

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

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **Staffing profile**
Question: **173**
Hansard reference **F&PA p.38, 15 October 2012**

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 30 November 2012

Senator HUMPHRIES: I heard you make reference earlier, in your opening remarks, to additional positions that have been created within DPS to deal with a number of issues. Could I ask you to take on notice what the overall staffing profile of DPS will be for the course of 2013-14 as compared with 2011-12 with respect particularly to those issues that have been raised—extra staff being created for some positions and other pressures to meet budget requirements which might—

Ms Mills: I am happy to take that on notice,

Answer

DPS has embarked on a functional re-alignment to ensure the structure provides the best mechanism for the delivery of services to the Parliament. During 2012–13, there will be changes to DPS's executive structure with the creation of two Divisions: Building Management Division; and the Information, Communication and Technology Division.

Further changes will see existing sections grouped into new Branches named Parliamentary Experience, and Strategy and Performance.

From July 2013, DPS's structure will be somewhat different from what it was in July 2012. However, it is too early in the change process to identify the specific staffing profile for 2013–14—other than the changes at the Senior Executive Service level, which will be at no net cost increase, as positions created have replaced positions abolished.

In other areas, changes will result from a combination of the impact of the departmental realignment and the need to manage costs within a reduced budget.

It should also be noted that aspects of DPS's staffing profile—including the number of FTE—are affected by factors such as the number of sitting days and core staff levels of, for example, the security workforce. Adjustments to staffing arrangements are made regularly to meet the demands of Parliament.