

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee— Budget Estimates 2005-06 (May 2005)

Parliament Portfolio, Department of Parliamentary Services

Answers to Questions on Notice

Topic: Parliamentary Library

Question P19 (written question)

When will the technical problems with the links provided with the Library's Alert Service, that have arisen due apparently to new IT conditions outside the Library's direct control, be rectified? Why is this issue not regarded as having the highest priority? Please provide a report on the handling of this issue.

Answer:

- 1 The release of ParInfo in May 2005 broke the Alert Service links. The change has now been rolled back to restore the service to its previous state. An existing problem relates to links to ParInfo documents that are based on document IDs and which change over time.
- 2 A working party consisting of specialist technical staff from within DPS has been set up to identify the root causes of, and resolve, the Alert Service problem and other ParInfo related problems. Some workarounds and fixes have already been initiated and the working party will also concentrate on improving the technical architecture and work processes relating to ParInfo.
- 3 This issue has been given a very high priority by DPS.