

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
—Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing—October 2015**

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **Investigation into portable bollards**

Question: **18**

Hansard Reference **p 26; 19 October 2015**

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 4 December 2015

Senator WONG: There is a letter, there is a meeting and there are a range of discussions—are you able to outline actions taken as a result of this investigation and what communications there are with the Department of the Senate?

Ms Noordeloos: I can certainly provide that to you.

Senator WONG: I am happy to put it on notice, Senator Parry.

Answer

The investigation recommended that “DPS accepts that they are responsible for managing such situations and that they will take note in the context of ongoing dialogue involving security matters and the involvement of the press.”

Subsequently, it was agreed in Security Branch that the use of all tensile barriers at functions/events must be either at the direct request of the event organiser and/or used after a risk assessment has been conducted as part of operational planning. This should be documented clearly and note any changes to the running of the function. PSS officers are regularly briefed on health and safety issues with events.

DPS is reviewing the arrangements and preparing a policy for the use of tensile barriers at functions or events at Parliament House. This will be done in consultation with the other parliamentary departments and will include consideration of work health and safety issues. All use of Tensile barriers will be risk assessed. It is anticipated the procedure will be finalised by quarter 3 of the 2015–16 financial year.