

ESTIMATES 2007-08 — ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES, 19 & 22 February 2008
Questions on Notice index—Finance and Administration Portfolio

Answers to QON taken during the Additional Estimates hearings, or written QON submitted thereafter, are due on 4 April 2008.

QON No.	Department / agency	Senator	Hansard Reference/Written	Question	Comments/date of answer received
F1.a-e	DFD / Coord.	MINCHIN	Written	See attachment	Answered 09/05/08.
F2.a-e	AEC	MINCHIN	Written	See attachment	Answered 09/05/08.
F3.a-e	ARIA	MINCHIN	Written	See attachment	Answered 09/05/08.
F4.a-e	ComSuper	MINCHIN	Written	See attachment	Answered 09/05/08.
F5.a-e	FFMA	MINCHIN	Written	See attachment	Answered 09/05/08.
F6.a-e	NAA	MINCHIN	Written	See attachment	Answered 09/05/08.
F7.a-d	DFD / CAPS	MURRAY	Written	See attachment	Note: Further directions were given by Senator Murray to the Dept. of Finance—see attachment below). Answered 01/05/08.
F8.	DFD / CAPS	RAY	F&PA 27	Senator ROBERT RAY —When did you inform the Leader of the Opposition of the opposition's staff entitlements? How long after the election did it take this time?	Answered 07/04/08.

				<p>Senator Sherry—I am not aware of the precise date. There might be department officials who are.</p> <p>Dr Watt—We are not aware of the precise date, Senator. We can do a check to find out.</p> <p>Ms Mason—We can certainly take that on notice.</p>	
F9.	DFD / CAPS	RONALDSON	F&PA 27	<p>Senator RONALDSON— ...Have any of the DLOs assigned to your office written policy advice, papers or opinion pieces, formally or informally, for Labor members and senators prior to the last election?</p> <p>Senator Sherry—Not that I am aware of.</p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—Are you taking that on notice?</p> <p>Senator Sherry—No, I am not taking it on notice. Well, I am happy to take it on notice, and I will check, but I am certainly not aware of any of my departmental liaison officers having been engaged in that activity.</p>	Answered 24/04/08.
F10.	DFD / AMG	RONALDSON	F&PA 31	<p>Senator RONALDSON— ...I am giving you the full gamut of this and not just pulling it out. The article also says:</p> <p>While final details of the new arrangements have yet to be worked out “because we want to do it properly”, Mr Tanner has rolled over the existing advertising contract with media agency Universal McCann, due to expire in June, to the end of 2008.</p> <p>...So he has confirmed that there is a new media unit within Finance, but the final details of the new arrangements have yet to be made. Do you know nothing about it?</p> <p>Senator Sherry—I do know something about it. I know what the officers have explained this morning and what I have had briefed to me. I am happy to take your question on notice...</p>	Answered 04/04/08.
F11.	DFD / AMG	RONALDSON	F&PA 36	<p>Senator RONALDSON—So, Minister, you have done away with the GCU. What other bodies responsible for advertising under the previous government have also been done away with?</p> <p>Senator Sherry—I have already indicated to you what I am aware of in respect of the department of finance—that is my responsibility here—and the officers have done the same. I think this is your sixth go. I cannot inform you beyond that which I have already informed you and which the departmental officials have informed you. You have raised a number of media reports. I am happy to take those matters on notice for the minister for finance to obtain an answer, or answers, for you.</p>	Answered 04/04/08.

F12.	DFD / AMG	RONALDSON	F&PA 36-37	<p>Senator RONALDSON—I again quote Minister Tanner’s speech:</p> <p>... the auditor-general will have the final sign-off on any future advertising campaign costing more than \$250,000.</p> <p>Has the Auditor-General’s office been contacted in relation to any future role in this new communication process?</p> <p>Senator Sherry—...You have raised a range of other issues which are beyond the department of finance. I am happy to take them on notice. The department is happy to pass those relevant questions that have been placed on notice over to PM&C and we will obtain an answer for you.</p>	Answered 04/04/08.
F13.	DFD / AMG	RONALDSON	F&PA 38	<p>Senator RONALDSON—Can I therefore take it that every other matter related to government communications is fully within the responsibilities of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet?...</p> <p>Senator Sherry—Senator Ronaldson, all that the departmental officials and I can indicate—and we have—is what are the responsibilities of the department of finance. As for what the other responsibilities are outside the department of finance—in PM&C or elsewhere—we will take it on notice and the minister will provide you with a response.</p>	Answered 04/04/08.
F14.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 42	<p>Senator BRANDIS—If my counting is correct, there are 45 measures here. How many measures, roughly, were offered to the strategic budget committee of cabinet from which to choose?...</p> <p>...Senator Sherry—I am more than happy to take it on notice.</p>	Answered 15/04/08.
F15a.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 52	<p>Senator BRANDIS—...did Mr Burke report to Mr Tanner, or report to the strategic budget committee of cabinet on which Mr Tanner sat, the results of any consultation with stakeholders in relation to this measure concerning the Flemington Racecourse? Will you take that on notice, please.</p> <p>Senator Stephens—I will take your question on notice because, of course, I am not a member of either of those committees. I cannot answer that question.</p>	Answered 15/04/08.
F15b.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 52	<p>Senator BRANDIS—Of course. That is why you are taking it on notice.</p> <p>Senator Stephens—And it is certainly not a question for the departmental officers to respond to.</p> <p>Senator BRANDIS—Of course—well, perhaps; Dr Watt was at that meeting, I think, and perhaps he might know, but I will not press him on that. Take that question on notice, please. Will you also take on notice the question in relation to the Flemington Racecourse—I am going to give you and the</p>	Answered 15/04/08.

				<p>minister whom you represent an opportunity to resile from the absolute terms of your earlier answer: whether, before this decision was taken, any consideration was given to compensating Flemington Racecourse for the consequences of the decision? Will you take that on notice?</p> <p>Senator Stephens—I will take the question on notice.</p>	
F16.	DFD / AMG	COLBECK	F&PA 54	<p>Senator COLBECK—Dr Watt, did Mr Tanner seek any advice as to the potential for claims for compensation as part of these [45 savings] measures from the department of finance?</p> <p>Dr Watt—We do not normally comment on the advice we give, Senator. You know that.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK—No, I am just saying: did he ask? I do not want to know about the advice or what the advice said; I am just asking: did he ask for advice?</p> <p>Dr Watt—I do not think I can comment on what the minister might or might not have asked for. We can take it on notice.</p>	Answered 15/04/08.
F17.	DFD / AMG	COLBECK	F&PA 54	<p>Senator COLBECK— ...but would there not be a capacity for any of these people who have grants to make claims under the act of grace and debt waiver provisions for costs or losses as a result of this process?</p> <p>Dr Watt—I do not know the answer to that question. It is something I would have to take on notice.</p>	Answered 04/04/08.
F18.	DFD / AMG	COLBECK	F&PA 54	<p>Senator COLBECK—... Could you possibly look for the principles which are set down in the department of finance guidelines for act of grace and debt waiver claimants? Provide those to the committee relatively soon, if you could, so that we can have a look at those...</p> <p>Dr Watt—It is my understanding—and we could take something like that on notice—that, as you also would be aware, the first port of call is the agencies, not the debt waiver or act of grace payments.</p>	Answered 04/04/08.
F19.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 56	<p>Senator BRANDIS—...in relation to the second of these two measures, the drought package—which, of course, is a very important measure for people in rural Australia—what steps were taken by your minister to ensure that there had been consultation with the stakeholders when these decisions were considered by the cabinet subcommittee in which he participated? That is the question. I assume you are taking that on notice.</p> <p>Senator Sherry—Yes, we will, because the secretary is not able to explain and outline the decisions taken by the four members of the strategic budget committee; in this case, particularly the Minister for Finance and</p>	Answered 15/04/08.

