

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2013-14, 20 November 2013

Question: E14-244

OUTCOME: 1 – Population Health

Topic: Efficiency Dividend

Type of Question: Hansard Page 76, 20 November 2013

Senator: Smith

Question:

- a) Could you detail for me any efficiency dividends that might have been imposed on the Australian Sports Commission over the past two years. I am happy for you to take these on notice, if that is easier.
- b) What measures have already been taken in order to meet any efficiency dividend? Again, if you could illuminate that briefly and then provide some additional material on notice, that would be good.
- c) Are there any measures planned or being planned to meet any efficiency dividend? Obviously the answer must be yes, because you have been asked to implement an efficiency dividend. Have there been any staff reductions as a result of any efficiency dividend and could you please detail those?
- d) Could you provide on notice whether the Australian Sports Commission has offered, or is planning to offer, any redundancies in order to meet any efficiency dividend—that is only relevant if you are planning to have redundancies—and any other information of a general nature?

Answer:

a) to d)

The efficiency dividends that have been imposed on the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) over the past two years are:

- 1 per cent efficiency dividend on creation of Forward Estimate Year 3 (2016-17 and 2017-18); and
- temporary increase of the efficiency dividend to 2.25 per cent per annum for three years from 2014-15 (2014-15 to 2016-17).

The table below summarises the impact of the efficiency dividend:

Year	ED Rate
2011-12	2.00%
2012-13	1.50%
2013-14	1.25%
2014-15	2.25%
2015-16	2.25%
2016-17	2.25%
2017-18	1.00%

The one-off increase of the efficiency dividend to 2.50 per cent announced in December 2011, which was to impact the 2012-13 and Forward Estimates, was not applied to the ASC.

The efficiency dividend applies to operational and grant based funding. The impact of reducing available funding is considered on an annual basis. The ASC will create the efficiencies by identifying savings through its business planning processes and the development of internal budgets for the associated years.

There are no specific new measures planned or being planned to meet the efficiency dividend over the Budget and forward years, nor has the ASC offered or is specifically planning on offering any redundancies in order to meet the efficiency dividend at this stage.

However, consistent with previous years, the Australian Sports Commission is continuing to reassess its priorities while reviewing areas of discretionary spends for ways to achieve greater value for money. This includes through the following activities:

- procurement processes;
- reviewing alternative ways of undertaking the delivery of activities (e.g. increased utilisation of teleconferencing instead of travel); and
- assessing efficiencies in volume driven costs (e.g. reduction of utilities across the Canberra site).

The ASC is also undertaking a review of organisational effectiveness to assist in identifying areas where the ASC can achieve discretionary savings through efficiency and effectiveness of business processes.