

# Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee —Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing—October 2012

## Answers to Questions on Notice

### Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: Security incident  
Question: 148  
Hansard reference F&PA p.34, 15 October 2012

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 30 November 2012**

**Senator FAULKNER:** ... Ms Mills, you mentioned your being informed about this incident; when were the presiding officers informed? You mentioned that there was what appears to me to be an inexplicable delay in your being informed, but what about the presiding officers?

**Ms Mills:** I understand that they had been informed before me, but I would have to take that on notice. When I speak about presiding officers I mean their offices—I don't believe the presiding officers were present at that time, but I can take that on notice.

#### Answer

DPS security management were notified of the incident at 12.47pm.

The office of the Usher of the Black Rod was notified at 1.43pm. The Usher advised the President's office shortly after 2.00pm (when the Usher came out of the chamber). The President was advised when he returned from Question Time in the Senate, shortly after 3.00pm.

The Serjeant-at-Arms and the Deputy Serjeant informed the Deputy Speaker before she took the Chair for Question Time in the House of Representatives, which commenced at 2.00pm. The Speaker was informed shortly after Question Time commenced.