				Deregulation.	
F20.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 57	<p>Senator BRANDIS—The second of these measures is a little different from those of them because, as we read from footnote 1:</p> <p>The savings recognised that additional funding for Rural Research and Development Corporations and Companies will be available under the Government’s proposed Climate Change and Productivity Research Program (\$15.0 million—</p> <p>So in this particular case, unusually in this list, there is in fact a new program which will fund similar activities. Is that right?...</p> <p>Dr Watt—I suspect—and I do not pretend to know the answer to this, but it can be checked and we can see whether we can get you an answer—that the \$15 million was already included in the budget estimates.</p>	Answered 24/04/08.
F21.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 57	<p>Senator BRANDIS—Coming to the third item, ‘Reversal of ... Budget measure—Workplace Relations Reform—additional resourcing for Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission’ of \$5.9 million...</p> <p>Senator BRANDIS— ...Did Mr Tanner, either directly or through the Attorney-General, the responsible minister, consult the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission in advance of this decision being made?</p> <p>Senator Sherry—I will take that on notice. I will, as a matter of courtesy, ask the finance minister whether he in fact did consult in the way you have asked and we will take it on notice.</p>	Answered 15/04/08
F22.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 57-58	<p>Senator BRANDIS—Thank you. The next one: ‘Australia Connected— establishment of BroadbandNOW’. That is another reversal of measure...What steps did Mr Tanner take before bringing this measure to the strategic budget review committee of cabinet to determine the effect or the impact of this measure on the relevant stakeholders?</p> <p>Senator Sherry—Again, I will take that question on notice and refer it to Mr Tanner, the finance minister, for a response.</p>	Answered 15/04/08.
F23.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 58	<p>Senator BRANDIS—The next one: Reversal of measure—Chamber Music Australia contribution’. That presumably was a contribution the Commonwealth was going to make to that particular arts organisation...What steps did Mr Tanner take to consider the impact upon Chamber Music Australia of having this \$100,000 government subsidy withdrawn before recommending to the strategic budget review of cabinet that it should be withdrawn?</p> <p>Senator Sherry—Again I will take that on notice as a matter of courtesy</p>	Answered 15/04/08.

				<p>and refer it to the Minister for Finance, Mr Tanner, for a response.</p> <p>Senator BRANDIS—Was Chamber Music Australia consulted either by or on behalf of Mr Tanner?</p> <p>Senator Sherry—Again I will take that on notice for a response from the finance minister, Mr Tanner.</p>	
F24.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 59	<p>Senator BRANDIS—If Senator Sherry knows the answer, he will not have to take it on notice, Senator Watson, but just you watch. Were the relevant call centres under consideration by the cabinet subcommittee, in which the minister whom you represent participated, call centres in Launceston or Hobart or Townsville?...</p> <p>Senator Sherry—The matter of the issue impacts of individual measures that were considered by the strategic budget committee I will take on notice and seek an answer from the finance minister, Mr Tanner...</p> <p>Senator Sherry—I will also take your questions on notice and refer them on to the Minister for Finance, Mr Tanner.</p>	Answered 16/04/08.
F25.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 62	<p>Senator BRANDIS—...the Commonwealth's contribution to the Rugby League Hall of Fame. I would like to know, please: what steps were taken by or on behalf of your minister to inform himself of the impact upon the relevant stakeholders of this measure before the decision to withdraw the Commonwealth's contribution was made?</p> <p>Senator Sherry—In order to assist the committee in terms of its timing—I understand your concern about timing—I will take it on notice.</p>	Answered 15/04/08.
F26.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 62-63	<p>Senator BRANDIS—In relation to the next matter—the Australian National Rugby Academy reversal of a measure announced by the Prime Minister, I recall, on 30 June last year to contribute \$25 million to the establishment of the Australian National Rugby Academy at Ballimore—can I ask what steps were taken by or on behalf of your minister to inform himself and to ensure that the strategic budget review of cabinet was informed of the impact on Australian Rugby Union of that decision?</p> <p>Senator Sherry—I will take that on notice.</p>	Answered 15/04/08.
F27.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 63	<p>Senator BRANDIS—Finally, on the Australian National Rugby Academy at Ballymore, was Mr Tanner aware, at the time this decision was made, of the contractual obligations that the Australian Rugby Union had undertaken and the liability to which it was exposed in the event of the non-fulfilment of those obligations, on the faith of the promise made on 30 June by the</p>	Answered 15/04/08.

				<p>previous government?</p> <p>Senator Sherry—I will ask the departmental officials whether they have any information on this matter—if they are aware of anything.</p> <p>Senator BRANDIS—You will take that on notice?</p> <p>Senator Sherry—I am happy to seek further information.</p>	
F28.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 64	<p>Senator BRANDIS—...The next reversal of measure was the Growing Regions program. Who was the minister responsible for that program?</p> <p>Dr Watt—Minister Albanese.</p> <p>Senator BRANDIS—Did Mr Tanner or his department consult Minister Albanese before this decision was made?</p> <p>Senator Sherry—I will check with the minister.</p> <p>Senator BRANDIS—What steps were taken by Mr Tanner before the decision was made to inform him</p> <p>and those who made the decision of the impact of that decision upon relevant stakeholders?</p> <p>Senator Sherry—Again, I will check with the minister.</p>	Answered 15/04/08.
F29.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 64	<p>Senator BRANDIS—I will move on to: Reversal of measure—Regional maritime security capacity-building Who was the relevant minister there?</p> <p>Senator Sherry—Again, Minister Albanese.</p> <p>Senator BRANDIS—I ask the same two questions.</p> <p>Senator Sherry—I give the same answers. I will check with the minister.</p>	Answered 15/04/08.
F30.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 64	<p>Senator BRANDIS—For the Innovation Ambassador program, who was the relevant minister?</p> <p>Senator Sherry—It would be Senator Carr.</p> <p>Senator BRANDIS—He was not a participant in the strategic budget committee, was he?</p> <p>Senator Sherry—Correct.</p> <p>Senator BRANDIS—I ask the same two questions. I do not need to restate them, do I?</p> <p>Senator Sherry—No. I will refer them.</p>	Answered 15/04/08.

