 July 2012**

What happened to the other furniture in the PMO that was not originally intended to furnish the PMO, e.g. Chesterfield lounges, after Mr Howard ceased to be Prime Minister?

#### Answer

In 2007, following a change of government, the original furniture items were returned to the Prime Minister's office (PMO); and there were items that were not part of the original design that were removed.

For example, the green leather 'Chesterfield' lounge suite—including a lounge and four single chairs—were removed. The lounge and chairs are currently used in the Parliament House suite of an MP.

Six leather tub chairs, which were not part of the Parliament House global or commissioned furniture collection, were disposed in 2008 through auction.

The above information is based on available records, noting that National Archives policy requires that records only be kept for a maximum of seven years.