



Australian Government
Department of Finance and Deregulation

Reference: C13/1532

Senator Louise Pratt
Chair
Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Committee Chair

Inquiry into provision of amenity within the Parliamentary Triangle

Thank you for your letter of 24 May 2013 addressed to the Minister for Finance and Deregulation, Senator the Hon Penny Wong, seeking departmental submissions to the above inquiry. Senator Wong has asked me to reply on her behalf.

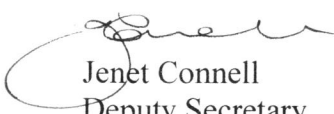
Finance is a large employer in the Parliamentary triangle, with over 1500 staff working in five tenancies in Parkes, Barton and Forrest. Finance is also an owner, manager and potential developer of Commonwealth-owned land in the area.

There are very few immediately accessible retail services and amenities for staff working in Finance tenancies. Staff wishing to transact business, or access most amenities, have to travel to Kingston or Manuka, or further afield. Staff who travel to these centres by car often lose their car spaces on returning – as parking is very tight in the area. The centres are a half hour's walk for those making the trip on foot.

It is noted that there are a number of cafes in the immediate vicinity servicing government departments and cultural institutions.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this submission. The contact officer for any further inquiries is Daryl Wight on (02) 6215 3021, or at daryl.wight@finance.gov.au.

Yours sincerely


Jenet Connell
Deputy Secretary
Chief Operating Officer Group
Department of Finance and Deregulation

3 June 2013