

DESTIMATES 2006-07 — ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES, FEBRUARY 2007**Questions on Notice index—Finance and Administration Portfolio**

QON No.	Department / agency	Senator	Hansard reference	Question	comments
1.	DOFA	Wong	F&PA 10 &13	<p>(Senator WONG—You say that there are a range of ways in which certain decisions are made, Dr Watt, and this might be a little different but not completely—there are announcements made without Finance costings. Are you able to tell us what precedent there is for a \$10 billion announcement which has not been through a process of verification and sign-off by Finance?</p> <p>Dr Watt—I would need to take that on notice...</p> <p>Senator WONG—I was asking about other occasions when the government has made announcements that were contingent upon certain events occurring before expenditure would flow. The example I used was higher education funding contingent upon certain industrial relations arrangements being entered into by universities. In relation to that announcement or similar types of announcements, has Finance been involved in verifying the costings and signing-off on the package?</p> <p>Dr Watt—I would need to check the specific details of that package. I would be surprised if we were not.</p> <p>Senator WONG—You would be surprised if you were not.</p> <p>Dr Watt—I would need to check. I cannot confirm that.</p>	answer received 24.04.07
2.	DOFA	Sherry	F&PA 16	<p>Senator SHERRY—Just to be clear, you have a person in Finance who has some particular expertise in water policy and costings thereof?</p> <p>Mr Suur—We have a team of people who deal with issues to do with portfolios like agriculture, forestry and fisheries, environment and now water resources. They have varying degrees of background in different issues. We have people who have worked on different sorts of water initiatives in the past. If your question is do we have someone who is an expert on water policy in my division then I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator SHERRY—Perhaps I would describe this as ‘a level of knowledge expertise in the water area broadly’. I am not trying to entrap you; I am just interested in the level of expertise you have to examine expenditure proposals in this area given their priority now.</p> <p>Mr Suur—I would have to take that on notice. There are people who have worked on this in the past in different areas.</p>	answer received 10.04.07
3.	DOFA	Sherry	F&PA 38	<p>Senator SHERRY—In dealing with interdependent couples in the aggregate—that is the latest report that you have received. Did the earlier report disaggregate between same-sex couples as a group within interdependent relationships?</p> <p>Ms Campbell—We are not sure, Senator Sherry. We will check on that.</p>	answer received 12.03.07

4.	DOFA	Sherry	F&PA 41	<p>Ms Campbell—Let me just find the exact words. This is from the Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act. The definition is: ... 2 persons (whether or not related by family) have an interdependency relationship if: (a) they have a close personal relationship; and (b) they live together; and (c) one or each of them provides the other with financial support; and (d) one or each of them provides the other with domestic support and personal care.</p> <p>Senator MURRAY—This provides for where a son, for instance, might live with his mother, whom he cares for, and when he dies—through, say, illness—he would be able to leave his money to his mother in the superannuation string.</p> <p>Ms Campbell—Yes, and often siblings who have lived together for many years.</p> <p>Senator MURRAY—That is right.</p> <p>Senator SHERRY—When that original definition was inserted in the SI(S) Act, was there any estimate of persons in this type of relationship, interdependent couples, in the broad population?</p> <p>Ms Campbell—I am not aware of that. We would have to take that on notice.</p>	answer received 30.03.07
5.	ComSuper	Sherry	F&PA 42	<p>Ms Crosby—The fees we are charging for PSSap are \$106 per contributor at this point in time.</p> <p>Senator SHERRY—What does that represent as a percentage of account balance?</p> <p>Ms Crosby—I did not have that information to hand.</p> <p>Senator SHERRY—You do not have it to hand; but do you have it?</p> <p>Ms Crosby—We can obtain information.</p> <p>Senator SHERRY—Could you take that on notice, thank you. You have obviously done the benchmarking. I am sure you do not have a copy here—you could take this on notice—but can I be provided with a copy of that evaluation?</p> <p>Mr Bator—Do you mean for us against other DB schemes?</p> <p>Senator SHERRY—Yes.</p> <p>Mr Bator—Yes, that is possible.</p>	answer received 27.03.07
6.	ComSuper	Sherry	F&PA 43	<p>Senator SHERRY—One other issue of concern, but it is a general concern in respect of all superannuation funds: operating costs appear to be going up, not coming down.</p> <p>Mr Bator—We have entered into a range of improvements within ComSuper, firstly on training, as we pointed out. We have also been required to enhance our systems to deliver better services to members, and at the same time you would be aware that the government's requirements, which are properly being improved, again add a level of cost to ComSuper as well as to other administrators.</p> <p>Senator SHERRY—I understand all of that. It is not a criticism of ComSuper in particular. I suppose my political observation is that the argument for fund choice was that costs would come down. But everywhere they seem to be going up.</p> <p>Mr Bator—I do not have any comment on that.</p>	answer received 09.03.07

