

**Senate Economics Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Budget Estimates, 31 May to 2 June 2005

**Question: Bud 104**

**Topic: Medicare Levy Surcharge**

**Hansard Page: Written**

Senator Nettle asked:

1. How much revenue did the Medicare Levy Surcharge raise in 2004-05?
2. How many taxpayers were liable to pay the Medicare Levy Surcharge in 2004-05?
3. How much revenue is the Medicare Levy Surcharge expected to raise in 2005-06?
4. How many taxpayers are forecast to be liable to pay the Medicare Levy Surcharge in 2005-06?
5. Has the income threshold for the Medicare Levy Surcharge been reviewed? If so, please provide details. If not, why not?

Answer:

1. From individual income tax returns processed as at 27 June 2005 Medicare levy surcharge has raised approximately \$180 million for the 2004-05 financial year.
2. From individual income tax returns processed as at 27 June 2005, around 295,000 individual taxpayers were liable to pay the Medicare levy surcharge for the 2004-05 financial year.
3. It is expected that the Medicare levy surcharge will raise approximately \$210 million for the 2005-06 financial year.
4. It is expected that around 340,000 taxpayers will be liable to pay the Medicare levy surcharge for the 2005-06 financial year.
5. There has been no review of the Medicare Levy Surcharge.

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Budget Estimates, 31 May to 2 June 2005

**Question: Bud 99**

**Topic: ASIC – Ion Ltd**

**Hansard Page: E81**

Senator Wong asked:

1. I understand that deeds of the company arrangement have now been executed. Has Ion been the subject of an ASIC investigation?

Did that result from the administrator's report?

When do you expect that investigation to be concluded?

Answer

1. ASIC commenced an investigation pursuant to s13 of the ASIC Act on 28 June 2005. The investigation is at a very early stage and inquiries are ongoing.

2. The Administrator has provided ASIC with a section 439A report dated February 2005 and more recently has provided ASIC with a copy of the Report of Forensic Investigations by KPMG Forensic (commissioned by Allens Arthur Robinson on behalf of the Administrators Messers Colin Nicol and Peter Anderson) dated April 2005.

3. The investigation is in its infancy at this stage therefore it is difficult to say when it will be concluded. A large number of issues were referred to ASIC by the Administrator and ASIC is currently in the process of identifying which issues should be pursued.