F31.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 64	<p>Senator BRANDIS—I move on to: Reversal of measure—Research Vessel Southern Surveyor Who was the minister?</p> <p>Senator Sherry—Senator Carr again.</p> <p>Senator BRANDIS—I ask the same two questions about advance consultation with him and steps taken to assess the effect on stakeholders.</p> <p>Senator Sherry—Yes. I will look at that, Senator Brandis.</p>	Answered 15/04/08.
F32.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 64-65	<p>Senator BRANDIS—The next decision relates to: General Employee Entitlements and Redundancy Scheme...</p> <p>Then I ask the same two questions [about consultation and effects on stakeholders].</p>	Answered 15/04/08.
F33.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 65	<p>Senator BRANDIS—The next is not the reversal of a measure but the revision of a measure [Citizenship Test - administration]...Again, was he [The Minister for Immigration] consulted before the decision was made? What steps were taken by or on behalf of Mr Tanner to determine the impact on stakeholders before this decision was made?</p> <p>Senator Sherry—Likewise, Senator Brandis, I will refer it on to the minister.</p>	Answered 15/04/08.
F34.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 65	<p>Senator BRANDIS—The next one is: Auslink—inland rail</p> <p>That was the measure being championed by Mr Everal Compton, wasn't it—to build an inland rail from southern Queensland down to Victoria? Is that the one we are talking about, Dr Watt?..I again ask the same two questions about prior consultation with him and steps taken by Mr Tanner to assess the impact before the decision was made.</p> <p>Senator Sherry—I will do the same thing.</p>	Answered 15/04/08.
F35.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 65-66	<p>Senator BRANDIS—The next one is: Bass Strait Passenger Vehicle Equalisation Scheme</p> <p>Senator BRANDIS—I ask the same two questions.</p>	Answered 15/04/08.
F36.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 66	<p>Senator BRANDIS—...The next one is Reverse FutureGen Alliance membership ...Again, I want to know whether he was consulted in advance of the decision made and what steps Mr Tanner took to assess the impact of the decision on stakeholders.</p>	Answered 15/04/08.

F37.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 67	Senator BRANDIS —The next one is ‘Revision of measure—Drought Package 2007—re-establishment assistance’...I will ask the same two questions. Was he consulted in advance of the decision? And what steps did Mr Tanner take or cause to be taken to inform himself and the strategic review committee of cabinet as to the effect upon stakeholders of this measure?	Answered 15/04/08.
F38.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 67-68	Senator BRANDIS —...The next measure is ‘Revision of measure—Asia-Pacific forestry skills and capacity building’...Again, I would like to know the answers to both questions—whether the minister was consulted prior to the decision and what steps Mr Tanner took or caused to be taken to inform the decision makers of the impact on stakeholders.	Answered 15/04/08.
F39.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 68	Senator BRANDIS —...The next one is ‘Revision to 2007-08 Budget measure—Griffin Legacy Infrastructure’...Again I would like to know whether he was consulted in advance and what steps Mr Tanner took to inform himself and to inform those who made this decision of the impact on stakeholders—which would presumably include the ACT authority and the ACT government.	Answered 15/04/08.
F40.	DFD / Budget	WATSON	F&PA 69	Senator WATSON —Could you take on notice the consequences for the funding of that road, [Constitutional Avenue] if my understanding is correct? Dr Watt —I think that one might need to get passed on to the relevant minister, Senator. Senator Sherry —We will take it on notice and pass it on.	Answered 16/04/08
F41.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 69	Senator BRANDIS —The next item is ‘Revision of measure—NetAlert—Protecting Australian Families Online—Additional Funding for Consumer Information Campaign’. Senator BRANDIS —Can you find out whether he [Senator Conroy] was consulted in advance? Senator Sherry —Yes. Senator BRANDIS —Again, I would be interested to know what steps Mr Tanner took or caused to be taken to inform himself and those who made this decision about the impact of this cut...	Answered 15/04/08.
F42.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 69	Senator BRANDIS —...The next is ‘Revision of measure—Tuggeranong Office Park—transitional accommodation costs’. Senator BRANDIS —Oh, it was Minister Macklin—the same two questions?	Answered 15/04/08.

				Dr Watt—Yes	
F43.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 69-70	<p>Senator BRANDIS—Does the next item, ‘Revision of measure—Australia-Japan Free Trade Agreement—commencement of negotiations’, indicate that the date of commencement of negotiations of the Australia-Japan Free Trade Agreement had been postponed?</p> <p>Dr Watt—No...</p> <p>Senator BRANDIS—All right. The same two questions please in relation to consultation with ministers and steps taken by or on behalf of Mr Tanner to determine the impact on interested persons.</p>	Answered 15/04/08.
F44.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 70	<p>Senator BRANDIS—...Drought assistance...Again, the same two questions about consultation with relevant ministers and assessment of impact by on behalf of Mr Tanner...</p>	Answered 15/04/08.
F45.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 70	<p>Senator BRANDIS— ‘Child Support Reforms—communication campaign savings’... All right, the same two questions...</p>	Answered 15/04/08.
F46.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 70	<p>Senator BRANDIS—...‘Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry administered appropriation saving’...All I need to ask about that, I suppose, is the first question: was Mr Burke consulted in advance?...</p>	Answered 15/04/08.
F47.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 70	<p>Senator BRANDIS—All right. The fishing hall of fame... I would be interested to know whether Minister [Ferguson] was consulted and what steps Mr Tanner took or caused to be taken to assess the impact on the sponsors of the fishing hall of fame...</p>	Answered 15/04/08.
F48.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 71	<p>Senator BRANDIS—Thank you. The next issue is ‘Australian Federal Police—Termination of Residential and Accommodation Leases in PNG’. That is a matter of concern to the Attorney-General. I would like to know if he was consulted first. I would like to know whether the commissioner or a relevant officer of the Australian Federal Police was consulted so that the impact of that decision on the Australian Federal Police was taken into consideration in advance of the decision being made.</p>	Answered 15/04/08.
F49.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 71	<p>Senator BRANDIS—...In relation to ‘Return of unspent advertising funding—NetAlert—Protecting Australian Families Online’...</p> <p>Senator BRANDIS—All right. I just need to know in relation to that whether Senator Conroy was consulted in advance.</p>	Answered 15/04/08.
F50.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 72-73	<p>Senator BRANDIS—On the National Plan for Water Security—Murray-Darling Basin Authority...Can you tell me please whether the minister, who I assume is Senator Wong—she is the Minister for Climate Change and Water,</p>	Answered 15/04/08.

				<p>is she not—</p> <p>Dr Grimes—Yes, correct.</p> <p>Senator BRANDIS—was consulted in advance of the making of this decision? Can you tell me please whether Mr Tanner informed himself, either directly or caused others to inquire on his behalf, about the impact on the authority? And can I add to that particular question whether there was consultation with the governments of New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia?</p> <p>Senator Sherry—I am happy to seek that information as well, Senator Brandis.</p>	
F51.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 73	<p>Senator BRANDIS—...I would like to know whether the appropriate minister was consulted in advance of this decision [Bureau of Meteorology reductions as part of the NPFWS funding reductions] being made and the steps Mr Tanner made, or caused to be made, to inform himself and the decision makers as to the impact of this decision.</p>	Answered 15/04/08.
F52.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 73	<p>Senator BRANDIS—Apprenticeship Incentives for Agriculture and Horticulture...I would like to know what steps were made by or on behalf of Mr Tanner to inform himself, and those who made this decision, as to the impact on those affected by it.</p> <p>Senator Sherry—Yes.</p> <p>Senator BRANDIS—You might include in that answer, if you would please, how many individual apprentices are likely to be affected by these reductions. It seems a lot of money over four years: \$47.7 million chopped out of incentives for agricultural and horticultural apprenticeships.</p> <p>Senator Sherry—I will, but I just make the point that that is a detailed issue for that department. You could not reasonably expect it of Finance, but I will endeavour to obtain the information for you.</p>	Answered 24/04/08.
F53.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 75	<p>Senator BRANDIS—Thank you. Is low emissions technology and abatement and Environment—</p> <p>Dr Grimes—We are just checking at the moment. It will be either Environment or Climate Change.</p> <p>Senator BRANDIS—I would like to know whether the relevant minister was consulted and what steps were taken by Mr Tanner or on his behalf to inform himself and those who made this decision as to its impact and those affected by the reductions.</p>	Answered 15/04/08

