

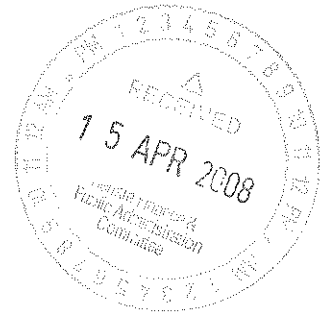
**Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration**

**ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**Finance and Deregulation Portfolio**

**Department of Finance and Deregulation**

**Additional Estimates Hearing – February 2008**



**Question: F28**

**Outcome 1, Output 1**

**Topic: Savings measures - the Growing Regions program**

**Hansard Page: F&PA 64**

**Senator Brandis asked:**

**Senator BRANDIS**—...The next reversal of measure was the Growing Regions program. Who was the minister responsible for that program?

**Dr Watt**—Minister Albanese.

**Senator BRANDIS**—Did Mr Tanner or his department consult Minister Albanese before this decision was made?

**Senator Sherry**—I will check with the minister.

**Senator BRANDIS**—What steps were taken by Mr Tanner before the decision was made to inform him and those who made the decision of the impact of that decision upon relevant stakeholders?

**Senator Sherry**—Again, I will check with the minister.

**Answer:**

1. Yes.
2. The decisions taken by the Strategic Budget Committee of Cabinet were made following the provision of departmental advice, and had regard to the possible effects on stakeholders.