

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee —Budget Estimates Hearing—May 2015

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: DPS meetings with Mr Giurgola, Ms Berg

Question: 45

Hansard Reference p 89; 25 May 2015

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

Mr Skill: I spoke to Ms Berg in meetings late last year, but I have not had any conversations with them since then.

Senator WONG: Perhaps you can do the time frame of all the contacts with Mr Giurgola and Ms Berg, including the meetings that I was not aware of that occurred last year.

Answer

A timeline of letters and meetings between DPS and Mr Giurgola and Ms Berg from December 2014 to 31 May 2015 related to moral rights matters is outlined below:

- (i) 15 December 2014 – a letter from Mr Neil Skill (First Assistant Secretary, Building Asset and Management Division, DPS) to Mr Giurgola, giving a broad outline of the reasons for the proposed security works with an offer to provide documentation about the proposals.
- (ii) 12 January 2015 – a letter to Mr Skill from Ms Pamilie Berg AO on behalf of Mr Giurgola in response to the 15 December 2014 letter. Ms Berg indicated that the proposals could be highly sensitive projects and could negatively affect Parliament House. Ms Berg recommended that a series of reports be prepared during the design process to assess the alignment of the proposed works with the design principles of Parliament House.
- (iii) 29 January 2015 – letters from Ms Berg and Mr Chenoweth to the Secretary DPS, concerning the administration of Mr Giurgola's moral rights under an enduring power of attorney.
- (iv) 2 February 2015 – A meeting took place between DPS representatives and Ms Berg and Mr Guida about an approach to moral rights consultation, in consideration of Mr Giurgola's health and age.
- (v) 26 March 2015 – letters were sent to Ms Berg and Mr Chenoweth from the Acting Secretary DPS, noting advice regarding administration of Mr Giurgola's moral rights under an enduring power of attorney and seeking clarity about the matter including a copy of the document.
- (vi) 4 April 2015 – a letter from the Acting Secretary DPS to Ms Berg, providing the documentation for the proposed external works as tabled in Parliament on 23 March 2015 and the external heritage consultant report that assesses the heritage impacts of the proposed works.
- (vii) 7 May 2015 – DPS Strategic Asset Planning and Performance Branch/Heritage representatives met with Ms Berg to discuss the security proposals and other moral rights matters.
- (viii) 7 May 2015 – a letter from Mr Chenoweth to the acting Secretary DPS, providing a copy of the enduring power of attorney.

Meetings with DPS representatives and Ms Berg during the period from December 2014 to 31 May 2015 in relation to DPS contract 14099, Gifts procedures and locations consultancy services for work being undertaken by Ms Berg, is outlined below:

- (i) On the morning of Wednesday 10 December 2014, DPS representatives met with Ms Berg to discuss the arrangements for the afternoon workshop that Ms Berg was conducting for DPS staff as part of DPS contract 14099.
- (ii) In the afternoon of Wednesday 10 December 2014, Ms Berg facilitated a workshop related to contract 14099 with DPS staff in attendance.
- (iii) On 21 January 2015, DPS representatives met with Ms Berg regarding DPS contract 14099. Ms Berg also met with other DPS representatives to undertake work in the building related to DPS contract 14099, with similar meetings taking place on 2 February and 24 February 2015.
- (iv) On 25 February 2015, DPS representatives met with Ms Berg to discuss the final deliverables under DPS contract 14099.
- (v) On 7 May 2015, Ms Berg met with DPS representatives to undertake work in the building related to DPS contract 14099.

On 20 April 2015 Mr Giurgola, Ms Paola Giurgola and Ms Marjory Kobold were in the building and asked to meet the Heritage team informally to say hello and see where they worked.