

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Additional Estimates 20-21 February 2008

**Question: aet 18**

**Topic: Government Initiatives on Home Saving Process**

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**Senator PAYNE asked:**

**Mr Lonsdale**—I think the government has announced other initiatives on housing—

**Senator PAYNE**—Are any of those run out of Treasury?

**Mr Lonsdale**—I would have to check.

**Senator PAYNE**—Would you, please?

**Mr Lonsdale**—Sure, I would be happy to.

**Answer:**

In addition to First Home Saver Accounts, the Government is working on a range of supply and demand measures to improve housing affordability, including the: \$500 million Housing Affordability Fund, National Rental Affordability Scheme, National Housing Supply Council, and *A Place to Call Home* initiative. These measures are being administered by the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services, and Indigenous Affairs, in consultation with Treasury. A Land Audit Taskforce has also been established within the Department of Finance and Deregulation to examine potential surplus Commonwealth Land suitable for sale.