



Stewart Smith
Director – Committees
Parliament House
Macquarie St
Sydney NSW 2000

11 September 2014

Dear Mr Smith,

Thank you for your correspondence of 22 August 2014 regarding supplementary questions pertaining to the inquiry into Budget Estimates 2014-15 for The Legislature, conducted by General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3 on Tuesday 19 August 2014.

Answers to the supplementary questions are attached in hard copy format as requested. My staff have also provided the answers electronically.

Please do not hesitate to contact my office on 9230 2300 should you require anything further in relation to this matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Don Harwin', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

The Hon. Don Harwin MLC
President

Budget Estimates 2014 Questions on Notice

THE HON AMANDA FAZIO MLC: Antique furniture

I wanted to ask about the proposal to sell off some antique furniture and fittings that are currently not being used. Firstly, I wanted to know if all options have been examined for either the redeployment or display within Parliament House of these items.

- **Secondly, could you provide a list of the items included in this proposal and some details of the sale process and the proceeds of sale?**

A stock of old furniture has been in storage for over three decades within the Parliament without prospects of reuse. The old furniture items are comprised of antiques and replica antiques. The items have surpassed their serviceable life and no longer meet work health and safety standards for a contemporary work environment.

An independent antique consultant was engaged to catalogue the old furniture, assess its market value and establish its provenance, with the assistance of parliamentary staff. An initial assessment indicates that while some items hold cultural significance to Parliament House, the vast majority are reproductions of limited value.

The assessment process is ongoing as each item is carefully examined and catalogued. While no disposal process has been determined, any items that can be reused within Parliament House will be retained.

THE HON AMANDA FAZIO MLC: Storage of Metadata

How long does the Parliament retain records of internet usage by members and staff? What is the nature of the information that is collected? Is there any guarantee that can be given that no information on usage by members of Parliament will be improperly accessed?

Arrangements governing the logging, monitoring and disclosure of activity on the parliamentary network are set out in the Parliament's *IT Access and Use policy* which is available on the Parliament's intranet.

Section 4.10 of the policy applies to internet usage. The internet access of all staff is filtered, and a log of all internet usage is maintained. By default the internet access of members is unfiltered, and their names are suppressed in the log file. However, in many cases members prefer to have standard internet filtering applied to their parliamentary network account, and in such cases their names also appear in the logs.

The policy also defines the purposes for which logs can be accessed, being:

- to assist with systems maintenance, resource planning, and troubleshooting technical issues
- to ensure compliance with relevant policies
- to monitor for conduct which is potentially illegal or adversely affects the Parliament
- to prevent inappropriate or excessive personal use

This log is held by IT Services in a secure environment and retained for four years.

The information collected in relation to internet usage includes date, time, network account ID, user name, computer IP address and requested URL. For members who do not opt to have internet

filtering applied, their network account ID, user name, and computer IP address fields are suppressed in the log file.

Members can be assured that internet usage logs are not accessed improperly by virtue of the following arrangements which have been put in place:

- access is only with the written approval of a Clerk or Executive Manager
- the governance arrangements documented in the *IT Access and Use policy* procedures within IT Services ensure that staff are aware of IT governance arrangements
- physical and technological restrictions in place to limit who has access to internet usage logs.

THE HON PETER PRIMROSE MLC: Disabled accessibility for new carpet

I note that people using wheelchairs find the new carpet preferable to the old one. However, I have been advised that those who are sight-impaired find the colour an issue as they cannot see the edges of the carpet. Could the Department of Parliamentary Services be asked to look into that matter? I can provide the names of some people who could offer advice, if required.

The Parliament is committed to enhancing disability access within the building. It has been advised by both the architect and the carpet manufacturer that the carpet tiles selected for the tower block fit-out project are fully compliant with Disability Discrimination Act requirements and Australian Standards. It is noted however that lighting is limited in some areas of the corridors. The Facilities Branch is exploring future works to upgrade the corridor lighting in the tower block to improve visibility for members, staff and visitors.

THE HON PETER PRIMROSE MLC: Cleaning implications for security film bubbling

Window cleaners have advised—and I also have been advised—that they cannot wash the insides of those windows, which has resulted in a somewhat misty view.

There is no obstacle created by the 3M glazing on the inside of members' windows to prevent cleaning on the inside of the windows. The Facilities Branch will be undertaking a review of the intervals of these non-routine cleaning tasks such as window cleaning to enhance the quality of service to members and staff.

MR DAVID SHOEBRIDGE MLC: For the year 2014/15 what cost savings to the budget are expected from redundancies in 2013/14?

The savings from the Building Infrastructure and Services review undertaken in the 2013/14 financial year will total \$255,960 for the 2014/15 financial year. The savings from the IT Services review undertaken in the 2013/14 financial year will total \$204,600 for the 2014/15 financial year. This was partially to be achieved by a reduction in overtime of \$82,277.

MR DAVID SHOEBRIDGE: When will Wi-Fi access be provided in the gym?

The objective in delivering enhanced Wi-Fi access within Parliament House over the past year has been to provide Wi-Fi access across all floors containing members' offices and meeting rooms. Some

areas including the gym were not included within the original requirements. IT Services is currently reviewing the cost/benefit of further extending Wi-Fi access to other areas within Parliament House.