

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

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **Parliament House tours**

Question: **52**

Written **Faulkner**

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

In regard to the cost of tours:

- a) What if any payments are required for the conducted tours of Parliament House?
- b) If payment of tours is required:
 - a. Are certain groups exempted?
 - b. On what basis is such a decision made and by whom?
- c) When were decisions made to require payment for any paid tours of Parliament House?

Answer

- a) Public tours are free. Private tours may attract a fee of \$9.50 per person during business hours, and \$15 per person otherwise, with a minimum of \$80 per group.
- b) a. Private tours are provided free of charge to the following groups: guests of Senators, Members and senior parliamentary staff, official guests of Government, official guests of the Parliament, embassies and high commissions, not-for-profit organisations, community groups and Australian educational institutions.
b. These arrangements are in accordance with guidelines developed in 2011 by DPS in consultation with the Department of the Senate and the Department of the House of Representatives.
- c) DPS has charged for private building tours since 2004 when the department was first established. Previously, the Joint House Department also charged for private building tours.