

## Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee —Additional Estimates Hearing—February 2010

### Answers to Questions on Notice

#### Parliamentary Portfolio, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: Access from Civic to Parliament House

Question: P 22

Hansard reference: F&PA page 34, 8 February 2010

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 26 March 2010

**Senator BOB BROWN**—I would suggest a new approach which involves ensuring a straight through walkway/bikeway from Civic to Parliament House. Just looking at the terrain, that is going to involve some new bridgework, specifically for that purpose, otherwise we get caught up with the old problem of it being intersected by roadways. It would be good to look at what can be done to make pedestrian and bike access to this great Parliament House easy, simple and straightforward—and particularly for visitors who are making their once only trip to Canberra. So I would be very pleased if you would take it on notice and let senators know what the options are and what the way forward is there.

**Mr Thompson**—Obviously a lot of that would involve us communicating with both the ACT government and the National Capital Authority.

**Senator BOB BROWN**—Clearly.

#### Answer

1 The Department of Parliamentary Services (**DPS**) has written to the National Capital Authority and the ACT Government raising Senator Brown's concerns (see attached letter).

2 DPS is also participating in a project that is being sponsored by Roads ACT (within the ACT Government). The project will improve signage on bike and pedestrian paths around Lake Burley Griffin. In particular, DPS has provided input on the location of signs directing path users to Parliament House.



Parliament of Australia  
Department of Parliamentary Services

DPS ref: 10/34/19

12 March 2010

Mr Gary Byles  
Territory and Municipal Services  
GPO Box 158  
Canberra 2601

Dear Mr Byles *Gum*

**Pedestrian access to Parliament House**

During the Department of Parliamentary Services appearance before the Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration on 8 February 2010, Senator Bob Brown raised concerns about pedestrian access from Civic to Parliament House.

The Department of Parliamentary Services agreed to write to the National Capital Authority and the ACT Government raising the Senator's concerns.

An extract from the Hansard record of the hearing is below:

**Senator BOB BROWN**—*I would suggest a new approach which involves ensuring a straight through walkway/bikeway from Civic to Parliament House. Just looking at the terrain, that is going to involve some new bridgework, specifically for that purpose, otherwise we get caught up with the old problem of it being intersected by roadways. It would be good to look at what can be done to make pedestrian and bike access to this great Parliament House easy, simple and straightforward—and particularly for visitors who are making their once only trip to Canberra. So I would be very pleased if you would take it on notice and let senators know what the options are and what the way forward is there.*

Your early advice on this matter would be appreciated.

The Departmental contact officer is Ms Kathryn Dolan who can be contacted on 62775095.

Yours sincerely

Alan Thompson  
Secretary



Parliament of Australia  
Department of Parliamentary Services

DPS ref: 10/34/18

12 March 2010

Mr Gary Rake  
National Capital Authority  
GPO Box 373  
Canberra 2601

Dear Mr Rake *Gary*

**Pedestrian access to Parliament House**

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