

## **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: **APH Security Review (Sept 2014)**

Question: **64**

Written **Senator Bernardi**

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

Answer to Question on Notice 56 from the F&PA Committee's 16 March hearing of the inquiry into DPS referred to an APH Security Review commissioned by the Attorney-General's Dept in Sept 2014 and undertaken by AECOM. DPS also played a role in this. Mr Skill said that himself, Mr Giddings (DPS Director of Security Operations) and the Assistant Secretary of Security were involved in this review (see 16 March 2015 Committee Hansard).

1. Who else was involved in conducting the review – e.g. personnel from outside companies?
2. On what date did the review commence?
3. For any outside people (i.e. non-DPS personnel) involved, did these people have to obtain a security clearance to conduct the review?
  - a. If so, were they granted their security clearance before they commenced work on the review?
  - b. What level of security clearance did they receive?

Answer to question on notice 59 from the F&PA Committee's 16 March hearing regarding DPS indicates that the APH Security Review report is a document of the Attorney-General's Department, and DPS answered that they would pass the request for the report on to the A-G Department.

4. Are you aware of the Attorney-General's Department having responded to this request? If so, please provide details of the A-G Department's response. If not, does DPS intend to contact the Department to ask for progress on this answer?

#### **Answer**

1. An AECOM Senior Consultant in Security and Risk was involved in conducting an Australian Parliament House security review. Other non-DPS personnel included representatives from the Attorney-General's Department, Australian Federal Police, the Office of the Prime Minister and the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation.
2. 9 September 2014.
3. No, all personnel involved held current security clearances at the required level.
4. DPS can confirm that the Australian Parliament House Security Upgrade Implementation Plan Version 2.0 is unable to be released to the Senate Committee as it is a classified document.