

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
—Additional Estimates Hearing—February 2013**

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **Distribution of Pinks/Greens**

Question: **109**

Written **Senator Ryan**

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 2 April 2013

How many interruptions have you had in the distribution of Pinks/Greens since 2010?

Answer

DPS has been keeping records of Hansard Production System (HPS) issues since it implemented its new HPS in May 2011. These records provide information on the number of interruptions that have been caused through technical issues. Some issues would have caused interruptions to a small number of pinks and greens; others would have affected the majority of pinks and greens.

The only record kept prior to May 2011 relates to a failure of the old HPS, during which the system was not available for two sitting days. At that time, pinks and greens were still produced; albeit with some delays.

The production of pinks and greens can also be delayed due to non-technical issues such as chambers extending their sitting hours at short notice. In addition, since August 2012, Hansard introduced a new process in which production of pinks and greens is delayed on the mornings of sitting Mondays and Wednesdays by three and two hours respectively.

The numbers of interruptions to pinks and greens since 2011 have been:

2011	26
2012	5
2013	3