

Estimates 2006-07 — Supplementary Budget Estimates, October 2006

Questions on Notice Index—Parliamentary Departments

QON No.	Department / agency	Senator	Hansard reference	Question	Comments
P1	DPS	Faulkner	F&PA 33	Senator FAULKNER—There have been no strip searches. Have there been any pat-down searches? Ms Penfold—I would have to get advice on that.	Received 8/12/06
P2	DPS	Faulkner	F&PA 37	Senator FAULKNER—It is a question of whether people have been asked. I went through a range of issues: identification, support and the like. I do not even know whether the culture of the department is such that anyone who is in this situation would feel comfortable in coming forward and seeking assistance. I would be pretty doubtful that that would be the case. Nevertheless, I still suggest to you that there is a duty of care for all concerned. I have heard enough today and from people who have been either directly or indirectly affected, or who think they might have been or believe they have knowledge of it, for me to have sufficient concerns to at least raise them at this committee. I hope someone will consider following it through. At the end of the day, you can of course only deal with matters that are properly before you, and I accept that—I do not want anyone to deal with rumours—but on something as important as this, where the health and wellbeing of staff of DPS are concerned, you have to make every possible effort to ensure that you are doing all that you can to identify a problem if it exists and provide support in those circumstances. Ms Penfold—I accept that. As I have promised, I will give you an indication of what we have done. Senator FAULKNER—I will look at that when it comes through. I appreciate that.	Received 8/12/06
P3	Senate	Fierravanti-Wells	Written	Attached	Received 13/11/06
P4	Senate	LUDWIG	Written	Attached	Received 20/11/06
P5	DPS	LUDWIG	Written	Attached	Received 8/12/06
P6	Senate	LUDWIG	Written	Attached	Received 20/11/06
P7	DPS	LUDWIG	Written	Attached	Received 8/12/06

Please note that answers P1 – P3 are due by 15 December 2006.

Answers P4 – P7 are due by 31 January 2007

Written QON

P3

What is the total cost of running the Senate on a yearly basis?

Is it possible in turn to estimate a figure for the daily cost of running the Senate?

P4 – P5

With regard to each agencies (and the department itself) that fall inside the department's portfolio, could the department indicate

1. What date the agency's 2005-06 Annual Report was tabled before parliament?
2. If the annual report was not tabled by 31 October 2006, could the department indicate:
 - a. When the report was tabled, or if it remains untabled what date the report is expected to be tabled by.
 - b. Whether the agency's own legislation provides an alternative timeframe for its annual report. If so, could the department provide:
 - i. A description and reference to the relevant provision and legislation.
 - ii. An explanation of why the agency cannot meet the general timeframe set out in the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet's Requirements for Annual Reports, and so requires an alternative timeframe?
 - c. Whether the agency was granted an extension under section subsections 34C(4) - (7) of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*? If so, could the department provide:
 - i. The date for finalizing the report as set out in the extension.
 - ii. The reason given for granting the extension.
 - iii. The date that the Minister tabled in Parliament a statement explaining why an extension was granted.
 - iv. A copy of the Minister's statement.
 - d. Where the agency's legislation doesn't provide for an alternative timeframe (as per question b) nor was the agency granted an extension (as per question c) could the department provide:
 - i. Explanation for why the Annual Report was tabled outside the timeframe set by DPM&C despite there being no provision alternative timeframe set out in the agency's legislation nor there being any formal extension granted.

Details of any other arrangement in place for the tabling of the agency's Annual Report.

P6 – P7

- (1) What sum did the department spend during 2005-2006 on external
 - (a) barristers and
 - (b) solicitors (including private firms, the Australian Government Solicitor and any others).

- (2) What sum did the department spend on internal legal services.
- (3) What is the department's projected expenditure on legal services for 2006-2007.