				<p>Senator SHERRY—Nor should you, but the minister is not saying either. The approximate number of people and the growth in the PSSap?</p> <p>Mr Bator—It was well above what we expected, so obviously we are the choice fund in the APS at the moment.</p> <p>Senator SHERRY—The member is not paying the fee; I am not surprised that you would be the choice!</p> <p>Mr Bator—I can give you those figures. I just do not have them off the top of my head.</p> <p>Senator SHERRY—You can take it on notice.</p>	
7.	FFMA	Sherry	F&PA 47	<p>Senator SHERRY—Are you able to give us an indication of approximately where—in terms of asset breakdown and geographically—that was placed?</p> <p>Mr Costello—I can certainly give some sense. There is an annual report which does break this down with a map of the world, which makes it very easy; so it may be something I could easily send to you.</p>	answer received 09.03.07
8.	DOFA	Sherry	F&PA 69	<p>Senator SHERRY—I accept that. I am not in any way criticising there. Were the issues you identified also identified by the immigration department prior to passing the project over to you?</p> <p>Mr Scott-Murphy—I cannot speak for the department of immigration, but it became obvious to us when we looked at it in great detail that the costs needed to be greater.</p> <p>Senator SHERRY—I accept that, but presumably some sort of brief would have come from immigration to you. In that brief—in the passing over of the project—did they identify these issues?</p> <p>Mr Scott-Murphy—I would have to take that question on notice to be able to respond accurately.</p>	answer received 22.03.07
9.	DOFA	Ray	F&PA 80	<p>Senator ROBERT RAY—That is good. I have identified three. What other forms have you been able to scrap to make all our lives easier?</p> <p>Ms Mason—I think we would need to take that one on notice to be able to give a comprehensive answer, but we are constantly looking for potential improvements and putting them in place.</p>	answer received 4.4.07
10.	DOFA	Ray	F&PA 81	<p>Senator ROBERT RAY—So how many have you processed in breach of that requirement?</p> <p>Ms Clarke—I am unaware. We will have to take on notice how many we have processed.</p>	answer received 21.05.07
11.	DOFA	Forshaw	F&PA 81	<p>Senator FORSHAW—I am not necessarily disagreeing with the issue, but currently you have to provide a tax file declaration with a tax file number and bank account details for the employee. What sort of proof of identity are we looking at here? You may have already discussed this with Senator Ray—I do not know. Is it a photocopy of a drivers licence or something?</p> <p>Ms Mason—We would have to take that on notice. I said earlier when you were not in the room that the officers at the table were only made aware of this requirement at this hearing. So we will need to brief ourselves on the background to it.</p>	answer received 30.03.07

12.	DOFA	Murray	F&PA 82	<p>Senator MURRAY—Let us ignore this financial year for the purposes of this discourse. Are there outstanding certifications from the 2005-06 financial year?</p> <p>Ms Hughes—There are. Only 59 per cent certified those reports.</p> <p>Senator MURRAY—Could you, on notice, indicate whether you intend to take any follow-up action with respect to those who have not certified at the end of last financial year? It is a basic integrity issue; if they are not signed off, they have not been certified as valid from the perspective of both the department and the member or senator.</p>	answer received 4.4.07
13.	DOFA	Ray	F&PA 83	<p>Senator ROBERT RAY—Do you know how many staff Mr Cobb, who has been demoted from a minister to an assistant minister/parliamentary secretary, has?</p> <p>Mr Miles—No, I do not have that information with me.</p> <p>Senator ROBERT RAY—When do you think this information will be available?</p> <p>Mr Miles—In the normal course of events, we would be finalising our staff establishment records towards the end of this week—about two weeks into the month.</p> <p>Senator ROBERT RAY—So there would be no problem with providing those updated figures to us in a week's time, Dr Watt?</p> <p>Dr Watt—Provided the minister is comfortable.</p> <p>Senator ROBERT RAY—I cannot understand any discomfort. It is just a question of timing.</p> <p>Dr Watt—We will see what we can do.</p>	answer received 30.03.07 (plus two page attachment)
14.	DOFA	Ray	F&PA 86	<p>Senator ROBERT RAY—I mentioned last time about training. Have you given that any more thought? Have you had trained staff to book these tickets online?</p> <p>Ms Clarke—Yes, we have, and we will be doing extra training.</p> <p>Senator ROBERT RAY—About when?</p> <p>Ms Clarke—I do not have the details of when that will commence but that will occur.</p> <p>Senator ROBERT RAY—Would you like to take that part of the question on notice and let us know what the training program is.</p>	answer received 30.03.07
15.	DOFA	Ray	F&PA 87	<p>Senator ROBERT RAY—How many times in this current financial year has the minister knocked back an application for an extension of time to put the claims in?</p> <p>Ms Mason—We will need to take that question on notice.</p>	answer received 4.4.07
16.	DOFA	Ray	F&PA88	<p>Senator FAULKNER—When was that decision made in relation to accommodation for parliamentary secretaries? It is longstanding, isn't it?</p> <p>Mr Miles—I could not tell you. I will have to take that on notice. It may have been about May or June last year.</p>	answer received 4.4.07
17.	DOFA	Faulkner	F&PA 90	<p>Senator FAULKNER—So I want to know what formal request was made by Mr Cobb and to whom in relation to the—</p> <p>Ms Mason—Senator, we would need to take that on notice. I think what Mr Miles has been telling you is that it is essentially a timing issue that work by the department was fairly advanced at the stage of changes in the ministry, and we are now at a point where we need to take stock and work out a sensible course of action, bearing in mind the cost to the</p>	answer received 30.03.07

