

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

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **Contract CN1751571**
Question: **196**
Hansard Reference **p 107-108, 109, 20 October 2014**

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 31 December 2014

Senator FAULKNER: This is a draft brief, so where is the actual brief? This does not have a signature on it or anything. This does not have a signature block.

Ms Hanley: In the time available, this was as much information as I could get. It was created on 23 January 2013. We have been able to identify the author as Kylie Scroope.

...

Senator FAULKNER: That is because there is a pen-script annotation written today that says so. Who received the draft? Who was the addressee of the draft? I assume it would not sit in somebody's computer. It has gone somewhere.

Ms Mills: I recall having the discussion about it but it was so long ago I do not have a record of it. That is why we have to take it on notice to find more detail in the time available.

Senator FAULKNER: I don't want to explore it on notice. I want to explore it right now, at the table. If someone has been able to find this, have we been able to find the document when it is no longer a draft?

Ms Hanley: Not as yet. It may have stayed a draft, because it was, I suppose, at the very early stages before any money had been received for the commission. You could look at it as an exploratory draft.

...

Ms Mills: Following this advice, I went to the Presiding Officers with the more concrete proposal that we, in fact, did seek funding for a photographic commission as part of the anniversary celebrations.

Senator FAULKNER: But we do not have a copy of the more concrete proposal.

Ms Mills: The advice to the Presiding Officers seeking the funding.

Senator FAULKNER: But did the advice to the Presiding Officers include any of this material? Was it a formal brief?

Ms Mills: No. It was a discussion around how this was a way in which it could be approached. The formal brief was suggesting that they seek the funding for the two elements.

Senator FAULKNER: Is a copy of that brief to the Presiding Officers available? I appreciate, Mr President, this obviously well predates your period as President. I do not expect you to have any personal knowledge of this at all.

The PRESIDENT: Understood.

Ms Mills: We can get you a copy of that.

Answer

The relevant documents and timeline have been provided to the Committee in the context of the Committee's inquiry into DPS.