

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Department of Finance and Administration

Additional Budget Estimates Hearings – 14 February 2006

Question: F 11

Outcome 1, Output 1.1.1

Topic: Research on Comparative Benefits of Different Areas of Spending

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Senator Sherry asked:

Has Finance undertaken or commissioned work over the past 10 years that compares the alternative benefits to the community of different spending on a range of different areas—for example, spending on education and spending on roads?

Answer:

The Department of Finance and Administration (Finance) provides advice on a day-to-day basis on the relative merits of proposals. Finance has not undertaken or commissioned specific work comparing the benefits of spending in different areas in the past four years. Also, to the best of its knowledge and on the basis of a check of file records, Finance believes it did not undertake or commission such work in the previous six years.