				Commonwealth, inconvenience to the client and entitlements of other parliamentary secretaries and the like.	
18.	DOFA	Faulkner	F&PA 92	<p>Senator FAULKNER—When did you get the nod and the wink from the minister and how was this indication communicated? When was this indication provided to the department in the terms that—Mr Miles, do not turn around to the man behind you from the minister’s office.</p> <p>Ms Mason—We will need to take on notice the timing of that. It was informal advice, but we do meet regularly with the minister and staff in his office to discuss various projects.</p>	answer received 4.4.07
19.	DOFA	Chair/Faulkner	F&PA93	<p>CHAIR—Do you know how much work had been completed on the office prior to the reshuffle?</p> <p>Mr Miles—I do not have those details.</p> <p>CHAIR—That would be a fairly important question, wouldn’t it, Senator Faulkner?</p> <p>Senator FAULKNER—I am surprised that people’s memories are not better, when the meeting only took place last Friday, but we will get to the bottom of it.</p> <p>CHAIR—Perhaps Mr Miles or Ms Mason could find out how much work in terms of the ministerial specifications had been completed prior to the reshuffle.</p>	answer received 30.03.07
20.	DOFA	Evans	F&PA 97	<p>Senator CHRIS EVANS—Ms Mason, can you get me the date of the conversation?</p> <p>Ms Mason—I am sorry, Senator, but I cannot. It was a telephone conversation and I do not recall the date.</p> <p>Senator CHRIS EVANS—You are not able to check your records? Perhaps you can take it on notice to see if you have it. If you have not got it, you have not got it.</p> <p>Ms Mason—I can check.</p>	answer received 30/03/07
21.	AEC	Faulkner	F&PA 98	<p>Mr Pickering—The update that I will provide you with will just outline the different areas that the strategy encompasses. I will give you a status report from that question on notice. As far as the advertising goes, our television advertisements are now in pre-production, so they should be ready in April this year. Our on-air advertising is dependent on several factors but we are expecting completion in May 2007. We are also planning to do a second wave of enrolment advertising closer to the election. That is on the advertising front.</p> <p>Senator FAULKNER—Do you have a dollar figure on those three initiatives?</p> <p>Mr Pickering—I do not have one here. I can take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator FAULKNER—Thank you.</p> <p>Mr Pickering—The reason I cannot give you those costing figures right now is that we are still talking with our media buyers on the placement of the ads. The timing and dates that we propose for the advertisements affect the costs and overall spend on that particular area.</p> <p>Senator FAULKNER—I asked you to take that on notice, but I appreciate, in relation to that question, that there will be a time delay in response.</p>	answer received 30.03.07
22.	AEC	Faulkner	F&PA 99	Senator FAULKNER—There was some competition associated with the Rock Enrol website,	answer received 30.03.07

				<p>conducted by the AEC, wasn't there? Mr Pickering—Yes, there was. Senator FAULKNER—How many entries did that get? Mr Pickering—I will take that on notice. I am not sure of the answer.</p>	
23.	AEC	Faulkner	F&PA 100	<p>Senator FAULKNER—Is that in some sort of form that could be provided to the committee? We would be interested in seeing that. Mr Campbell—I have no problems with that. I think it is in final draft form. I do not think it has had the final polish. Certainly when it is completed—which should not be too long—we will provide a copy. Senator FAULKNER—I appreciate that, but I would like both if it is possible. That would be useful.</p>	<p>INTERIM answer received 30.03.07 Kits provided to the committee on 15/08/07 (see: QoN F43 – Budget Estimates May 2007).</p>
24.	AEC	Faulkner	F&PA 100	<p>Mr Pickering—There were 338, and we did not attend 119. We attended 219, at which there were 10,779 participants for the ceremony. We took 8,845 cards on the day. Senator FAULKNER—That sounds to me like a good return for this sort of thing. Does it compare well with other years? Are you able to say that? Mr Campbell—Yes, it is very comparable with other years. In some states it was the same as last year, and in a couple it was better than last year. Senator FAULKNER—Have you got some comparable figures I might be able to ask for on notice? Mr Campbell—We can certainly give you those on notice.</p>	<p>answer received 30.03.07</p>
25.	AEC	Faulkner	F&PA 100	<p>Mr Moyes—What we do with the participants who do not lodge a form at the time is that our divisional people follow up with the councils—it is usually the councils that are bestowing citizenship. Our people are in contact with the councils and obtain information about those who have had citizenship bestowed on them and we follow up directly with those people. Senator FAULKNER—How many people does that cover off? Mr Moyes—I cannot give you a figure on that at the moment. I will see if we can obtain that information. We do collect information on the source of enrolment applications and we should be able to pick up most of that difference.</p>	<p>answer received 30.03.07</p>
26.	AEC	Faulkner	F&PA103	<p>Senator FAULKNER—I will flag again that I will be interested in receiving those for the New South Wales election—polling day in New South Wales, obviously—after it is held; I do not expect you to give that information tonight.</p>	<p>INTERIM answer received 30.03.07 Answer received 12.06.07</p>
27.	AEC	Faulkner	F&PA 106	<p>Senator FAULKNER—But you can actually confirm—and I appreciate that this is now going to a different form but the matter is very much central to this—that the BAT return that was lodged with you was dated 10 April 2006. Is that right? Mr Bodel—I would need to check that.</p>	<p>answer received 30.03.07</p>
28.	AEC	Ray	F&PA 109	<p>Senator ROBERT RAY—Do you know the address to which you wrote to them in</p>	<p>answer received 30.03.07</p>

				November 2005? Mr Campbell—I will take that on notice and see what I can do.	
29.	AEC	Fierravanti-Wells	F&PA 110	<p>Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS—I am going on your returns. On the ‘Summary of donations reported by donors’, they are obviously not there. But on the list annotated ‘Donations reported by ALP’—and I am happy to give you a copy from where I got the information—it simply says ‘Australian Labor Party: Source of receipt; donation: Value of receipts; all: State; all’.</p> <p>Mr Bodel—I will chase that up.</p> <p>Senator WATSON—What does it add up to?</p> <p>Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS—Senator Watson asks me what it adds up to. It adds up to a considerable amount of money; it adds up to almost \$160,000. Mr Bodel, Senator Faulkner was pressing the point about the dates. Perhaps we might investigate the dates in relation to each of those donations. Senator Faulkner was pushing you on the question of dates.</p> <p>Presumably you do not have the dates in relation to these donations either.</p> <p>Mr Bodel—I would have to check the returns. They are not required to be listed but they may be. I will have to check the returns.</p>	answer received 30.03.07
30.	AEC	Fierravanti-Wells	F&PA110	<p>Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS—So the requirement for the disclosure is on the part of—you were saying, in the previous instance—the Friends of Indi, as opposed, in this instance, to the union that gave the money.</p> <p>Mr Bodel—No. I would need to check the legislation, but my assumption is that British American Tobacco have in fact disclosed more than they need to; they do not need to disclose the date of their donation. In the instance we were referring to before, while they have disclosed the date, they did not actually need to disclose that date.</p>	answer received 30.03.07
31.	AEC	Faulkner	F&PA113	<p>Senator FAULKNER—Of course they may not necessarily be the same person, but the Friends of Indi mailing address, as per the BAT return of 17 November 2006—you can confirm—is ‘Friends of Indi, 117 Murphy Street, Wangaratta, Victoria 3677’. You can confirm that for us, can’t you?</p> <p>Mr Bodel—Yes.</p> <p>Senator FAULKNER—What is the address? It is Ms Mirabella’s electorate office, I suppose.</p> <p>Mr Bodel—I cannot say.</p> <p>Senator FAULKNER—Why not?</p> <p>Mr Bodel—I do not have the letter with me.</p> <p>Mr Campbell—We have already foreshadowed that we are going to provide the address on notice. We do not have that with us now.</p>	answer received 30.03.07
32.	AEC	Faulkner	F&PA 113	<p>Senator FAULKNER—You have taken on notice a request for that to be tabled.</p> <p>Mr Bodel—We took on notice to give you the address.</p> <p>Senator FAULKNER—You did.</p> <p>Mr Bodel—Would you prefer the letter?</p> <p>Senator FAULKNER—I thought in answering my request for the address you indicated that</p>	answer received 30.03.07

