

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

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **Bertoia chairs**

Question: **53**

Hansard reference **F&PA p.49, 21 May 2012**

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

Senator FAULKNER: ... I want to ask a question about the Bertoia chairs. Do we know how many of these chairs there are, how many there were in parliament house originally and how many there are now? ... I am just asking whether we know how many of the Bertoia chairs, which are those wire affairs, are around.... I want to know how many were made, how many we had and how many we have now. If that is not available, please take it on notice.

Ms Hanley: We will take it on notice.

Answer

According to the original Parliament House Construction Authority contract, there were 466 Bertoia chairs supplied.

Records indicate a further 300 Bertoia chairs were purchased in March 2000, bringing the total number of Bertoia chairs acquired to 766.

Disposal records show that 107 chairs were destroyed in March 2000. Between the period 10 July 2008 and 13 April 2011 a further 198 chairs were destroyed. These chairs were assessed individually and were deemed as unsuitable for resale. Additionally, 245 were sold.

The current stocktake indicates there are a total of 24 chairs. As National Archives Australia policy requires that records need be kept only for a maximum of seven years, it has not been possible to determine when the remaining chairs were disposed of.