

**ESTIMATES 2009–10 — BUDGET ESTIMATES, May 2009**  
**Questions on Notice (QON) index—Parliamentary Portfolio**

Answers to QON taken during the Budget Estimates hearing, or written QON submitted thereafter, are due 10 July 2009.

| QON No. | Department | Senator   | Hansard Reference | Question   | Comments/<br>date<br>answer<br>received |
|---------|------------|-----------|-------------------|--|---|
| P1      | Senate     | Bernardi  | 25 May p5         | <p><b>Senator BERNARDI</b>—Have you updated a list of the positions within the Department of the Senate and the various levels they are employed at?</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Mr Hallett</b>—We could do that as at, say, today’s date and then of course the annual report will be as at June 30. We could provide that.</p>  | 27/5/09                                 |
| P2      | Senate     | Collins   | 25 May p11        | <p><b>Senator JACINTA COLLINS</b>—You have assured me at this stage that at least you did go right across the parliament. At first you said: ‘being a small department’, and, as Mr Evans was highlighting earlier, we do go across departments to bring on staff to select committees and other matters. If that option was exhausted, I am a bit happier.</p> <p><b>Mr Hallett</b>—They were offered assistance to consider alternative positions within the Parliamentary Service. But I will take on notice exactly what we did do and I will come back to you with that.</p>  | 27/5/09                                 |
| P3      | DPS        | Ronaldson | 25 May p14        | <p><b>Mr Thompson</b>— ... There is one further issue which may become a challenge for us, in that in the last two working days we have learnt that the Australian Federal Police believe their costs are going to go up quite a lot. We have just received that advice from them. They say they are going to charge us another 15.8 per cent for the services they provide on the perimeter of the building. That is literally in the last two working days we have received that advice. That would be very serious for us. That is about \$1.6 million extra.</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Mr Thompson</b>—We are still trying to dig into what it is. It is partly about pay rises. The other items they have given us are about their superannuation and something about some overheads, but we are just a bit—</p> <p><b>Senator RONALDSON</b>—Could you take that on notice and perhaps advise the committee when you get some—</p> <p><b>Mr Thompson</b>—Yes. We are happy to provide you with information, but we are still digging into it ourselves. We could come back through the staffing and appropriations committee. Would that be a useful way of dealing with that?</p> | 7/7/09                                  |

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|     |     |          |                  | <b>Senator RONALDSON</b> —As long as I get it, it does not worry me where it comes from.  |        |
| P4  | DPS | Forshaw  | 25 May<br>p19    | <b>Senator FORSHAW</b> —That is what I understood. You might want to take this on notice, but are you able to give the numbers of staff in that category who were here in 1996 and how that has tracked since then? How are the levels today compared to 1996?  | 7/7/09 |
| P5  | DPS | Bernardi | 25 May<br>p22–23 | <b>Senator BERNARDI</b> —Is there any provision in the contract for the introduction of an ETS and how that might affect electricity pricing?<br>...<br><b>Mr Nakkan</b> —There has been an estimated forecast. I do not have that information with me but I can obtain it.<br>...<br><b>Senator BERNARDI</b> —Would you be able to provide that to me, please?   | 7/7/09 |
| P6  | DPS | Bernardi | 25 May<br>p30    | <b>Senator BERNARDI</b> —Thank you. I will go to another survey. Mr Thompson, I will address it to you. How many responses do you typically receive from the satisfaction survey?<br><b>Mr Kenny</b> —We will get you the answer, Senator. Off the top of my head, I could not do anything but guess.   | 7/7/09 |
| P7  | DPS | Bernardi | 25 May<br>p31    | <b>Senator BERNARDI</b> —If we go to 2020: when I said before that I am a user of the 2020 service, quite frequently it is to ask them questions and clarifications for assistance. That is not regarded as a complaint, is it?<br><b>Mr Kenny</b> —No, that is what they are there for. But we do record statistics where people make complaints about some aspect of the service that they are unsatisfied with.<br><b>Senator BERNARDI</b> —Have you maintained a record of those complaints for some years?<br><b>Mr Kenny</b> —Yes, we would have stats going back a fair bit.<br><b>Senator BERNARDI</b> —I would be interested in the last couple of years, if you do not mind—<br><b>Mr Kenny</b> —We will take that on notice. | 7/7/09 |
| P8  | DPS | Bernardi | 25 May<br>p33    | <b>Senator BERNARDI</b> —Has the department done a cost-benefit analysis of retaining the existing lawn versus the cost of putting in the new grass coupled with the water savings?<br>...<br><b>Mr Kenny</b> —We have analysed the cost in terms of dollars and the cost in terms of the amount of water that the current environment needs and that is based on how much has been used in the last couple of years because how much water it needs depends on the weather. So we have done that analysis as well.<br><b>Senator BERNARDI</b> —Would you be able to provide that to us please.   | 7/7/09 |
| P9  | DPS | Bernardi | 25 May<br>p33    | <b>Senator BERNARDI</b> —How many artworks do we have in storage?<br><b>Ms Hanley</b> —In total, the art collection has over 5,000 objects. Most of those are on display either in office suites or else in circulation areas. As for the exact number that we have in storage at the moment, I would have to take that on notice and get the answer to you.  | 7/7/09 |
| P10 | DPS | Bernardi | 25 May<br>p34    | <b>Senator BERNARDI</b> —Finally, would you be able to tell me how many artworks are currently receiving preservation treatment and the cost of that treatment?<br><b>Ms Hanley</b> —I would have to take that on notice.   | 7/7/09 |

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| P11  | DPS | Cameron   | 25 May<br>p42 | <p><b>Senator CAMERON</b>—I am not a horticulturalist either but given that we are going to be facing some more extreme weather conditions, it has been put to me that there are some problems with some of the trees on the driveways and grounds around Parliament House, that they may not be stable in some pretty high winds. I have confidence that the staff are doing everything okay but could you give me some advice on that in case I am asked a question again?</p> <p><b>Mr Thompson</b>—We would have to come back to you, Senator.</p> | 7/7/09 |
| P12a | DPS | Ronaldson | Written       | See attached below   | 7/7/09 |
| P12b | DPS | Ronaldson | Written       | See attached below   | 7/7/09 |
| P12c | DPS | Ronaldson | Written       | See attached below   | 7/7/09 |
| P12d | DPS | Ronaldson | Written       | See attached below   | 7/7/09 |

**Written Questions on Notice**

**P12(a-d) (RONALDSON)-DPS**

With reference to the proposed reduction in security staff in Parliament House:

- a) How many security staff below the level of supervisor were there in 2005-06? How many are there today?
- b) When did DPS take over responsibility for security in the Ministerial Wing from the Australian Federal Police?
- c) Can you provide the Committee with a matrix which outlines the number and level of security staff at the level of supervisor or higher in 2005-06?
- d) Can you provide the Committee with a matrix which outlines the number and level of security staff at the level of supervisor or higher at the current time?