				<p>you were willing to table the letter. Mr Bodel—Yes, no problem. I just wanted to clarify.</p>	
33.	AEC	Fierravanti-Wells	F&PA 114	<p>Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS—I would like to table two documents. One is a document that demonstrates donations: from AMWU of 28 Station Street, Moonah, Tasmania, to the amount of \$5,000; again AMWU, PO Box 160, Granville, New South Wales 2142, for the amount of \$4,000; CFMEU, Construction and General Division, 33A Newtown Road, Newtown, Tasmania, for \$20,000; CFMEU, Forestry, Mining and Energy Division, 237 Wellington Street, Launceston, Tasmania, for \$26,000; and CFMEU, Mining and Energy Division, PO Box Q1641, Queen Victoria Building Post Office, Sydney, for a donation of \$100,000. I also table another document: summary of donations reported by donors which do not disclose the said donations. Mr Bodel—As requested, we will look into those, but I should point out that we would have looked into those as a matter of course anyway. Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS—Thank you. Mr Bodel—We would look at the discrepancies between the— Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS—In that case, then, take them as questions on notice and report accordingly.</p>	answer received 30.03.07
34.	AEC	Brown	F&PA 117	<p>Senator BOB BROWN—No, anybody at all. You had been furnished with a list of more than seven electoral pamphlets and so on from me on 11 January, but Mr Pickering had asked me, picking up on a Senate submission, the previous year, in 2004, about electoral material. Are you able to say categorically to the committee that nobody had been approached as a result of any of that information before 21 January last year? Mr Bodel—I would need to take that on notice and just make sure. Senator BOB BROWN—Would you? Mr Bodel—Yes.</p>	<p>answer received 30.03.07 *insufficient information provided</p>
35.	AEC	Brown	F&PA117	<p>Senator BOB BROWN—Thank you. What was the closing date for the furnishing of declarations of spending on the October 2004 election campaign? Mr Bodel—I would need to get back to you with the specific date.</p>	answer received 30.03.07
36.	AEC	Brown	F&PA 118	<p>Senator BOB BROWN—What was the amount of money? What was the gap between the total for the seven items and the amount declared by Willmac? Mr Bodel—It added up to about half of the sum. Senator BOB BROWN—Can you give me the figures? Mr Bodel—I will take it on notice and provide that to you.</p>	answer received 30.03.07
37.	AEC	Brown	F&PA 122	<p>Senator BOB BROWN—How many people had requested and were given exemption from voting in the 2004 election? Mr Dacey—I would have to take that on notice. Mr Campbell—On particular grounds or just generally?</p>	answer received 30.03.07

				Senator BOB BROWN—On the grounds of religious belief, and, in particular, on the grounds of being a member of the Exclusive Brethren.	
38.	AEC	Brown	F&PA 123	Senator BOB BROWN—I have two final questions. Firstly, the matter I drew your attention to was a ‘no Greens’ sticker in Tasmania without authorisation. That is not mentioned in your response to me. Has the electoral office been able to discover who distributed that particular vehicular sticker during the election period and why it was not authorised? Mr Dacey—I would have to take that on notice. Senator BOB BROWN—Why there has been no success in tracking down the lack of authorisation? Mr Dacey—Yes.	answer received 30.03.07
39.	AEC	Fierravanti-Wells	F&PA 126	Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS—You mentioned maturation of deposits. The article says the \$1.07 million ‘other receipt’ from Adelaide Bank declared by the New South Wales ALP in 2004-05 was not a donation but simply interest earned from funds on deposits. Mr Bodel—That is not a donation. Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS—We look forward to your investigations, Mr Bodel. So you will just take these and answer them on notice as part of the process? When do you expect those investigations to be completed? Mr Bodel—Some time during the next 12 months. I believe New South Wales is in the first half of the year; so before the end of June.	answer received 30.03.07
40.	DOFA	Sherry	Written	Attached – ANAO report – Department of Health and Ageing	answer received 30.03.07
41.	DOFA	Murray	Written	Attached	answer received 4.4.07
42.	AEC	Webber	Written	Attached	answer received 30.03.07
43.	AEC	Webber	Written	Attached	answer received 30.03.07
44.	DOFA	Wong	Written	Attached	answer received 4.4.07 *insufficient information provided
45.	DOFA	Marshall	Written	Attached – contracts awarded to industry bodies	answer received 27.03.07 *insufficient information provided
46.	DOFA	Wong	Written	Attached	answer received 15.05.07
47.	AEC	Wong	Written	Attached	answer received 15.05.07
48.	CGC	Wong	Written	Attached	answer received 15.05.07
49.	FFMA	Wong	Written	Attached	answer received 15.05.07
50.	ComSuper	Wong	Written	Attached	answer received 15.05.07

