

**To: Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit  
Inquiry into the Effects of the Efficiency Dividend**

**From: Brien Hallett  
Deputy Official Secretary to the Governor General  
Government House, Canberra**

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### **QUESTION ON NOTICE**

Mr Georgiou (at PA64) asked "Have you always had the Honours secretariat?" The answer to the Honourable Member's question is as follows:

Since inception of the Australian Honours and Awards system in 1975 the Secretariat has always been located at Government House as part of the Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General. Due to accommodation constraints, at one stage some staff were based in rented office space elsewhere in Canberra, but still part of the Office. All Honours and Awards staff are now located at Yarralumla.