

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
—Budget Estimates Hearing—May 2014**

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **Security**
Question: **202**
Hansard Reference **p 58, 26 May 2014**

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 11 July 2014

Senator WONG: Here is the final question from me. I would like to know what the components are in the savings which have been calculated as a consequence of these revised arrangements.

CHAIR: And that would have to conclude your questioning, Senator Wong.

Ms Mills: We can certainly provide you with the rostering arrangements on notice, which will explain the costs.

Senator WONG: No, that is not what I asked for. You have given evidence to this committee—to Senator Heffernan, from recollection—of a \$400,000 saving per annum as a result of this. You would have had to cost that. I want to know what is contained in that costing. Is there a staffing reduction included in that?

Ms Mills: If you mean, 'Are there fewer people at the gates?', the answer is, progressively, yes. If you mean, 'Are there fewer staff?', no.

Senator WONG: Are there fewer staff in security roles?

Ms Mills: No. The intention is that there will be less overtime paid, and that some of the resources will be used to have additional staff doing mobile patrols across the building.

Senator WONG: But fewer people doing overtime?

Ms Mills: Yes.

Answer

The revised arrangements, by reducing the amount of hours and number of resources required at the entry points for screening, have resulted in a potential saving of \$414,967.20 per annum. Staffing models and current entitlements mean that the changes to the staffing arrangements and the associated savings will be primarily harvested through a reduction in overtime requirements.