				Dr Grimes —I am able to also confirm that it is Mr Garrett and Environment.	
F54.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 75	<p>Senator BRANDIS—...What are biodiversity hot spots?...</p> <p>Senator BRANDIS—What about expansion of the program by the identification of new locations?</p> <p>Mr Suur—We do not believe it will impact on the delivery of the program.</p> <p>Senator BRANDIS—Do you know? Did you ask the minister? You might care to take that on notice.</p> <p>Dr Watt—I think that goes back to your standard two questions.</p>	Answered 15/04/08.
F55.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 75-76	<p>Senator BRANDIS— ...There is a large reduction in the renewable remote power generation program.</p> <p>Senator BRANDIS—All right. Again, I would like to know both about the extent of consultation with the relevant minister in advance of the decision and what steps Mr Tanner made, or caused to be made on his behalf, to inform himself and those who made the decision as to the impact of this reduction in funding of this program...</p>	Answered 15/04/08.
F56.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 76	<p>Senator BRANDIS— ...Is Family Relationships Centre advertising in the Department of Human Services, or the Attorney-General's Department?</p> <p>Dr Grimes—Attorney-General's.</p> <p>Senator BRANDIS—I would like to know whether the Attorney-General was consulted and I would like to know what steps Mr Tanner took, or caused to be taken on his behalf, particularly to consult the family relationships centres so as to better inform himself and those who made this decision of the impact of the decision...</p>	Answered 15/04/08.
F57.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 76	<p>Senator BRANDIS—...The next two, the Ethanol Production Subsidy and the Ethanol Distribution Program, I might take together...</p> <p>Senator BRANDIS—I would like to know whether the responsible minister was consulted and what steps Mr Tanner took or caused to be taken on his behalf to inform himself and those who made the decision of the impact of the program.</p>	Answered 15/04/08.
F58.	DFD / Budget	BRANDIS	F&PA 76	Senator BRANDIS —...I go to the Townsville International Sports Centre, and I am looking at footnote 8. Does footnote 8 reveal a government decision, or is that simply something that is anticipated?	Answered 24/04/08.

				<p>Dr Watt—No, that is a government decision. The previous government decided to fund this entity. The new government has decided to fund it through the Better Regions Program, which is an existing pool of funding.</p> <p>Senator BRANDIS—Will the Townsville International Sports Centre or its promoters need to apply under the Better Regions Program, or is this, for them, money in the bank?</p> <p>Dr Watt—As far as I am aware—I emphasise ‘as far as I am aware’ and we are not experts on the program—they will be funded under the Better Regions Program. They may have to apply, but the funding is committed under that program to them. So, rather than them being funded as additional money, stand alone, they will be funded under existing programs.</p> <p>Senator BRANDIS—You will check that, will you not? And, of course, this is not a reduction because it is simply money that is being taken out of a different pot.</p>	
F59.	DFD / FeSG	MURRAY	F&PA 80	<p>Senator MURRAY—What are the chief effects of that efficiency dividend on your department?...</p> <p>Dr Watt—There is the existing dividend, which was already in our base, as it is for all agencies, of one per cent going forward for 2008-09 and beyond, there is the additional quarter of a percentage point that was announced by the previous government, which starts in 2008-09; and then there is the additional one-off dividend of two per cent announced by the then opposition and phased in in 2007-08. We are currently going through our budget review committee arrangements. We are reviewing our own internal budget in the light of the efficiency dividend and one or two other things that we will have to absorb. We have not finished that review. In fact, we have only just started it. We had papers prepared through the Christmas period and we are working our way through it now.</p> <p>Senator MURRAY—Could I therefore ask you on notice that when you have completed your assessment you advise the committee of the affects of that?</p> <p>Dr Watt—I am happy to do that....</p> <p>Senator MURRAY—...I want you to tell the committee within the more narrow confines of my questioning whether, if I can summarise it, your role as a fiscal tool in this present environment will be diminished in any way.</p> <p>Dr Watt—I am happy to take that on notice, when we have finished our budget review.</p>	Answered 04/04/08.

F60.	DFD / CAPS	FIFIELD	F&PA 82	<p>Senator FIFIELD—Have there been any software changes that might be required for things like generating pay slips with different titles on the top?</p> <p>Mr Edge—I would have to check on that.</p>	Answered 24/04/08.
F61.	DFD / AMG	HUMPHRIES	F&PA 86	<p>Senator HUMPHRIES—I understand that the previous [airline travel] targets that were set for non-Qantas flights were not met. I am not sure whether they were as ambitious as 25 per cent, but I understand that previously they were not met. I am wondering what you would do in the event that an agency comes back and says, ‘We had only five per cent of our flights on airlines other than Qantas.’</p> <p>Dr Watt—Senator, there are two things. First, if my recollection serves me correctly, the previous targets were achieved. I would have to take the question on notice to get that detail for you...</p>	Answered 04/04/08.
F62.	DFD / AMG	HUMPHRIES	F&PA 87	<p>Senator HUMPHRIES—Will the quarterly reports be tabled or published on the internet or something like that?</p> <p>Dr Watt—...at the moment there is no intention to publish the reports, because they are reports to government and reports to the minister. We could ask the minister whether he is willing to table them or not...</p>	Answered 24/04/08.
F63.	ARIA	WATSON	F&PA 88	<p>Senator WATSON—You mentioned that you use evaluations and feedback. What other objective criteria or performance measures do you use to assess the performance?</p> <p>Mr Carrigy-Ryan—We do have service standards in place—for example, the time in which pensions or benefits might be paid; the time in which queries might be answered; the time in which benefit estimates might be provided; and all of that range of things that are reasonably standard in the industry. The performance of our administrator is competitive. We would like to have improvements—there is no doubt that every trustee in Australia would of their funds—but the standards we use are objective and reasonably standard industry standards.</p> <p>Senator WATSON—Could the committee have copies of those sorts of reports, or would it be confidential and affect your competitiveness?</p> <p>Senator Sherry—I am always willing to assist. I would like to have a look at the reports first. I am aware of a couple of the documents. I am just concerned whether there will be any commercial disadvantage that these instrumentalities may suffer. Subject to that, I am certainly willing to make them available to you, Senator Watson.</p>	Answered 04/04/08.
F64.	ARIA	WATSON	F&PA 91	<p>Senator WATSON—What proportion of the assets under management are</p>	See also F100

