

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates

20 – 21 October 2010

Question: SBT 58

Topic: Whole-of-government Department Efficiencies

Senator Bushby asked:

The 2009-10 Mid Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook detailed whole-of-government departmental efficiencies. How has this applied to your department and portfolio agencies?

Can you provide details of how these efficiencies will be achieved? Please provide specific examples.

Will the implementation of the Government's election commitment to maintain the 1.25 per cent efficiency dividend impact on your department or portfolio agencies ability to meet the efficiencies outlined in the 2009-10 Mid Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook?

Have any voluntary or involuntary redundancies been offered to staff to meet the 2009-10 Mid Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook detailed whole-of-government departmental efficiencies in your portfolio? If so, please provide details? Are there such plans for the future?

- Are there any programs within your portfolio that are likely to exceed their current budget. If yes, please provide details (for example a demand driven program that has had higher than anticipated take up).
- Are there any programs within your portfolio that are likely to under spend their current budget. If yes, please provide details (for example a demand driven program that has had higher than anticipated take up).

Answer:

The Treasury has made efficiencies through removing duplication and overlap, reducing corporate overheads and scaling back on resources. The Treasury reviewed some of its processes and procedures which has resulted in some efficiency savings, including some restructuring of activities.

The Treasury will continually review its process and procedures to cover any future efficiency measures.

The Treasury has not offered any voluntary redundancies to meet departmental efficiencies and does not plan any in the future.

All of the Treasury's programs are currently expected to come close to budget.