

Senate Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

TREASURY

Australian Taxation Office

(Supplementary Budget Estimates November 2004)

Outcome 2, Output 2.2.1

Topic: Program/service delivery via intermediary service provider

Supplementary question on notice: Supp 14

Senator **Ludwig** asked:

- a) For each of the i) 1999-00, ii) 2000-01, iii) 2001-02, iv) 2002-03, v) 2003-04 financial years, how many Departmental (Tax Office) programs or services were delivered via an intermediary service provider, such as another level of government or a non-government organisation?

Answer:

Two Tax Office programs or services have been delivered by intermediary service providers since July 2000.

- b) Of these, in each financial year how many did the funding conditions in contracts specify relevant access and equity accountabilities (for example, collection and reporting of information on client characteristics)?

Answer:

The contracts provide for the contractor to comply with various tax laws and the Taxpayer's Charter.

- c) For each of these, is the provision a standard clause? If so, can the Department please supply the clause?

Answer:

The provisions are contained in a standard clause as follows:

59. COMPLIANCE WITH LAW

59.1 The Contractor agrees, in carrying out the Contract, to comply with:

- (a) all relevant legislation of the Commonwealth (particularly the Crimes Act 1914, Racial Discrimination Act 1975, Sex Discrimination Act 1984 and Disability Discrimination Act 1992), or of any State, Territory or local authority; and
- (b) any obligations it has under the Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Act 1999.

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Taxpayers' Charter

Commonwealth Government guidelines require that Commonwealth agency client service charters cover services delivered indirectly on behalf of the agency. The Taxpayers' Charter outlines the rights and obligations of ATO clients under the law as well as the service and other standards they can expect in dealing with the ATO. Contractors providing services on behalf of the ATO must do so in a way consistent with the commitments and standards set out in the Taxpayers' Charter in delivering these services. The Taxpayers' Charter can be viewed at the ATO internet site www.ato.gov.au.

- d) If there is no standard provision, is a copy of the provision available for each of these? Are the provisions subsequently audited? If yes, what were the results? (Please supply).

Answer: Not applicable