



Australian Government

Department of Finance and Administration

Reference: RMS04/05606-02
Contact: Neil Robertson
Telephone: (02) 6215 2110
e-mail: neil.robertson@finance.gov.au

Mr Russell Chafer
Secretary
Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit
Department of the House of Representatives
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2602

Dear Mr Chafer

JCPAA hearing of 2 June 2006

I am writing to provide the answer to a question taken on notice at the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit hearing of 2 June 2006.

Page PAA6 of the Proof Committee Hansard of 2 June 2006 indicates that my colleague, Ms Anne Hazell, took a question in relation to purchasing assurance committees on notice. The answer to that question is provided as an attachment to this letter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K Campbell'.

Kathryn Campbell
Deputy Secretary
General Manager, Financial Management Group

22 August 2006

Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Department of Finance and Administration

Review of Auditor-General's reports Nos 7 to 35 (2005-06) – 2 June 2006

Question: 1

Topic: Procurement

Hansard Page: PAA6

The Hon Bronwyn Bishop MP asked:

We had evidence from DIMA earlier that they have established a purchasing assurance committee, and DOFA is a member of that committee. Do other departments have a similar purchasing assurance committee or is this something that has been created in DIMA because of their failure on the GSL contract?

Answer:

Responsibility for procurement is devolved to the Chief Executive of each agency. Australian Government agencies use a range of governance and probity mechanisms when undertaking procurement. Any questions on DIMA procurement should be directed to DIMA.