

Senate Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates, 16 & 17 February 2005

Question: Add 8

Topic: ACCC – SmartNumber

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Sherry asked:

Has the ACCC received any complaints about the "smartnumber" auctioning system the freecall telephone numbers that spell a word or business name?

Has an investigation been conducted? What was the outcome of this investigation?

Answer:

The ACCC has only received two complaints/enquiries in relation to the smartnumber auctioning system.

No investigations were conducted as the complaints/enquiries did not relate to a potential breach of the *Trade Practices Act 1974*. The two complaints/enquiries were in relation to the auction rules developed by the Australian Communications Authority (ACA), in consultation with industry. As such, the complaints/enquiries were directed to the ACA.