



Australian Government
Department of Finance and Deregulation

EXECUTIVE MINUTE

on
JOINT COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT
REPORT 428

Review of Auditor-General's Reports Nos. 16 to 46 2010-11

Response to the recommendation

Recommendation No. 1

The Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit recommends that the Department of Finance and Deregulation develop options for improved cross-agency and cross-jurisdictional financial reporting as part of the Commonwealth Financial Accountability Review.

Supported in-principle

The Commonwealth Financial Accountability Review (CFAR) is a multi-year review of the operation of the Commonwealth's financial framework from first principles. The CFAR work program includes exploring options to improve the capability of government to undertake cross-agency and cross-jurisdictional operations.

A discussion paper was released publicly on 27 March 2012 and is available at cfar.finance.gov.au. The objective of the discussion paper is to facilitate consultation and broad public discussion on the Commonwealth financial framework.

This period of consultation and discussion will assist in determining what accountability and reporting reforms are required to facilitate cross-agency and cross-jurisdictional operations. Finance will then put forward policy options to the Government later in 2012.

In addition, it should be noted that work beyond CFAR could assist with cross-agency and cross-jurisdictional financial reporting. This includes the work that the Department of Finance and Deregulation is undertaking in response to the recommendations of both the ANAO and the JCPAA in regard to improving reporting requirements to provide a more comprehensive picture of the performance and outcomes of programs under national partnerships across government.

Yours sincerely

David Tune
13 April 2012