

## Estimates 2006-07 — Budget Estimates, May 2006

## Questions on Notice Index—Parliamentary Departments

QON No.	Department / agency	Senator	Hansard reference	Question	Comments
P1	DPS	Faulkner	F&PA 38	<p>Senator FAULKNER—What is the historical pattern in that area?</p> <p>Mr Kenny—I do not have any information with me prior to May—</p> <p>Senator FAULKNER—But with such a high turnover, why doesn't someone have that information? You also had a one-hour break over lunchtime to try to find out some of this information. This is hopeless.</p> <p>Mr Kenny—I have got this information with effect from May. I am confident we can get something going back earlier than that, but I do not know exactly what we will get because if we go back further we will need to rely on HR records that I do not absolutely know whether we have. This is because different systems were used in the past. I can find whatever is available.</p>	Received 7/07/06
P2	DPS	Faulkner	F&PA 39	<p>Senator FAULKNER—How does the staff turnover in the IT client support area compare to the rest of DPS?</p> <p>Ms Penfold—I do not have immediate figures for staff turnover for the rest of DPS. Maybe we can get you that.</p>	Received 7/07/06

<b>QON No.</b>	<b>Department / agency</b>	<b>Senator</b>	<b>Hansard reference</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>P3</b>	DPS	Faulkner	F&PA 45	<p>Senator FAULKNER—What is the annual cost to the parliament of these pot plants?</p> <p>Mr Smith—There is a contract for the supply, care and maintenance of the plants. I think it is somewhere around the \$100,000 per year mark, but I do not have the exact number.</p> <p>Senator FAULKNER—Could you establish that for us?</p> <p>Mr Smith—Yes, Senator, I will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator FAULKNER—What benefit do we get from this \$100,000 a year?</p> <p>Senator ROBERT RAY—Apart from bringing in mosquitoes, of course!</p> <p>Mr Smith—I think it breaks up some of the harder architectural features with a bit of softer vegetation. It does provide a bit of air quality improvement. I could not put a precise figure on that.</p> <p>Senator FAULKNER—But surely we can get a precise figure on what it costs us and how many of these plants there are in the place, because there are an awful lot, aren't there? It is not just senators and members, is it?</p>	Received 7/07/06
<b>P4</b>	DPS	Fifield	F&PA 52	<p>Senator FIFIELD—How many tenderers were involved in the first process?</p> <p>Ms Penfold—I do not have that information. I mentioned to you that only two of them produced endorsed products. I do not know whether there were other tenderers at that stage. We will have to take that bit on notice.</p>	Received 7/07/06
<b>P5</b>	DPS	Carr	Written	Attached	Received 7/07/06
<b>P6</b>	DPS	Carr	Written	Attached	Received 7/07/06
<b>P7</b>	DPS	Ludwig	Written	Attached	Received 7/07/06
<b>P8</b>	Senate	Ludwig	Written	Attached	Received 14/06/06
<b>P9</b>	DPS	Ludwig	Written	Attached	Received 7/07/06
<b>P10</b>	Senate	Ludwig	Written	Attached	Received 14/06/06

Please note that answers are due by 7 July 2006.

## **Written QON**

### **P5 (This question also sent to DOFA)**

1. How does the Quarantine facility currently protect MPs and Senators' inboxes from SPAM?
2. Does it have any other benefits?
3. How much does it cost to protect MPs and Senators inboxes?
4. Is this facility funded by DPS (PM&C) or MPS (DOFA) or both?
5. Please provide details of funding arrangements given the quarantine facility is operable in both Parliamentary and Electorate Offices.
6. Why is this facility not extended to parliamentary electorate and personal staff?
  
7. Do any Ministerial staff have access to this protection?
8. Do any staff working for Government members and senators have such protection?
9. Do staff of the Government Communications Unit have access to this quarantine service?
10. Do staff of the Government Members Secretariat have access to this quarantine facility?
11. Do any other DPS or Parliamentary staff have access to the quarantine facility?
12. If so, please nominate numbers of staff, their work locations and classification levels?
13. Does the Secretary of the Department of Parliamentary Services or staff of her office have access to this facility?
  
14. What prevents DPS from offering the quarantine facility to MPs' and Senators' staff? Is the issue simply one of cost or are there other factors involved?
15. If there are other factors, please provide a detailed explanation of these?

16. What analysis of work efficiency versus cost was undertaken at the time the decision not to extend quarantine protection was made?

17. Please provide a copy of this evaluation.

18. How much would it cost to protect the inboxes of MPs and Senators staff with the quarantine facility?

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#### **P6 - Music on Hold**

1. How much does DPS pay per annum for the "muzak" currently piped through the Parliamentary phone and broadcast facilities?

2. Please detail the licensing and payment arrangements in place for the music-on-hold facility including details of any services providers involved.

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#### **QUESTIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT AND THE AGENCIES CONSTITUTED UNDERNEATH IT**

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#### **P7–P8 Legal Costs**

(1) What sum did the department or agency spend during 2005-2006 on external legal services (including private firms, the Australian Government Solicitor and any others).

(2) What sum did the department or agency spend on internal legal services.

(3) What is the department or agency's projected expenditure on legal services for 2006-2007.

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#### **P9–P10 Management Training**

The following questions relate to the purchase of executive coaching and/or other leadership training services by the department/agency, broken down for each of the last four financial years.

Where available, please provide:

1. Total spending on these services.
2. The number of employees offered these services and their salary level.
3. The number of employees who have utilised these services and their salary level.
4. The names of all service providers engaged.
5. For each service purchased from a provider listed in the answer to the previous question, please provide:

- a. The name and nature of the service purchased.
- b. Whether the service is one-on-one or group based.
- c. The number of employees who received the service.
- d. The total number of hours involved for all employees.
- e. The total amount spent on the service.
- f. A description of the fees charged (e.g. per hour, complete package).
- g. Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:
  - i. The location used
  - ii. The number of employees who took part on each occasion
  - iii. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part.