

**REVIEW BY THE PARLIAMENTARY SERVICE COMMISSIONER OF
ASPECTS OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE PARLIAMENT**

RECOMMENDATIONS

(a) Security

Recommendation 1: A centralised security organisation be created in the Joint House Department or in an amalgamated service-provision department.

(b) Management and corporate functions

Recommendation 2: (One option) A shared-services centre be established to undertake human resources, finance and office services transactional-processing for all parliamentary departments.

Recommendation 2.1: Services to Senators and Members not be transferred to any shared services centre until the centre is established and operating satisfactorily.

Recommendation 3: SMCG assume greater responsibility for coordinating strategic ICT issues, supported by DPRS in consultation with departmental ICT Directors.

(c) Purchasing

Recommendation 4: SMCG be given formal responsibility for coordinating procurement of common items in circumstances where there is benefit to the parliamentary departments in doing so.

(d) Other matters

Recommendation 5: (The preferred option) The three service provision departments be amalgamated.

Recommendation 5.1: The position of Parliamentary Librarian be established at a senior level within the amalgamated service provision department.

Recommendation 5.2: The independence of the Parliamentary Library be granted by Charter from the Presiding Officers.

Recommendation 5.3: The independence of the Parliamentary Library be reinforced by strengthening the current terms of reference for the joint Library Committee.

Recommendation 5.4: The resources and services to be provided to the Library in the amalgamated department be specified in an annual agreement between the Departmental Secretary and the Parliamentary Librarian, approved by the Presiding Officers following consideration by the joint Library Committee.

Implementation

Recommendation 6: A dedicated implementation team be established to manage the implementation process, headed by a senior official seconded full time to the task.