

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
—Additional Estimates Hearing—February 2016**

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **Information Technology – Security Breaches**

Question: **262**

Written **Senator Wong**

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 1 April 2016

1. How many breaches of information technology security have occurred since 1 January 2016, including instances of hacking or where the information technology security was compromised?
2. Please outline the date of the breach and the nature of the breach.
3. What arrangements are in place for communication of breaches to management level in the Department of Parliamentary Services?
4. On what date was the Chief Information Officer informed of each breach?
5. Was the Secretary of the Department of Parliamentary Services informed and if so, when?
6. Was the President of the Senate informed and if so, when?

Answer

1. Since 1 January 2016 there have been no known security breaches on the APH network. Normal activities of routine malware removal, blocking of spam email, removal of phishing emails, monitoring the impact of email campaigns as well as routine risk monitoring and mitigation activities as part of business as usual operations have been performed.
2. Not applicable.
3. DPS has an ICT security incident response plan which would be implemented if a security breach were to occur. This involves a number of coordinated inward and outward communications which would include the CIO, Secretary of DPS and the Presiding Officers.
4. Not applicable.
5. Not applicable.
6. Not applicable.