Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee—Additional Estimates February 2006

Parliament Portfolio, Department of Parliamentary Services

Answers to Questions on Notice

Topic: The cost of security upgrades around the perimeter of Parliament House

Question P2

Senator Faulkner—That is of course a subset of very significant security upgrades around the perimeter of Parliament House. What is the current figure for the broader upgrade? It was around \$12 million, from memory.

Ms Penfold—It was \$11.7 million, and we have not gone above that.

Senator FAULKNER—You might give us that figure, if you do not have it in front of you, on notice—and perhaps disaggregated into the broad areas.

Ms Penfold—Yes, I could get you that.

Answer

The cost of security upgrades around the perimeter of Parliament House, as at 10 March 2006, amounts to \$11,415,548. This includes:

Parliament Drive Security Barriers. Construction of a low wall barrier around the inside of Parliament Drive. This work also included extensive work around the parade ground and required the permanent closure of Parliament Drive between the forecourt and the parade ground. Cost \$8,710,505.

Bollard Systems. Installation of systems of fixed and retractable bollards to control vehicular access to the building. Cost \$2,248,606.

Seismic Detectors. Installation of a system of seismic detectors to alert security officers of pedestrian traffic on restricted areas on the grass ramps leading to the roof. Cost \$214,145.

Ministerial Wing Car park. Works to the Melbourne Avenue car parks to restrict parking largely to pass holders and Commonwealth vehicles. Cost \$108,225.

Ministerial Wing Windows. The implementation of certain blast mitigation measures for all Ministerial Wing windows facing the Ministerial Wing car park. Cost \$105,610.

Slip Road Card Readers. The installation of card readers to trigger retraction of bollards on the slip roads to the Ministerial, Senate and House of Representatives entrances. Cost to date \$11,861. Estimated final cost \$40,000.

Pickup/Drop off Zones to Parliament Drive. The installation of pickup/drop off zones to Parliament Drive outside the Ministerial Wing, Senate and House of Representatives entrances. Cost to date \$16,596. Estimated final cost \$25,000.

The works are expected to be completed for a total cost of \$11.7m or less.	