

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee—  
Additional Estimates Feb 2008**

**Parliament Portfolio, Department of Parliamentary Services**

**Answers to Questions on Notice**

**Topic: Parliamentary Library - relocation expenses**

**Question P11, F&PA 30**

**ACTING CHAIR**—How frequently has the discretion to pay relocation expenses been exercised, say, over the last 12 months?

**Ms Missingham**—It might be useful if we came back to you also to tell you how many people have come from interstate, because I can only recall two that have come from interstate, so we are not talking about a very large group. Perhaps we can come back with that.

**Answer**

1 Paragraph 180 of the Department of Parliamentary Services Certified Agreement 2005-2008 provides that:

The Secretary may determine the extent of any financial assistance for relocation from another locality to Canberra upon promotion, engagement, transfer or temporary assignment in excess of 12 months.

2 The Secretary's discretion to determine the extent of any relocation assistance has been delegated to the Deputy Secretary, Parliamentary Librarian and Assistant Secretaries and limited to staff under the control of those delegates.

3 A more detailed DPS policy on relocation expenses is being developed for consideration by DPS Executive and for consultation with staff.

4 In relation to staff of the Parliamentary Library, in the past 12 months one request for reimbursement of relocation expenses has been made. The application has been received recently and is being considered.

5 One application for reimbursement of relocation expenses was made in 2006 and was not approved.

6 During 2007 and 2008 (year-to-date), three ongoing (permanent) employees and two non-ongoing (temporary) employees were recruited to the Parliamentary Library from beyond the Canberra regional area.

