

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings 2006-2007, 30 October 2006

Question: PM 17

Outcome 1, Output x.x

Topic: Security incident at Phillip Street Sydney building

Hansard Page: F&PA 60:

Senator Faulkner asked: There are two elements to it. These issues of security are serious ones. As a consequence of this particular incident, is the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet aware of any review of security arrangements in the building that are being undertaken? I understand where the Prime Minister's office is and I understand the layout of the building. I am just asking you, given the Prime Minister has offices there and cabinet from time to time meets in that building-as Senator Minchin can confirm-whether there has been any review that you are aware of in relation to security arrangements?

Answer: The Protective Security Coordination Centre (PSCC) has the responsibility for coordinating and managing protective security arrangements for Australian Holders of High Office. This is achieved, in part, through the implementation of a Physical Security Program that involves a range of measures including the provision of physical security advice and the coordination of physical security measures at all of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Offices (CPOs).

The PSCC conducts physical security audits of all CPOs as part of a scheduled program. The PSCC conducted a physical security audit of the Sydney CPO on 19 October 2006.