Parliament of Australia

Department of Parliamentary Services

Information Circular No: **2011/54** Date: 24 October 2011

TO: SENATORS, MEMBERS AND OTHER BUILDING OCCUPANTS

**Changes to the House Monitoring System**

1 The House Monitoring System (**HMS**) provides Television broadcasting within Parliament House. This includes internal parliamentary broadcasts, free to air channels and some subscription channels.

2 From 28 October 2011, programs on the HMS "television channels" will be broadcast in widescreen (16x9) format, instead of the traditional (4x3) format.

3 Channels 19 to 38, known as the Whips' cameras for the Senate, House of Representatives and the Main Committee of the House of Representatives will continue to be broadcast in the traditional format.

4 Television sets within Parliament House should adjust automatically to the new widescreen format. However, in case of any technical problems, assistance for tuning or re-tuning televisions is available by calling ext. 2020. Very old television sets cannot adjust to a 16x9 picture, and vision will appear "vertically stretched". We believe there are very few, if any, old television sets still in Parliament House.

5 An updated electronic version of the HMS television and radio guide is available on:

(a) the Senators' and Members' Services Portal (under the *Webcast* content block);

(b) the @DPS Staff Portal;

(c) the Chamber departments' intranets; and

(d) the internet for other building occupants (http://www.aph.gov.au/visitors/hmschannels.pdf).

6 Feedback on the new television service or any other aspect of the HMS is welcome and is to be directed to Mr Vlodek Skiba, Director, Broadcasting Content, on ext. 2408.

Alan Thompson
Secretary