51.	ARIA	Wong	Written	Attached	answer received 15.05.07
52.	DOFA	Wong	Written	Attached	answer received 24.04.07
53.	AEC	Wong	Written	Attached	answer received 24.04.07
54.	CGC	Wong	Written	Attached	answer received 24.04.07
55.	FFMA	Wong	Written	Attached	answer received 24.04.07
56.	ComSuper	Wong	Written	Attached	answer received 24.04.07
57.	ARIA	Wong	Written	Attached	answer received 24.04.07
58.	DOFA	Wong	Written	Attached	f58-63 answer received 3.4.07
59.	AEC	Wong	Written	Attached	f58-63 answer received 3.4.07
60.	CGC	Wong	Written	Attached	f58-63 answer received 3.4.07
61.	FFMA	Wong	Written	Attached	f58-63 answer received 3.4.07
62.	ComSuper	Wong	Written	Attached	f58-63 answer received 3.4.07
63.	ARIA	Wong	Written	Attached	f58-63 answer received 3.4.07
64.	DOFA	Wong	Written	Attached	f64-69 answer received 3.4.07
65.	AEC	Wong	Written	Attached	f64-69 answer received 3.4.07
66.	CGC	Wong	Written	Attached	f64-69 answer received 3.4.07
67.	FFMA	Wong	Written	Attached	f64-69 answer received 3.4.07
68.	ComSuper	Wong	Written	Attached	f64-69 answer received 3.4.07
69.	ARIA	Wong	Written	Attached	f64-69 answer received 3.4.07
70.	AEC	Evans	Written	Attached	answer received 30.03.07
71.	AEC	Evans	Written	Attached – AFP referrals	answer r received 30.03.07
72.	AEC	Evans	Written	Attached – friends of Indi investigation	answer received 30.03.07
73.	DOFA	Evans	Written	Attached – Total fiscal balance impact of hosting Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) 2007	answer received 27.03.07
74.	DOFA	Ludwig	Written	Attached	f74-79 answer received 3.4.07
75.	AEC	Ludwig	Written	Attached	f74-79 answer received 3.4.07

76.	CGC	Ludwig	Written	Attached	f74-79 answer received 3.4.07
77.	FFMA	Ludwig	Written	Attached	f74-79 answer received 3.4.07
78.	ComSuper	Ludwig	Written	Attached	f74-79 answer received 3.4.07
79.	ARIA	Ludwig	Written	Attached	f74-79 answer received 3.4.07
80.	DOFA	Ludwig	Written	Attached	answer received 10.04.07
81.	DOFA	Ludwig	Written	Attached	answer received 10.04.07
82.	DOFA	Ludwig	Written	Attached REFURBISHMENT OF ANZAC PARK...	answer received 4.4.07
83.	DOFA	Ludwig	Written	Attached REFURBISHMENT OF ANZAC PARK...	answer received 4.4.07
84.	DOFA	Ludwig	Written	Attached	answer received 12.03.07
85.	DOFA	Evans	Written	Attached – official development assistance	answer received 29.03.07
86.	Medibank Private	Moore and Wong	Written	Attached – Medibank Private	Answer received 29.03.07

Please note that answers 1 - 86 are due by 30 March 2007.

Written QON**F40 (SHERRY)**

1) ANAO recommended that the Department of Health develop, and provide, a principles document, which included a more detailed summary of its compliance processes, so that the States might provide more useful compliance assessment data.

- Is the Department of Finance monitoring progress by the Department of Health in developing a principles document providing more details of its compliance processes for the States, as recommended by ANAO and agreed by Health?
- Can Finance advise the Committee of the progress?

2) ANAO identified weaknesses in the consistency and accuracy of data on waiting times from the States and Territories, and the frequency of analysis by Health.

- Can the Department of Finance advise the Committee on progress by Health in working with the States and Territories to improve the consistency and accuracy of data on waiting times, as recommended by ANAO?

F41 (MURRAY)

1) Can M&PS confirm that as a consequence of the Government's policy in relation Energy Efficiency in Government Operations, and to ensure a strategic approach to minimising the environmental impact of energy usage in Senators and Members' offices, M&PS has requested UGS to develop a National Energy Management Plan (EMP)?

2) Can M&PS confirm that the EMP will involve an energy audit, using available data on energy and water usage in the M&PS property portfolio and site visits to a small number of offices, and a series of recommendations for reducing future energy consumption and costs? Will this be made public?

3) Can M&PS confirm a draft plan will be completed by the end of March 2007? If that is so, by when are members and senators likely to be advised of a) the decisions; b) implementation timelines?

F42 (WEBBER)

AEC

How many people were enrolled and removed from the roll as part of the visits to remote communities in the North-West of Western Australia? (see below for list of communities visited)

Does the AEC have any plans for further visits to indigenous communities in Western Australia? If so, which communities and when?

Remote Area Communities visited in WA in 2005-06 as part of the rural/remote program.

Central Desert Communities	Kimberley Communities
Blackstone, Jameson, Tjirrkarli, Tjukurla, Warnarn, Warakurna, Warburton, Patjarr, Kiwirrkurra and Wingellina.	Bidyadanga, Mowanjum, Pandanus Park, Looma, Jarmadangah, Noonkanbah, Junjuwa, Wankatjungka, Mindibunga, Wirrimanu, Mulan, Ringers Soak, Warmun, Bow River, Doon Doon, Oombulgurri, Kalumburu, Home Valley, Ellenbrae, Mt Barnett, Imintji, Gibb Rivver, Dodnun.
Laverton Communities	South Communities
Cosmo Newberry, Mulga Queen, Mt Margaret, Bondini, Kutabubba, Marrawayura, Windidda Stn	Tjuntjuntjara, Coonana, Tjirntu Para Para, Iragul and Wongutha.
Pilbara Communities	Northern Communities
Tkalka Boorda, Tjalku Wara, Parnpajinya, Irrungadji, Pipunya Village, Goodabinya, Jigalong, Youngaleena, Gumula, Wakathuni, Bellary Springs, Bindi Bindi, Yandeyarra, Warralong, Parnngurr, Kunawarritji, Pumu.	Karalundi, Yulga Jinna, Burringurrah, Pia Wadjari and Murchison Settlement.

