

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
—Additional Estimates Hearing—February 2015**

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **Forward estimates expenditure**

Question: **10**

Hansard Reference **p 35, 23 February 2015**

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 10 April 2015

Senator WONG: The portfolio additional estimates statement says DPS has been provided with an additional \$127 million over the forward estimates and also supplementation for a voluntary redundancy program. Of the \$127, I think \$111 million is in the current financial year. Is that right?

Mr Wright: That \$111 million is in administered, and there is \$2.7 in departmental.

Senator WONG: How much of that money has been spent to date and what have you been spending it on?

Mr Wright: The majority of that, except for \$1.6 million which is for voluntary redundancies, is in relation to the NPP for security upgrades.

Senator WONG: How much has been spent to date?

Mr Skill: We do not have an up-to-date figure on how much has been spent to date. I can take that on notice and get that to you very quickly. It is fair to say, though, that it is not a significant amount yet. As in any significant capital project, there is a lot of lead time and a lot of preparatory work. Most of the expenditure has been on things like design, architecture, structural engineering et cetera. We are expecting to have a significant amount of that expenditure out the door before the end of this financial year.

Answer

DPS has spent \$0.455 million on the Australian Parliament House Security Upgrade Project as at 23 February 2015.

This expenditure has been primarily related to preparatory and design work for Stage 1 of the project. Construction work for stage 1 commenced on 4 March 2015 and is expected to continue until mid-2016. Design work is progressing for stage 2 works with construction work expected to commence in mid-2015.