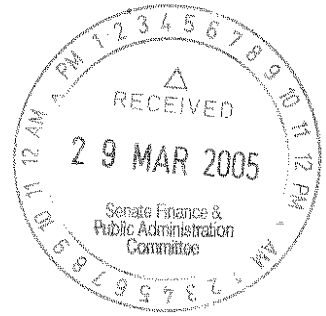




Australian Government
Department of Finance and Administration



Reference: 2005 Estimates Hearings QoNs
Contact: Glenn Black
Telephone: 02 6215 3239
e-mail: estimates@finance.gov.au

Mr Alistair Sands
Secretary
Finance and Public Administration Committee
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Alistair
Dear Mr Sands

Responses to Questions on Notice - February 2005 Hearings

I am writing to provide you with an update on the status of the portfolio's responses to Questions on Notice taken during the Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee Estimates hearing on 15 February 2005 and the subsequent written Questions on Notice received on 22 February 2005.

Unfortunately, the Department of Finance and Administration is not likely to be able to meet the 1 April 2005 deadline for tabling responses. This is partly due to the complexity of some of the written questions and the fact that many resources within the Department are currently directed toward preparations for the May Budget.

We will keep you informed on a regular basis as we approach the deadline and will endeavour to lodge responses progressively as soon as possible.

Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Glenn Black on 6215 3239.

Yours sincerely

Ian McAuley
Branch Manager
Parliamentary and Corporate Support
29 March 2005