				<p>in hedge funds?</p> <p>Mr Carrigy-Ryan—I would have to check that, and get you a current figure on that. It would be of the order of four to six per cent.</p> <p>Senator Sherry—We will take that question on notice.</p>	<p>Answered 04/04/08.</p>
F65.	ComSuper	WATSON	F&PA 92	<p>Senator WATSON—...the administrators of ComSuper and the people who oversight ComSuper—whether they have any sorts of restrictions. What sort of fee do you get for lending scrip? Is it a profitable business? What is the extent of lending scrip?</p> <p>Mr Carrigy-Ryan—Can I make two comments for clarity. First, the investment of the funds is the responsibility of the trustees—that is ARIA, not ComSuper. ComSuper are not involved in investment. Second, we have an agreement with our custodian—I do not have those details with me—in relation to scrip lending. I can obtain those details and provide them to you.</p>	<p>Answered 04/04/08.</p>
F66.	ARIA	WATSON	F&PA 92	<p>Senator WATSON—I would like to know what are the limits, the amount of money involved and the fees that ARIA, or ComSuper, receives in these exercises, which may involve short selling of scrip and lending of scrip. I am just surprised that you are into this area. Obviously, it is for commercial gain, but I think a standard has to be set by government and government agencies.</p> <p>Senator Sherry—The officer has indicated that he does not have those details with him. Knowing your interest—</p> <p>Senator WATSON—I think you would be interested in that one too.</p> <p>Senator Sherry—Yes. Firstly, it is commercial in confidence and, secondly—</p> <p>Senator WATSON—We have to be careful on this one. This is too high a figure. As a parliamentarian I am not sure whether I will accept that it is commercial in confidence. I will take a figure in confidence, but I would like to be sure that I am going to get a figure. It has been hidden under a masquerade of in confidence.</p> <p>Senator Sherry—There are a board of trustees who are statutory, independent and arm's length. I suspect—although I would need to confirm this—that it is their decision. I am happy to request that subject to commercial in confidence. I know your interest in this area and I am happy to make that request and to take the question on notice.</p>	<p>Answered 04/04/08.</p>
F67.	ARIA	WATSON	F&PA 92-93	<p>Senator WATSON—...Does ARIA set parameters within which the board operates in certain sensitive matters?</p>	<p>Answered 04/04/08.</p>

				<p>Mr Carrigy-Ryan—ARIA is the trustee board and, yes, it has a range of prudential standards under which it operates, including all those that apply to a licensed trustee that operates in the superannuation industry. Additionally, it is a statutory corporation established by the parliament, so we have all the reporting and other obligations that such entities have; hence our presence at these hearings and so forth.</p> <p>Senator WATSON—Would you table those parameters in which I am interested?...</p>	
F68.	DFD / CAPS	RAY	F&PA 101	<p>Senator ROBERT RAY—...Would it be possible to inform the committee, without identifying individuals, of what the largest gap was between the pay level and pay received out of the 21—it will not identify the person, obviously—and what was the lowest gap, so I would have some idea of just how much outside the salary band people were being paid. I ask this for the 21 because I think it is probably anonymous; if you go further down, it would not be.</p> <p>Senator Faulkner—I appreciate that point.</p> <p>Senator ROBERT RAY—Just to give me an indication.</p> <p>Senator Faulkner—And you would appreciate, Senator, that one of the principles of these estimates committees, of wherever we can, historically—even though I may have been on a different side of the table—is the issue of maintaining the anonymity of staff, and it is one that we have respected, so I respect the point that you make. I do not know if that information is available from officials; I will ask officials if they can answer that now.</p> <p>Ms Mason—Senator, we would need to take that one on notice.</p> <p>Senator ROBERT RAY—And, clearly, if you think the answer identifies or could be used to identify any individual, please just say that is the reason why you cannot supply the information. I will find that acceptable.</p>	Answered 07/04/08.
F69.	DFD / CAPS	FIERRAVANTI-WELLS	F&PA 104	<p>Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS—Senator Faulkner, I think you asked questions in relation to phone lines in offices on the last occasion. The gist seems to be possibly looking at increased phone lines to cater for the new staff member and also—I throw in the comments that Senator Faulkner made—where some of your staff are part-time and they all happen to be there on that particular day. Is there any intention to look at the question of an additional phone line?</p> <p>Mr Miles—I do not think anything has happened about an additional phone line. Of, the number of phone lines does not necessarily equate to the</p>	Answered 07/04/08.

				<p>number of handsets we have provided.</p> <p>Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS—Yes, I appreciate that.</p> <p>Mr Miles—We quite willingly provide as many handsets as can be fitted into the office. I am not aware of any further work on—</p> <p>Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS—Perhaps you might take that on notice...</p>	
F70.	DFD / CAPS	RONALDSON	F&PA 105	<p>Senator RONALDSON—...Can you confirm that all former ministerial staff who were paid above the salary band in the previous government were either, firstly, public servants whose APS salary was more than the highest band of the MOP(S) salary—and hence requiring above-the-band adjustment for them to work as staffers without suffering financial disadvantage—or, secondly, long-term MOP staff who had, over a long period of time, gone over the top of the band through annual performance increments?</p> <p>Dr Watt—We would certainly need to take that on notice. We would also have to put some parameters around the question—for example, there are privacy issues which may or may not be germane in answering the question. My second point is that we would have to decide what ‘long-term MOP staff’ meant. Clearly, some MOP staff may have gone over the band as a result of a performance increase in 12 months time if they have been placed relatively high in the band. Others may have been there for several years and still be well within the band. We can see if we can provide that information, but we would have to make some assumptions in doing it.</p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—My question is quite specific—through annual performance increments.</p> <p>Dr Watt—Again, it depends a bit on what you mean by ‘long-term’ and on when the long term exists. But we will make an assumption and we will see what we can come up with.</p>	Answered 01/05/08.
F71.	DFD / CAPS	RONALDSON	F&PA 107	<p>Senator RONALDSON—On that basis, under what MOP(S) or certified agreement classifications have the following positions been filled: advisers, senior advisers, special advisers, principle advisers and chiefs of staff?...</p> <p>Ms Clarke—The Prime Minister has signed a determination under the MOP(S) Act which sets out the terms and conditions, including the salary rates of all the senior staff, both government and non-government. That determination has been advised to all office holders affected by that.</p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—Is that determination available?</p>	Answered 07/04/08.

