

JOINT COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATIONS

Inquiry into the development of a digital repository and electronic distribution of the Parliamentary Paper Series

SUBMISSION

SUBMISSION NUMBER: 7

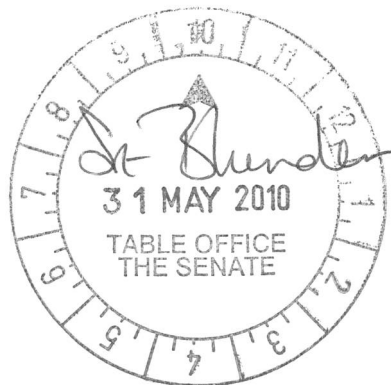
SUBMITTER: State Library of Tasmania

sub 7

Department of Education

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28 May 2010

Ms Sue Blunden
Secretary
Senate Table Office
Department of the Senate
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Blunden

Electronic Distribution of the Parliamentary Papers Series

Thank you for your letter of 17 May 2010 inviting the State Library of Tasmania to address the terms of reference relating to the development of an electronic Parliamentary Papers Series (PPS).

The State Library of Tasmania would welcome the electronic delivery of PPS as it would provide 24/7 remote access for our clients. In line with the national Re-imagining Libraries strategy, the State Library favours online access over print wherever appropriate as this provides direct, immediate access to information, without the need to visit a specific site or wait for document delivery. In addition, electronic delivery with the potential for full-text keyword searching will provide clients more efficient and effective search and discovery of papers.

There are a number of advantages to the electronic distribution of PPS from a collection management point of view. The current paper-based resources have a significant impact on storage space. Online availability would enable the papers to be printed on demand. For the State Library of Tasmania, demand for specific titles is low and this would have minimal impact on the Library's printing resources. Electronic versions which comply with appropriate standards for digital archiving are less vulnerable to theft or damage and therefore more reliable than paper versions. The Library would welcome the retrospective delivery of PPS in digital format.

Depending on the proposed method of electronic delivery, the Library does not envisage any technical barriers. Clients without internet access can use the document delivery service or visit a library where assistance will be provided to access the Papers.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback and I look forward to the outcome of your report.

Yours sincerely

Siobhan Gaskell

Director

State Library of Tasmania