

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

Parliament Portfolio, Department of Parliamentary Services

Answers to Questions on Notice

Topic: Telephone black spots-timetable for remediation

Question P14, F&PA 35

Mr Kenny—We did a survey of building occupants to get advice on where they considered there to be mobile phone reception bad areas or black spots. We have since had discussions with Telstra, who—and I think I have this right—run the network within Parliament House on behalf of all the mobile phone providers. Therefore, it is their responsibility to upgrade it, if upgrading is necessary. As a result of that audit and some technical testing that Telstra did, we have identified a number of spots that are not adequate and Telstra are now going to fix those.

Senator ROBERT RAY—Do you have a timetable on that?

Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS—Yes, that is right.

Mr Kenny—I am just checking—commence remediation work by the end of—sorry, Senator, that is some old detail. I will have to take the time frame on notice.

Answer

1 The in-building mobile antenna system is jointly owned by the mobile carriers. DPS facilitates access to the building. The lead carrier for the mobile antenna system is Telstra.

2 Telstra has undertaken a technical survey of parts of the building and this combined with the information gained from a client survey of in-building coverage, is being used by Telstra to modify the existing antenna system.

3 The technical design work is underway and it is estimated that it will be completed by the end of May 2008.

4 Assuming that all of the carriers agree with the design, installation will commence in the winter recess and it is anticipated that all of the physical installation will be completed during this period.