				<p>Ms Clarke—It has certainly been sent to the Leader of the Opposition.</p> <p>Senator Faulkner—I am certainly happy to ensure, Senator, if you are requesting it and if it would assist the committee, to provide the committee with it. I am very happy for it to be provided to the committee. It can be made available. Before we make it available to the committee I will ensure that the Prime Minister and Dr Nelson are comfortable with the nature of the correspondence between them being provided.</p>	
F72.	DFD / CAPS	RONALDSON	F&PA 110	<p>Senator RONALDSON—...Briefly, what determinations have been made under the MOP(S) Act since the election?...</p> <p>Senator Faulkner—We would need to provide them on notice.</p>	Answered 07/04/08.
F73.	DFD / CAPS	RONALDSON	F&PA 110-111	<p>Senator RONALDSON—One final question: on the question of non-standard home bases for staff, I gather that in the past that information has been provided for staff who have non-standard home bases—is that correct?</p> <p>Senator Faulkner—In the past, questions have been asked in relation to non-standard home bases. It is true to say that information has been eked out on that issue over the years. I think that is a pretty fair way of describing it... Generally—and I think colleagues around the table acknowledge this—we work at protecting the privacy of these members of staff. This applies across whoever the government or the opposition of the day might be and also for non-government parties. Often when questions have been asked in relation to personal classifications, salaries above the range or non-standard home bases, my predecessors at the table have certainly never provided the names of individuals. But if you are asking for a broad picture or pattern of those with non-standard home bases since the 2007 election, I would be happy to provide that and see if that satisfies your request.</p>	Answered 07/04/08.
F74.	AEC	FORSHAW	F&PA 116	<p>Senator FORSHAW—Who determines which posts will make voting available? We are talking firstly about people who want to vote in person, but of course also about those who want to apply for or lodge postal votes.</p> <p>Mr Dacey—That is right. In the main it is available at all posts, unless there is some particular reason the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade has for not opening a post. We can probably get some information for you on any posts that we operate that did not operate for some form of voting.</p> <p>Senator FORSHAW—Thank you...</p>	Answered 07/04/08.
F75.	AEC	FORSHAW	F&PA 117	<p>Mr Campbell—I do not think it was you who was ringing up. We have now gone to Foreign Affairs and asked them what was actually happening, because the concern raised by the parent—who is resident in Australia—is</p>	Answered 07/04/08.

				<p>that it was even closed on the Wednesday afternoon. We were not aware of that, and we were not aware that the consulate closed on the Friday. We have now—and I am trying to avoid the question here—gone to Foreign Affairs, and we are waiting for them to come back to give us information on it.</p> <p>Senator FORSHAW—It would be useful if you could supply that information to the committee when you obtain it. Certainly the advice that was on the website and was distributed by the consulate was that it was to be open in New York from 9 am to 5 pm from Monday to Wednesday, closed on Thursday for Thanksgiving and closed on Friday. That was it...</p>	
F76.	AEC	FORSHAW	F&PA 119	<p>Senator FORSHAW—But, certainly, when polling in person opened on the Monday prior to election day on the Saturday—</p> <p>Mr Campbell—So you mean the Monday immediately before polling day?</p> <p>Senator FORSHAW—yes—people were told, ‘The ballot papers are not available today, they have not arrived; you must come back on Tuesday.’</p> <p>Mr Campbell—I think we should take this one on notice. I am hearing that they had the capacity to actually issue ballots two weeks before polling day.</p> <p>Senator FORSHAW—Yes—that is what I am trying to understand.</p> <p>Mr Campbell—We are acknowledging that the hard copy ballot papers that we had to print here and then ship were not there until the weekend before polling day, on the Friday or the Saturday, so to my mind they should have been available on the Monday for people walking through the door—</p> <p>Senator FORSHAW—That follows.</p> <p>Mr Campbell—but, in the week before, they had the capacity to do that. So I think we need to take that question on notice.</p>	Answered 07/04/08.
F77.	AEC	WEBBER	F&PA 124	<p>Senator WEBBER—...I am aware of at least one mine site of 300 workers. They were bussed into Newman Primary School, but you had run out of interstate ballot papers so they were all turned away and could not vote.</p> <p>Mr Orr—I am not aware of that.</p> <p>Senator WEBBER—You can take it on notice and get back to me.</p> <p>Mr Campbell—We will come back to you on that one.</p>	Answered 07/04/08.
F78.	AEC	FIFIELD	F&PA 125	<p>Senator FIFIELD—For that figure of 20,500 [multiple votes for the 2004</p>	Answered

				<p>election], are you currently in a position to give a breakdown by state?</p> <p>Mr Campbell—I do not have it here with me, but I certainly can give it to you, yes.</p> <p>Senator FIFIELD—So you will take that on notice?</p> <p>Mr Campbell—I can give it to you by division, actually.</p> <p>Senator FIFIELD—Okay. That would be great. I was going to say that I would be happy just with my state of Victoria, but if you can do it for each state and for each division as well that would be terrific.</p>	07/04/08.
F79.	AEC	RONALDSON	F&PA 126-127	<p>Senator RONALDSON—Could you take on notice whether there were any complaints made by any of the parties regarding the conduct of the [most recent Australia Post EBA or Union ballot for a strike action] ballot process. Could you also take on notice whether it was reported to you that certain documents were circulated that deliberately misrepresented various positions.</p> <p>Mr Campbell—Is this the ballot that was run about four or five months ago?</p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—Yes, I think so.</p> <p>Mr Campbell—That was the one where there were certain concerns, both in Victoria and New South Wales, about certain behaviour, about ballot papers, or about things being said and documents being circulated?</p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—I do not think that the complaints were in relation to the way the AEC handled it.</p> <p>Mr Campbell—We did do that one. That was in about August or that period of time. For the details, I would have to take it on notice and come back to you.</p>	Answered 07/04/08.
				F&PA Committee hearing: Friday, 22 February 2008	
F80.	FFMA	BRANDIS	F&PA 7	<p>Senator BRANDIS—...I am not asking you for the content of the portfolio; I am merely asking for the bottom line, as it were, on each trading day as to how the value of the portfolio's standing on that day has changed from the previous trading day. So we are talking about a single figure and a single percentage calculation per day. You could provide that openly, couldn't you?</p> <p>Mr Costello—Your point is correct, but that does not have embedded in it forward-looking information that could impact our assets.</p> <p>Senator BRANDIS—So you are quite happy to provide that information,</p>	Answered 04/04/08.

				<p>not on an in camera basis but on an open basis?</p> <p>Mr Costello—Yes, we could do that... If the committee was prepared to give us a week, that would be a comfortable time frame in which to get that together and get back to you.</p>	
F81.	FFMA	BRANDIS	F&PA 8	<p>Senator BRANDIS—Of course, and that is very proper. But, for our purposes today, to give us just some guidance are you able, to closest hundred million, to give us an idea as to how much the fund has lost in the last seven months within that category of investment?</p> <p>Mr Costello—Can we come back to that question a little later? I will see if we can get something—</p> <p>Senator BRANDIS—Certainly. In the meantime, can I also ask you to provide us with the same day-by-day information in relation to the global equities component as you have kindly agreed to provide in relation to the Australian equities component from 1 July to 31 January?</p> <p>Mr Costello—Yes.</p> <p>Senator WATSON—Can we also have it expressed in percentage terms?</p> <p>Senator BRANDIS—I asked for that, Senator Watson, with the first category. I assume that Mr Costello will do the same with each category. Is that right?</p> <p>Mr Costello—That is right, and I guess that—</p> <p>Senator BRANDIS—Would you undertake to do that?</p> <p>Mr Costello—Yes.</p>	Answered 04/04/08.
F82.	FFMA	BRANDIS	F&PA 9	<p>Senator BRANDIS—Once again, if you would be good enough to do the same exercise for me, please, on a day-by-day basis, from when this asset class first began to be acquired until 31 January—an assessment of daily movements...</p>	Answered 04/04/08.
F83.	FFMA	BRANDIS	F&PA 10	<p>Senator BRANDIS—Can you tell us the date, by the way, of the last purchase in that asset class?</p> <p>Mr Neal—We have not acquired any since the beginning of November.</p> <p>Senator BRANDIS—What day in November? What is the date? Let us be precise.</p> <p>Mr Neal—I do not have that precise date.</p> <p>Senator Sherry—We will take it on notice.</p>	Answered 04/04/08.

