

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation
Committee—Supplementary Budget Estimates 2005-06,
October 2005**

**Parliament Portfolio, Department of Parliamentary
Services**

Answers to Questions on Notice

Topic: Costs to lay turf

Question: P6

Senator FAULKNER—Can you take on notice the cost of dealing with the other 1.7 hectares?

Answer:

The grassed areas outside Parliament Drive, including six of the eight viewing strips, were reseeded to help bind and hold the surface together. The overall cost of the work was \$12,332.

At the time the work was done, it was expected that water restrictions in the Australian Capital Territory would again result in irrigation to the areas being turned off over summer. For this reason the re-seeding work was completed to a lower standard than usual. To re-seed the area to Parliament House's usual standard would require the removal of the old thatch layer, re-levelling the surface with PA1 soil (the type of sandy soil used in the courtyards and on the roof of Parliament House), and some irrigation repair work. Reseeding to this standard would have cost \$31,200.

DPS is not planning to re-seed the area to the higher standard in the near future.