Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee —Budget Estimates Hearing—May 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: Budget lock-up

Question:

Hansard reference F&PA p.50, 21 May 2012

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Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 6 July 2012

Senator RYAN: ... Following on from that would you take on notice for me, just to confirm, whether there was, and I doubt there would have been, any instruction to not make them available to one particular lock-up or to keep custody of certain documents. I would appreciate it if you would advise that. **Ms Graham:** Sure.

Answer

DPS was not instructed by Treasury officials to hold budget documents in a manner that prevented documents from being available to any particular lock-up. Staff from the Treasury Department have management control of the documents at all times whilst under embargo.