F84.	FFMA	BRANDIS	F&PA 13	<p>Senator BRANDIS—...Forgive me if I have already asked you this: the same exercise on a day-by-day basis in the change in values of the listed global property component of the portfolio please. That will not be very hard because there were only two acquisitions, but could I have from the time of those acquisitions through to the 31 January, please? Lastly—and this should be pretty easy, I guess—I would like the change in value of the Telstra share component of the portfolio as well between 1 July and 31 January. Can you do that for me?</p> <p>Mr Costello—Yes, we can do that.</p>	Answered 04/04/08.
F85.	FFMA	WATSON	F&PA 13-14	<p>Senator WATSON—...what steps has the Future Fund taken to mitigate losses on your investments and to protect taxpayers' money? You might take this at the same time because we are running out of time: are you satisfied that the internal quality control checks of the fund are adequate, given that you have at least 15 per cent of people who are policy advisers on investment?...</p> <p>Senator WATSON—Given that we are running out of time, you had better take on notice the part of the question that you did not answer in terms of internal quality control checks.</p> <p>Senator Sherry—We will take that on notice.</p>	Answered 04/04/08.
F86.	FFMA	WATSON	F&PA 15	<p>Senator WATSON—...can you assure the committee that, in future, performance bonuses will only be paid when the return of the fund outperforms the market rather than merely following it?</p> <p>Mr Costello—That is an issue for the board to determine performance bonuses on a range of factors. I would not presume to give that kind of reassurance at this time to that activity.</p> <p>Senator Sherry—I will take that on notice and make sure that it is passed on to Mr Murray, who is the chair of the Guardians. He was appointed by the former Treasurer, Mr Costello.</p>	Answered 04/04/08.
F87.	FFMA	WATSON	F&PA 15	<p>Senator WATSON—The fund is focused on real terms. The report indicates that investment decisions assume an inflation rate of 2.5 per cent. Given that current inflation is well above this, has the fund revised its inflation assumptions so as not to overstate expected returns? You can take that on notice, but I just thought you might like to answer that.</p>	Answered 04/04/08.
F88.	DFD / AMG	RONALDSON	Written	See Attachment	Answered 04/04/08.
F89.	DFD / AMG	RONALDSON	Written	See Attachment	Answered

					04/04/08.
F90.	DFD / AMG	RONALDSON	Written	See Attachment	Answered 04/04/08.
F91.	DFD / AMG	RONALDSON	Written	See Attachment	Answered 04/04/08.
F92.	DFD / CAPS	RONALDSON	Written	See Attachment	Answered 07/04/08.
F93.	DFD / CAPS	RONALDSON	Written	See Attachment	Answered 07/04/08.
F94.	DFD / CAPS	RONALDSON	Written	See Attachment	Answered 07/04/08.
F95.	DFD / CAPS	RONALDSON	Written	See Attachment	Answered 07/04/08.
F96.	DFD / CAPS	RONALDSON	Written	See Attachment	Answered 07/04/08.
F97.	DFD / CAPS	RONALDSON	Written	See Attachment	Answered 01/05/08.
F98.	DFD / CAPS	RONALDSON	Written	See Attachment	Answered 07/04/08.
F99.	DFD / CAPS	RONALDSON	Written	See Attachment	Answered 07/04/08.
F100.	DFD / CAPS	RONALDSON	Written	See Attachment	Answered 07/04/08.
F101.	DFD / CAPS	RONALDSON	Written	See Attachment	Answered 07/04/08.
F102a-b	DFD / CAPS	STOTT DESPOJA	Written	See Attachment	These questions will be answered by Treasury.
F103.	DFD / CAPS	STOTT DESPOJA	Written	See Attachment	Answered 04/04/08.
F104.	ARIA	WATSON	Written	See Attachment	Answered 04/04/08.
F105	DFD / CAPS	RONALDSON	Written	See Attachment	Answered 07/04/08.
F106	DFD / CAPS	RONALDSON	Written	See Attachment	Answered 07/04/08.

F107	DFD / CAPS	RONALDSON	Written	See Attachment	Answered 07/04/08.
F108	DFD / CAPS	RONALDSON	Written	See Attachment	Answered 07/04/08.
F109	DFD / CAPS	RONALDSON	Written	See Attachment	Answered 07/04/08.
F110	DFD / CAPS	RONALDSON	Written	See Attachment	Answered 07/04/08.
F111	DFD / CAPS	RONALDSON	Written	See Attachment	Answered 07/04/08.
F112	DFD / CAPS	RONALDSON	Written	See Attachment	Answered 07/04/08.
F113	DFD / CAPS	RONALDSON	Written	See Attachment	Answered 07/04/08.
F114	DFD / CAPS	RONALDSON	Written	See Attachment	Answered 01/05/08.
F115	DFD / CAPS	RONALDSON	Written	See Attachment	Answered 07/04/08.
F116	DFD / CAPS	RONALDSON	Written	See Attachment	Answered 07/04/08.
F117	DFD / CAPS	RONALDSON	Written	See Attachment	Answered 07/04/08.
F118	DFD / CAPS	RONALDSON	Written	See Attachment	Answered 07/04/08.
F119	DFD / CAPS	RONALDSON	Written	See Attachment	Answered 07/04/08.

Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee

Written QON

F1a- Department of Finance and Deregulation (MINCHIN)

List all appointments which have been made by the Government (through Executive Council, Cabinet and Ministers) to Statutory Authorities, Executive Agencies and Advisory Boards, with a brief outline of the respective appointee's credentials.

F1b- Department of Finance and Deregulation (MINCHIN)

Provide a list of all vacancies which remain to be filled by Ministerial (including Cabinet and Executive Council) appointments.

F1c- Department of Finance and Deregulation (MINCHIN)

Provide a list of all grants which have been approved by Ministers from within their portfolio.

F1d- Department of Finance and Deregulation (MINCHIN)

Provide a list of requests to the Department of Finance to move funds within each portfolio.

F1e- Department of Finance and Deregulation (MINCHIN)

Provide a complete list of the Government's election promises made during the campaign, and which Department is responsible for the administration of each of these commitments.

F2a- Australian Electoral Commission (MINCHIN)

List all appointments which have been made by the Government (through Executive Council, Cabinet and Ministers) to Statutory Authorities, Executive Agencies and Advisory Boards, with a brief outline of the respective appointee's credentials.

F2b- Australian Electoral Commission (MINCHIN)

Provide a list of all vacancies which remain to be filled by Ministerial (including Cabinet and Executive Council) appointments.

F2c- Australian Electoral Commission (MINCHIN)

Provide a list of all grants which have been approved by Ministers from within their portfolio.

F2d- Australian Electoral Commission (MINCHIN)

Provide a list of requests to the Department of Finance to move funds within each portfolio.

F2e- Australian Electoral Commission (MINCHIN)

Provide a complete list of the Government's election promises made during the campaign, and which Department is responsible for the administration of each of these commitments.

F3a- Australian Reward Investment Alliance (MINCHIN)

List all appointments which have been made by the Government (through Executive Council, Cabinet and Ministers) to Statutory Authorities, Executive Agencies and Advisory Boards, with a brief outline of the respective appointee's credentials.

