

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: **Protective security**

Question: **150**

Written **Senator Ryan**

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

Provide an update for your department/agency, including what is your current compliance level, what are you doing to manage risk, what is being done to comply with the mandatory requirements and details of any department/agency specific policies and procedures.

Answer

The Australian Government Protective Security Policy Framework is designed to help agencies: identify their individual levels of security risk tolerance; achieve the mandatory requirements for protective security expected by Government; and develop an appropriate security culture to securely meet their business goals. The *Parliamentary Precincts Act 1988* vests responsibility for the control and management of the Parliamentary Precincts in the Presiding Officers. The Presiding Officers jointly determine security arrangements and policies within Parliament House.

The Security Management Board—which advises the Presiding Officers on security policy and the management of security measures, for Parliament House—has proposed that the parliamentary departments develop a whole-of-Parliament House protective security policy and supporting procedures. The policy will address the mandatory requirements of the Protective Security Policy Framework, where applicable. This work is linked to implementation of recommendations arising from the review of information and communication technology for the Parliament.

Currently, each parliamentary department has its own overarching protective security policy, although there are common operating policies and procedures relating to physical security. These policies reflect the requirements of the Protective Security Policy Manual (superseded by the Protective Security Policy Framework), as they apply to the parliamentary operating environment.

DPS has the following policies and procedures, which relate to protective security (covering physical, personnel and information security).

- *Parliament House Security Policies and Procedures Manual*—the operating policies and procedures contained in the manual encompass the responsibilities for protective security in the parliamentary precincts based on extant conventions, legislation, agreements, resolutions and procedural orders of one or both Houses of Parliament, and arrangements between the Presiding Officers and the relevant Ministers. The Manual contains 29 documents, including:

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- Security Arrangements at Parliament House;
 - DPS Security Management Policy;
 - Security Incident Reporting;
 - Alert Level and Threat Level Response Plans; and
 - Major Incident Response Plan.
- Governance Paper No. 2.6—Corporate Governance—Policy—Fraud control policy and framework;
 - Governance Paper No. 8—Risk management policy and framework;
 - Governance Paper No. 9—Guidelines No. 3—Managing security classified records and documents;
 - Governance Paper No. 31—Parliament House Security Strategic Plan 2009–2014; and
 - Governance Paper No. 32—Business Continuity Management Policy and Framework.