F43 (WEBBER)

Can the AEC outline the process of handling queries received via the check your enrolment on-line service? On the night of the Peel by-election in Perth a number of people decided to check their enrolment on-line - all advised they were not on the roll. When one constituent e-mailed querying this - giving full name and dates of birth for both residents of the address, their full address and the length of time they had lived there, they received an automated reply asking for full name, date of birth, address etc so the query could be followed up. Is this standard practise? To date no final response has been received. A copy of the e-mails exchanged can be provided on request.

F44 (WONG)

From 1 July 2006, the printing allowance for members of the House of Representatives increased to \$150,000 from \$125,000 and allowance for Senators increased to \$20,000 from \$16,667.

What is the maximum estimate of the increased annual cost of the MPs printing allowances i.e. going from \$125,000 to \$150,000 for MPs and from \$16,667 to \$20,000 for Senators?

F45 (MARSHALL)

ACCI contract

In calendar year 2005 the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI) and the State Chambers of Commerce won contracts and tenders with the Commonwealth worth a total of \$42.97m. In that year the Australian Industry Group (AiG) had Commonwealth contracts worth \$18.67m and the National Farmers' Federation \$1.82m.

Can you confirm if these figures are correct?

If they are not, please provide correct totals for all the aforementioned organisations' Commonwealth contracts and tenders.

Then in financial year 2005/2006 ACCI had contracts with the Australian Government worth \$15.90m.

Is this correct? If this is not, please provide the correct total.

What amounts (in total) did AiG and the NFF receive in contracts in that financial year?

F46-51 (WONG) FOR ALL DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

RECRUITMENT AGENCY SPENDING - relates to this current financial year 2006/07 with cut-off date at 16 February 2007

- (1) What sum was spent on recruitment agencies in 2006 by each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio?
- (2) Will the Minister provide a list of the recruitment agencies which are used by the department and agencies in the Minister's portfolio?
- (3) What functions do recruitment agencies perform for departments and what would be the likely impact on departmental outcomes from reduction in recruitment spending on external agencies?
- (4) What benefit-cost assessments have been done which benchmark internal recruitment processes and/or on utilising on line recruitment portals?

F52-57 (WONG) FOR ALL DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

OPINION POLLS/ MARKET RESEARCH - relates to this current financial year 2006/07 with cut-off date at 16 February 2007

- (1) What sum was spent on opinion polls, focus groups or market research in 2006 by each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio?
- (2) Will the Ministers provide a list of the opinion polls, focus groups, or market research agencies what are used by department and agencies in the Minister's portfolio?
- (3) How much of the opinion polls, focus groups or market research expenditure of agencies or departments was conducted at the request of the Minister's office?
- (4) What benefit-cost assessments have been done which assess the returns from opinion polls, focus groups of market research?

F58-63 (WONG) FOR ALL DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

ADVERTISING CAMPAIGNS - relates to this current financial year 2006/07 with cut-off date at 16 February 2007

- (1) What sum was spent on each of the active advertising campaigns for each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio?

(2) In attachment A – a list of active campaigns that were tabled in on 30 October 2006 at Senate Estimates, what were the actual costs for those which have been completed as relevant to each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio?

(3) At the Budget Estimates in May 2006, the Budget Papers listed the following Pending Campaigns (from Budget Papers: period up to 4 years)

Campaign	\$M
Smart Card	47.3
Child Support Reform	36.1
Promote Private Health Cover	52.1
Medicare direct mail	17.5
New family law arrangements	19.9
Independent contractors	<15
Pensions real estate/assets test	5.9 (at least, over 2 years)
Smart Traveller	13.1
Alcohol abuse	25.2
Citizenship	4
Disease risk factors	
Child care rebate	
Family Law arrangements	
Illicit drugs and mental illness	
Living in Harmony Initiative	

(4) For those campaigns which are relevant to each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio, what is the:

- (a) planning progress for campaigns;
- (b) likely start dates; and
- (c) media spend.

F64-69 (WONG) FOR ALL DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

MONITORING USE OF WATER IN DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES – **relates to this current financial year 2006/07 with cut-off date at 16 February 2007**

- (1) Is there any requirement to provide details of how much water is used and how much water is saved in the annual reports of each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio?
- (2) Is water usage monitored for each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio?
- (3) What is the water usage for each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio?
- (4) For each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio, can information be provided on whether dual flush toilets are in place in the buildings they occupy?

F70 (EVANS)

Postal Voting – Minter Ellison Review

Can you advise where the planning team (as outlined in Rec 16 of the Minter Ellison Review) is up to in relation to looking at the experiences of postal voting in the 2004 election?

Has a report been prepared for the AEC Executive as recommended? Can you provide me with a copy?

I understand that a report on early voting has been prepared in line with Rec. 24 of the Minter Ellison review and has been circulated to State Managers for comment. Can you provide an update on where that report is and provide me with a copy?

F71 (EVANS)

Investigations – AFP referred

Can you advise me what matters have been referred to the AFP for investigation in the last twelve months?
Have those matters been concluded? If so what were the results?

F72 (EVANS)

Friends of Indi Investigation

Given the Governments recent changes which lift the threshold for disclosure of political donations from \$1,500 to \$10,000 can you confirm if British American Tobacco had only donated \$10,000 to the Friends of Indi and that was their only donation would they even have come to light publicly?

