

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

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **Security**
Question: **182**
Hansard Reference **p 32, 26 May 2014**

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 11 July 2014

Ms Mills: This is a very important building. The people who work here are very important. We are extremely cognisant of that. There are many ways in which we protect this building, not just at the gateway, not just by Xraying people's bags coming into the building. You have to look at this as an overall picture, and our judgement call through the security management board and having considered the security reports for the 44th parliament is that this is a way that we can allocate resources to equally-high-risk, if not high-risk strategy.

Senator HEFFERNAN: And this is to save \$400,000—a bit like the pot plants, which turned into a disaster because the pot storage was more than the pots were worth and then someone stole half the pots. This is stupid. Could this committee see that report and who is on the committee that made the report?

Ms Mills: I understand this morning someone asked to see the security management board papers—was it Senator Wong? That will be made available and will contain a significant amount.

Senator WONG: What will it contain?

Ms Mills: It will contain the discussion and the minutes of the security management board. Some of the background papers, because they relate to national security and arrangements of this building in more detail—

Senator HEFFERNAN: The national security people are unhappy.

Ms Mills: For the security of this building, the more detailed papers I would be happy to provide but not on a public basis. If there were some means by which they could be provided but not as part of the public part of the estimates hearing, that would be okay.

Answer

See answer to question 2 for the Department of the Senate.