

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Department of Finance and Administration

February Estimates Hearings 2003-04 – 17 February 2004

Question: F31.21

Outcome: Across Outcomes

Topic: Surveys/Research on Government Programmes

Hansard page: N/A

Written Question on Notice: 17 February 2004

Senator Conroy asked:

What were the findings of these surveys.

Answer:

Procurement Framework Review: The survey resulted in a Government decision to streamline procurement arrangements. The major initiatives were: maintaining the requirement to source at least 10 per cent of purchases from small to medium enterprises (SMEs); inclusion of industry development requirements and opportunities for SMEs in tender documentation; abolition of the two envelope tendering system; changes to common use arrangements; establishment of a purchasing advisory and complaints service.

Procurement Policy Framework, Survey of Stakeholder Views: The survey indicated that the Procurement Policy Framework was well accepted and working well. The survey results did highlight the need for Finance to continue to develop and enhance the framework. The major findings were that Finance should continue to work co-operatively with stakeholders in developing policy, its presentation and interpretation; that stakeholders welcomed Finance building upon the level of guidance being developed and promulgated to assist agencies; and that Finance should build upon the linkages with stakeholders to further enhance communication.

Members of Parliament Staff training needs analysis: The Department is currently analysing the findings, and is not in a position to make the findings publicly available at this stage.