F73 (EVANS)

Total Fiscal Balance Impact of hosting APEC 2007

1. As part of the response to question F60 from the Supplementary Budget Estimates 2006-07, it was indicated that:
“*The total fiscal balance impact of all announced measures for the hosting of APEC 2007 is \$310.2 million. A breakdown of this funding by Australian Government agency is at Attachment A: Announced APEC 2007 funding for Australian Government agencies.*”

Please provide an updated figure for the total fiscal balance impact of hosting APEC 2007, detailing any measures additional to those detailed in response to question F60 from October 2006.

F74-79 (LUDWIG)

ALL DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

With regard to all grants allocated by the department/agency from 1 January 2002 – 16 February 2007, could a table detailing the following information be provided:

- a. The name of the grant program
- b. The name of the grant recipient
- c. The ABN of the grant recipient (where available)
- d. The value of the grant awarded
- e. The date the grant was awarded
- f. The state of the grant recipient
- g. The postcode of the grant recipient

F80 (LUDWIG)

Refurbishment of the ANZAC Park East and West office buildings 1

With reference to the *Statement of Evidence to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works* dated June 2004:

1. Could the department indicate who requested that the reference to the committee be rescinded as a matter of urgency and why?
 - a. In particular, the department’s 2003-04 Annual Report states on page 113 that “there is a potentially serious impact on the AFP’s activities if ANZAC Park West is not completed on time,” could the department indicate what it understood that ‘serious impact’ to be at that time?
2. Could the department indicate why the reference was rescinded for both buildings rather than just the ANZAC Park West (which was the building required by the AFP)?
3. Paragraph 1.3.3 states that ‘negotiations are underway with potential Australian Government tenants for East’. Could the department indicate:
 - a. How many potential tenants were engaged in discussions at that time?
 - b. Who those potential tenants were?
 - c. Whether a potential tenant has been selected and if so who?

4. Paragraph 1.5.1.4 states that 'Net present value analysis indicates that there is very little difference in the financial impacts of Option 2 and 3'. Could the department:
- a. Indicate how this analysis compared with the actual outcome?
 - b. Conduct a revised net present value analysis based on the option selected (as of the date used for the original analysis).
5. Paragraph 1.9.1 states that the 'full cost of refurbishment of both buildings is estimated at \$83.7million'. Could the department:
- a. Indicate whether the full cost of refurbishment has since been revised?
 - i. If so by how much?
 - ii. Why did the revision occur?
 - b. Detail the amount of money expended on the refurbishment to date.
6. Paragraph 1.9.1 also states that the 'Market rental is estimated at \$8.3 million net per annum under 15 + 5 leases'. Could the department:
- a. Provide a breakdown of that \$8.3million for each of the two buildings (i.e. the market rental for ANZAC Park West vs. the market rental for ANZAC Park East)
 - b. Indicate whether that amount has since been revised and if so by how much.
7. Paragraph 2.16.1 indicates that the proposed works (excluding the AFP's fitout) were to cost an estimated \$83.7 million based on 2004 prices. Could the department indicate:
- a. Whether this amount has changed?
 - i. If so, by how much and why?
 - b. Provide a breakdown of the original expected cost (i.e. of \$83.7million) by:
 - i. Consultant fees,
 - ii. Project management and supervision costs
 - iii. Construction costs
 - iv. Legal costs
 - c. Provide a breakdown of the current expected cost by:
 - i. Consultant fees,
 - ii. Project management and supervision costs
 - iii. Construction costs
 - iv. Legal costs
8. Paragraph 2.27.2 indicates that "the project delivery system will be selected that meets the AFP's time, cost and quality objectives." In particular it was to ensure that the AFP's required occupation date could be achieved and that the 'risks of delays are minimised'. Could the department indicate:
- a. What 'project delivery system' was selected?
 - b. When it was selected?
 - c. Which of the requirements covered by 2.72.2 it met?
 - d. Which of the requirements covered by 2.72.2 it failed to meet and why?
9. Paragraphs 2.28.2 and 2.28.3 set out the project milestones. For each milestone, could the department:
- a. Indicate whether the milestone was met on time? If not –
 - i. Provide a reason for the delay.
 - ii. Whether the milestone has since been met and when.
 - iii. Whether the target date has since been revised and to when
10. Paragraph 2.28.4 requested approval from the Committee to proceed with 'time critical aspects', namely (a) design and documentation of early construction works and (b) Expression of Interest process and invitations of tenders for the contractor. For each aspect, could the department:
- i. Indicate whether approval was given and when?
 - ii. Provide the date that action was proceeded with? (e.g. dates advertisements placed or any RFT issued)
 - iii. Whether it was completed and when?
 - iv. Details of what occurred (e.g. in the case of part (b): number of EoIs received, number tender applications received, whether a tenderer was selected)
11. For each of the two buildings (West and East):

- a. When did the department first become aware that there was going to be delays to the refurbishment?
- b. What does the department estimate will be the total delay as compared with the original proposal contained within the Statement of Evidence?
- c. Why did the department not refer the refurbishment of the building back to the Committee once the likelihood delays became known?

F81 (LUDWIG)

Refurbishment of the ANZAC Park East and West office buildings 2

With reference to the department's 2004-05 Annual Report:

1. Page 46 indicates that construction was due to commence in September 2005 for the Anzac Park West building:
 - a. Did construction commence in September 2005?
 - i. If not when did it commence?
2. Page 53 states that the target for the 'ANZAC Park West integrated base building and fit out design completed and construction contract awarded by 30 June 2005' was not achieved:
 - a. Could the department indicate with regard to the change of 'delivery' strategy':
 - i. At whose instigation the change occurred: DoFA's; the AFP's; or some other part (please identify)
 - ii. What date did the change occur?
 - iii. Why the change occurred?
 - b. Had expressions of interest already been sought for the 'integrated' contract? If so -
 - i. When did this occur?
 - ii. How many expressions of interest were received?
 - c. Were the two separated contracts awarded by August 2005 as per the revised expectation?
 - i. If not, why not?
 - d. Have the two 'separated' contracts now been awarded?
 - i. For each of the contracts that has now been awarded: when did this occur? Who is the contractors? What was the expected start and completion dates of the contracts at the time the contracts were signed? What are the value of the contracts?
 - ii. For each contract that has not been awarded: why has this not occurred? When is this expected to occur?
3. Page 53 indicates that the target for the ANZAC Park East building was not achieved:
 - a. Could the department indicate whether the fitout design had commenced and/or completed?
 - b. Could the department indicate why it had failed to meet this target?
 - c. Who were the potential tenants that the department was negotiating with as at 30 June 2005?

