

**SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION
LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**2004-2005 ADDITIONAL SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING
17 FEBRUARY 2005**

EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Indigenous Business Australia

Question Number: W290-05

Question:

Senator Carr asked in writing:

Is there foundation to the view that administering the BDP, on top of what IBA already does successfully, could undermine or have some kind of deleterious effect on IBA's activities and viability?

Answer:

IBA believes that any risks associated with the transfer of functions can be appropriately managed. With the abolition of ATSIC, it was appropriate to consider the transfer of the HOP and BDP to IBA. These are commercial lending programmes which would be difficult to deliver in a mainstream Department operating under the provisions of the FMA Act. As ATSIC was to be abolished, IBA supported the transfer of the programmes to IBA and believes that considerable synergies can be achieved.

IBA contends that it has established a credible record in the commercial arena and will pass on its experience and skills in the delivery of both programmes.