

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
—Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing—October 2016**

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **ANAO Performance Audit Report – Managing Contracts at Parliament House**

Question: **22**

Written: **Senator Wong**

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 2 December 2016

With reference to the Australian National Audit Office Performance Audit Report *Managing contracts at Parliament House* (No. 19 of 2016-17) and the statement at paragraph 14 on page 9 that “DPS does not have a strategy for the delivery of retail services in Parliament House. DPS commissioned the development of a retail strategy in late 2015, with the final report delivered to the department in January 2016. As at July 2016, the department had not finalised its consideration of the report or prepared a briefing on a proposed retail strategy for the Presiding Officers. Consequently DPS’ arrangements with retail licence holders remain on a month-to-month basis. DPS has reviewed and renewed press gallery licences at Parliament House.”

1. Has the Department of Parliamentary Services now finalised its consideration of the retail strategy report?
 - a. If not, when is this expected to occur?
2. Have the Presiding Officers received a briefing on a proposed retail strategy?
 - a. If not, why not?
3. Why this matter has been ongoing for over six months?
4. For how long can it be expected that arrangements with retail licence holders remain on a month-to-month basis?
5. How many retail licence holders are affected and who are they?
6. How much did this report cost?
7. Who produced this report?

Answer

1. Yes.
2. Yes.
3. The retail strategy was delayed due to the recruitment of a new Assistant Secretary (completed in April 2016) and was then deferred during the election and caretaker periods and was progressed following the swearing in of the Presiding Officers.
4. DPS anticipates that all new licence arrangements will be in place by 31 March 2017.
5. Four retail licence holders are affected: Aussies Café, Capital Hairdressing, Australia Post and Sportscare Physiotherapy and Massage.
6. The report cost \$44,116.54 (incl GST).
7. The Maytrix Group.