

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

TREASURY

Australian Taxation Office

(Supplementary Budget Estimates 1-2 November 2006)

Question **SBT 108**

Topic: **AFTER-HOURS DEBT PROJECT - ASSESSMENT**

Hansard Page: **E92**

Senator Sherry asked:

Going to the after-hours project, what is the assessment of that project?

***Ms Crawford**—We think that it was fairly successful in terms of sending a real message to the community that the tax office was serious and was looking at different ways to re-engage with those taxpayers who had failed to contact us. In monetary terms, we managed to negotiate something like 2,000 promises to pay for a value of \$52 million. That is reasonably good. For me, the better outcome was really just the message that that sent to the community.*

***Senator SHERRY**—On the promises to pay, have you been able to identify what proportion of the \$52 million has actually been received?*

***Ms Crawford**—I do not have that information in front of me. I think we would be able to get that, though.*

Answer:

It is estimated that agreed promises to pay from the after hours contact pilot have resulted in collections of approximately \$28.2 million to 30 November 2006. Ongoing payment arrangements will result in further collections.