

Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13th and 16th February, 2007

Question: HS67

Agency: Australian Hearing

Outcome #, Output #

Topic: Monitoring of water usage

Hansard Page/Written Question on Notice: Written Question on Notice

SENATOR WONG asked on 16/02/2007:

- (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?

ANSWER:

- (1) Australian Hearing is not aware of any requirement nor is currently able to provide details of water usage and savings in its annual report.
- (2) Australian Hearing is not currently able to monitor water usage at over 80% of its approx 90 sites. Invoices are received for 16 sites but not all contain sufficient detail to determine water usage in isolation of other service charges. Australian Hearing rents all properties across Australia except one site which is owned outright.
- (3) Refer response to Q2. Australian Hearing is unable to advise on water usage at all sites.
- (4) Approximately 70% of toilet systems are dual flush. It should be noted that amenities are shared with other tenants in a number of sites.

To prepare this answer it has taken approximately 7 hours at an estimated cost of \$389.