



DPS ref: 92/109L

14 November 2005

Mr Jason Sherd
The Secretary
Joint Committee on Publications
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600
E-mail: publications.committee.reps@aph.gov.au

Dear Mr Sherd

Inquiry into the Distribution of the Parliamentary Papers Series – public hearing, 31 October 2005

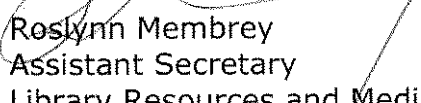
1 The transcript of the public hearing of the Inquiry into the Distribution of the Parliamentary Papers Series records the following exchange:

Ms CORCORAN—Thank you very much for your very clear submission and presentation this morning. I want to talk a little about the point you make about the index being a good discovery tool but somewhat after the event. Perhaps you can explain that to me. I am a newcomer to all of this; how does that work?

Ms Smith—The Parliamentary Library compiles an index to parliamentary papers, but it does not do it until the end of the year. Even then, it is generally somewhat into the next year before it is available. If it is suggested that government libraries could use that as a way of tracking down the previous year's papers, you are not guaranteed that they are all still available at that time.

2 I wish to point out that the Parliamentary Library's index to the Parliamentary Papers Series (PPS) (at: <http://www.aph.gov.au/Library/parlpapers.htm>) is updated more frequently than stated in the transcript. We enter details of tabled papers as we receive them. To date, the latest paper entered was tabled on 9 November 2005. The initial entry would comprise the author, title, date tabled and the Daily Papers List number. We then add the PPS number when we are advised of it by the Table Office. The latest PPS number entered was 535/2005, for a paper tabled on 10 Oct 2005.

Yours sincerely


Roslynn Membrey
Assistant Secretary
Library Resources and Media Services
Department of Parliamentary Services
Phone: (02) 6277 2487
Email: Roslynn.Membrey@aph.gov.au