

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Supplementary Estimates 22-23 October 2008

Question: sbt 12

Topic: \$10.4 Billion Stimulus

Hansard Page: Written

Senator BUSHBY asked:

1. In the last thirty years how many major expenditure decisions have been taken outside of the annual budget?

What level of supporting documentation (evidence and analysis) has been provided for these announcements?

2. What documentation was provided for the \$10.4 billion stimulus?

Is this significantly less than on previous occasions?

Answer:

1. The Mid Year Economic and Financial Outlook (MYEFO) details decisions made outside the budget context. Decisions taken after the publication of MYEFO and before the next Budget are included in that Budget. MYEFO was first published in 1997-98. Prior to this, there was no aggregated disclosure of policy decisions taken outside the budget context.

We are not able to provide advice on the level of supporting documentation provided.

2. We are unable to provide a full response to this question, as it goes to the nature of policy advice to Government.

Detailed information about the Economic Security Strategy is provided in Appendix A, "Whole of Government, Economic Security Strategy" on page 136-142 of MYEFO 2008-09.