

Senate Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury

Australian Taxation Office

Additional Estimates 17 February 2005

Outcome 1

Topic: Schemes promoters

Hansard Page: E48

Senator Sherry asked:

What was the approximate number of individuals promoting these schemes?

Mr Fitzpatrick—I cannot give you an answer. I do not know offhand how many different promoters there were.

Senator SHERRY—Can you take it on notice to provide that?

Mr Fitzpatrick—We can certainly have a look at what information we have in that regard. A number of them worked for the same firm—there were different firms involved—some played different roles and some provided advice.

Senator SHERRY—Sure, I understand that.

Mr Fitzpatrick—The question is: what is a promoter? There is no easy answer to the question: who is the promoter?

Senator SHERRY—Could you take it on notice to give us an idea of the numbers—you might have a different definition of who is a promoter and you might want to put a footnote in et cetera?

Answer:

The Tax Office defines a promoter as anyone who derives consideration from the design, marketing, sales, or implementation of aggressive tax planning arrangements.

There were 282 individuals identified as the main promoters of these arrangements and a further 818 individuals and 616 other entities associated with promoting these same arrangements.