

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
—Additional Estimates Hearing—24 February 2014**

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **Catering**

Question: **136**

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

Senator HEFFERNAN: But under the Crimes Act, and the crime of misprision felony, you do not have to prove it; you have to have a reasonable suspicion, and then take it to the reporting authorities, which in this case would have been the Australian Federal Police. Did anyone take it to the Australian Federal Police?

Ms Mills: No. On the basis of the report—

Senator HEFFERNAN: Thank you. On that basis, you will provide on notice to the committee the cost of the clean-up of the mismanagement in terms of, shall I say, the generosity of DPS to try and get someone to take the work on. I appreciate it is a difficult contract; the dining room and he can be full one night and empty the next. I appreciate all that.

Answer

Did anyone take it to the Australian Federal Police?

No. There was not sufficient evidence to do so.

The cost of the clean-up of the retail catering contract

The (GST exclusive) costs associated with W Catering's exit in 2010 included legal fees of \$40,846.25 and investigatory services of \$30,700.

In August 2010 DPS made a payment to W Catering of \$350,510.88. This was for items payable by DPS under the terms of the contract.