

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee —Budget Estimates Hearing—May 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: WHS program
Question: 77
Hansard reference F&PA p.33, 21 May 2012

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 6 July 2012

Mr Grove: Within the HR area, there are representatives who sit on safety—OH&S—groups. They are volunteers and they are trained. Those people undertake investigations of areas within DPS and make recommendations. If the standard is low and it needs to be corrected or if someone does not have appropriate ergonomic furniture at which to work, those corrections would be made. But we will give you fuller details about what programs exist for DPS staff. If it is possible to obtain the information in relation to the other departments, we will give it to you. Perhaps those questions are more correctly directed to other areas. But we will attempt to get that information.

Senator SINGH: To your knowledge, it is only if they request a workplace assessment?

Mr Grove: No. My understanding is that it is an active program which exists within DPS to ensure there is an appropriate, safe workplace for everyone who is working in DPS.

Senator SINGH: What does 'active program' mean? Does that mean it is an automatic mandatory formality which occurs for new staff or for staff every year? Or is it something that is not very active?

Mr Grove: It would be better if I did not answer that question. We can give you that detail in writing in the answer. ...

Senator SINGH: We were also going to get some information about workplace incident reporting and workers compensation claims. Are you taking that on notice as well?

Mr Grove: Yes, we will take that on notice.

Answer

Please see answer provided to Question 75.