

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee —Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing—October 2011

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **Parliament House—Security Wall**

Question: **25**

Written **Senator Ryan**

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 2 December 2011

- 1) I note contract CN432004 for the provision of a security wall at the Parliament House public car park, costs \$6,357,717.30.
- 2) What benefit will the construction of this wall achieve? Will it increase the level of security for the building? Is the purpose of building the wall specifically to increase the level of security from the public car park?
- 3) How long is the construction expected to take? Are there any similar upgrades planned for other areas of Parliament House?
- 4) This cost seems rather large for a security wall, how is the Department making sure that there is not a blow out in costs?
- 5) Which Departmental budget is this cost being taken out of? Will DPS be seeking extra funding in the next financial year as a result of this project?

Answer

- 1 Yes, this contract relates to the construction of the security wall.
- 2 The 2009 Protective Security Risk Review and a number of earlier reviews made recommendations regarding security at Parliament House. Funding was provided in the 2010 Budget to address a number of those recommendations, including construction of the security wall.
- 3 The construction of the security wall commenced in late September 2011 and is expected to be completed in April 2012. There are a number of other security projects being undertaken, as recommended by the 2009 review.
- 4 The contract for the security wall project is a fixed-price contract.
- 5 The cost of the project will be paid from DPS administered capital funds, which were supplemented by a total of \$18.3m in the 2010 Budget. DPS will not be seeking extra funds next year as a result of this project.