

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

TREASURY

Australian Taxation Office

(Additional Estimates 14 February 2007)

Question **AET 150**

Topic: **Tax Practitioner Legislative Framework – expenditure by ATO to date**

Hansard Page: **E101(b)**

Senator **Sherry** asked:

There has been a provision of \$57.5 million over four years, including some \$7.2 million capital funding for IT infrastructure, for the implementation of the new tax practitioner legislative framework. Could you indicate how much of that has been spent in 2006-07 to date against the budgeted amount for 2006-07?

Mr Konza—I do not have a figure for that, but in general terms the answer is that not a great deal of that money would have been spent as yet. We do have project teams laying the groundwork, so to speak, for the new regime to come in, but not a great deal of work can happen until the legislation is presented.

Senator SHERRY—The planning for the IT infrastructure, Mr D’Ascenzo, has that been affected by the issues we talked about earlier? Has there had to be any consideration of deferring the expenditure in this area?

Mr D’Ascenzo—Not in that area.

Senator SHERRY—Could you just take on notice what has been spent to date?

Mr D’Ascenzo—We can provide that.

Answer:

Budget Paper No.2, *Budget Measures 2006-07* provided for capital funding for the Tax Practitioner Legislative Framework measure of \$1.341m in 2006-07, \$3.281m in 2007-08 and \$2.563m in 2008-09 with funding for the measure subject to review in October 2008. There has been no expenditure of capital funding for this measure to date in 2006-07.

Non-capital expenditure to 31 March 2007 totalled \$4.8 million. This expenditure has been incurred in the development of a high level administrative design, industry readiness and on related preparatory activities.