With reference to the department's 2005-06 Annual Report:

4. Page 42 states that:

"Not all performance targets for capital works projects were met, due to the complexity of environmental issues encountered and amendments to project delivery strategies to better meet tenant and building owner requirements that were beyond Finance's control."

For each of the ANZAC Park West and East building projects, could the department detail all major 'amendments to project delivery strategies' since the project's inception, including:

 - a. A brief description of the amendment
 - b. When the amendment took place
 - c. At whose instigation did the amendment occur:
 - i. The Australian Federal Police.
 - ii. The Department of Finance and Administration.
 - iii. Other (please specify)
 - d. How the amendment impacted upon the project's budget and schedule

5. Page 48 indicates that “the refurbishment of ANZAC Park East will commence upon finalisation of current negotiations with a prospective tenant.”
- a. Who were the prospective tenant(s) that the department were negotiating with as at 30 June 2006?
 - b. What was causing delays to the ‘finalisation’ of the negotiations?
6. Page 53 indicates that the department has ‘achieved’ its target of having 60% of the ANZAC Park West base building completed by 30 June 2006:
- c. What percentage of the base building had been completed as at 30 June 2006?
 - d. Could the department explain why a similarly revised target not set for the ANZAC Park East building?

With reference to the department’s 2006-07 Portfolio Budget Statement:

7. Page 52 sets a target to have the “ANZAC Park West integrated base building and fit-out completed by June 2007.”
- a. What percentage of the base building is completed?
 - b. Does the department expect the base building to be completed in accordance with the target?
 - c. Has the fit-out commenced?
 - d. Does the department expect the fit-out to be completed in accordance with the target?
 - e. When does the department expect the AFP to be able to occupy the premises?
8. Table 3.2 on Page 52 does set out any targets for the ANZAC Park East building:
- a. Why this is the case?
 - b. Has a potential tenant has been found? If not why not? If so who are they?
 - c. Have the negotiations with the potential tenant(s) completed? If not why not and when are they expected to be completed?
 - d. Could the department provide a list of all potential tenants that the department has entered negotiations with regarding the ANZAC Park East building since the project was originally approved, detailing:
 - i. The name of the potential tenant
 - ii. The date negotiations commenced
 - iii. The date negotiations concluded (if applicable)
 - iv. The outcome of the negotiations
 - v. Whether the negotiations are currently ongoing

F82 (LUDWIG)

Refurbishment of the ANZAC Park West and Park East office buildings – contractors

For each contracts signed with the department regarding the ANZAC Park West and Park East office buildings, could the department provide:

1. The contract reference number (as reported on AusTender)
2. The name of the contractor
3. The date the contract was signed or commenced
4. The date that the contract concluded
5. The date that the contract was reported on AusTender
6. The value of the contract
7. A description of the services contained within the contract
8. Indicate whether the contract has been fully completed and if not whether it is ongoing.

F83 (LUDWIG)

Refurbishment of the ANZAC Park West and Park East office buildings – Internal costs

For each financial year since 2002, could the department indicate the total value of internal resources expended towards the refurbishment and fit-out of ANZAC Park West and East precincts?

F84 (LUDWIG)

Implementation of the revised Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines

With reference to the ANAO's Audit Report No. 21 for 2006-07 into the 'Implementation of the revised Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines':

1. Paragraph 4.12 indicates that for contracts published in 2005, only "71 per cent were published within the required 6 weeks of contract signing" and that for audited entities, the percentage of contracts published on time varied from 8 per cent to 98 per cent". For contracts published in 2006 could the department provide the following information broken down by APS Agency / Department:
 - a. The percentage of contracts published outside of the required six weeks of contract signing
 - b. The percentage of contracts (in \$ terms) of contracts published outside the required period
 - c. The average number of days between contract signing and publishing on AusTender
 - d. The longest number of days between contract signing and publishing on AusTender for any contract
2. Has the department done any analysis on the completeness, accuracy and timeliness of contract reporting since the commencement of the revised Guidelines?
 - a. If so, could the department provide a copy of that analysis?
 - b. If not, why not?
3. For all contracts published (starting from 24 months before the commencement of the revised Guidelines) could the department compile the following times series of data on a monthly basis:
 - a. The percentage of contracts published outside of six weeks of contract signing
 - b. The percentage of contracts published outside of six weeks of contract signing for the preceding 12 months. I.e. a 12-month rolling average of (a).
 - c. The average number of days between contract signing and publishing on AusTender
 - d. The average number of days between contract signing and publishing on AusTender for the preceding 12 months. I.e. a 12-month rolling average of (b).
4. Could the department provide a chart of each time series described under part (3), with a mark on each chart indicating the date that the revised Guidelines commenced.

F85 (EVANS)

Please provide full details of the Official Development Assistance (ODA) eligible expenditure and activities undertaken by Department since 2000-2001 to date.

F86 (MOORE and WONG)

Medibank Private

1. How many, and at what classification levels, AWAs have been entered into, sorted by state, at Medibank Private for the years 2004, 2005 and 2006?
2. How many of these have removed conditions otherwise available under the collective agreement?
3. What is the percentage staff turnover in Medibank call centres, by state, for the years 2004, 2005 and 2006? What are the equivalent figures for Medibank Retail Centres?