F3b- Australian Reward Investment Alliance (MINCHIN)

Provide a list of all vacancies which remain to be filled by Ministerial (including Cabinet and Executive Council) appointments.

F3c- Australian Reward Investment Alliance (MINCHIN)

Provide a list of all grants which have been approved by Ministers from within their portfolio.

F3d- Australian Reward Investment Alliance (MINCHIN)

Provide a list of requests to the Department of Finance to move funds within each portfolio.

F3e- Australian Reward Investment Alliance (MINCHIN)

Provide a complete list of the Government's election promises made during the campaign, and which Department is responsible for the administration of each of these commitments.

F4a- ComSuper (MINCHIN)

List all appointments which have been made by the Government (through Executive Council, Cabinet and Ministers) to Statutory Authorities, Executive Agencies and Advisory Boards, with a brief outline of the respective appointee's credentials.

F4b- ComSuper (MINCHIN)

Provide a list of all vacancies which remain to be filled by Ministerial (including Cabinet and Executive Council) appointments.

F4c- ComSuper (MINCHIN)

Provide a list of all grants which have been approved by Ministers from within their portfolio.

F4d- ComSuper (MINCHIN)

Provide a list of requests to the Department of Finance to move funds within each portfolio.

F4e- ComSuper (MINCHIN)

Provide a complete list of the Government's election promises made during the campaign, and which Department is responsible for the administration of each of these commitments.

F5a- Future Fund Management Agency (MINCHIN)

List all appointments which have been made by the Government (through Executive Council, Cabinet and Ministers) to Statutory Authorities, Executive Agencies and Advisory Boards, with a brief outline of the respective appointee's credentials.

F5b- Future Fund Management Agency (MINCHIN)

Provide a list of all vacancies which remain to be filled by Ministerial (including Cabinet and Executive Council) appointments.

F5c- Future Fund Management Agency (MINCHIN)

Provide a list of all grants which have been approved by Ministers from within their portfolio.

F5d- Future Fund Management Agency (MINCHIN)

Provide a list of requests to the Department of Finance to move funds within each portfolio.

F5e- Future Fund Management Agency (MINCHIN)

Provide a complete list of the Government's election promises made during the campaign, and which Department is responsible for the administration of each of these commitments.

F6a- National Archives of Australia (MINCHIN)

List all appointments which have been made by the Government (through Executive Council, Cabinet and Ministers) to Statutory Authorities, Executive Agencies and Advisory Boards, with a brief outline of the respective appointee's credentials.

F6b- National Archives of Australia (MINCHIN)

Provide a list of all vacancies which remain to be filled by Ministerial (including Cabinet and Executive Council) appointments.

F6c- National Archives of Australia (MINCHIN)

Provide a list of all grants which have been approved by Ministers from within their portfolio.

F6d- National Archives of Australia (MINCHIN)

Provide a list of requests to the Department of Finance to move funds within each portfolio.

F6e- National Archives of Australia (MINCHIN)

Provide a complete list of the Government's election promises made during the campaign, and which Department is responsible for the administration of each of these commitments.

***Note for 7a to 7c:** Senator Murray gave further directions to officials from the Dept. of Finance during the FPA Committee's 19 February, 2008 hearing.

Senator MURRAY—May I make it clear that my approach is not to name and shame. I am quite happy for you to pre-advise people that there is a time period before which you are going to provide us with questions and answers, and if they have certified by then, of course, they will not appear in the answer... Let me make it clear: there are only two names for 2003-04 and neither of those are on for that reason, and there are only four names for 2004-05. So really when I am talking naming and shaming, I am talking about 2006-07, which is under the new system. My memory is that it is around 2004-05 that the system was changed.

[Taken from F&PA Estimates Hansard, 19 February 2008, p. 113.].

***F7a (MURRAY)**

In a similar manner to the answer to QON F6 (May 2007), can Finance please provide the names of Members and Senators who have not certified their monthly management reports for the years: 2003-04; 2004-05; 2005-06; and 2006-07. Please exclude any Member or Senator that has died.

***F7b (MURRAY)**

In relation to question F7a, please indicate (where a report has not been certified) if in any instances the report concerned is disputed by the Senator or Member, and has not been certified for that reason.

***F7c (MURRAY)**

In relation to question F7a, please indicate (where a report has not been certified) what efforts have been made to get any Senator or Member to certify their reports.

F7d (MURRAY)

Please outline what briefing or training has been provided to new members concerning their management reports and certification thereof.

F88 (RONALDSON)

Are there any plans to change the current Comcover arrangements?

F89 (RONALDSON)

What would be the impact of removing or changing the current Comcover arrangements for individual departments?

F90 (RONALDSON)

What would be the impact on the risk to the Commonwealth if individual departments were not responsible for limiting their risk?

F91 (RONALDSON)

What would be the bottom line impact on the Federal Budget if Comcover was no longer in operation?

F92 (RONALDSON)

What is the break down of staffing positions, including classifications, provided to each of the following political parties: Greens, Democrats & Family First?

F93 (RONALDSON)

What determinations have been made under the MOP(S) Act since Nov 2007? Can you list them and what they give effect too?

F94 (RONALDSON)

What is the number of Staff allocated to each Minister and their various classifications as well as home bases? If a position is vacant – please indicate.

F95 (RONALDSON)

How many Government Personal Staff will be required to have security clearances?

F96 (RONALDSON)

How many Government Personal Staff have security clearances?

F97 (RONALDSON)

How many Government Personal Staff have filled out a register of interest?

F98 (RONALDSON)

What are the electorates that qualify for a second electorate office?

F99 (RONALDSON)

What are the electorates that qualify for a fifth electorate officer?

F100 (RONALDSON)

What is the standard size of electorate offices offered to MP's and Senators?

F101 (RONALDSON)

Below is a list of MP's who lost their seats at the last Federal election, can you tell me if the new Members have moved into the existing lease on the ex-members office? If a new MP has not moved into the same office can you explain why?

Seats that Changes Hands

Electorate	Previous Party	New Member	Yes/No
Bass	Liberal	Ms CAMPBELL	
Bennelong	Liberal	Ms McKEW	
Blair	Liberal	Mr NEUMANN	
Bonner	Liberal	Ms REA	
Braddon	Liberal	Mr SIDEBOTTOM	
Calare	Independent	Mr COBB	
Corangamite	Liberal	Mr CHEESEMAN	
Cowan	Australian Labor Party	Mr SIMPKINS	
Dawson	The Nationals	Mr BIDGOOD	
Deakin	Liberal	Mr SYMON	
Dobell	Liberal	Mr THOMSON	
Eden-Monaro	Liberal	Mr KELLY	
Forde	Liberal	Mr RAGUSE	
Hasluck	Liberal	Ms JACKSON	
Kingston	Liberal	Ms RISHWORTH	
Leichhardt	Liberal	Mr TURNOUR	
Lindsay	Liberal	Mr BRADBURY	
Longman	Liberal	Mr SULLIVAN	
Macquarie	Liberal	Mr DEBUS	
Makin	Liberal	Mr ZAPPIA	
Moreton	Liberal	Mr PERRETT	
Page	The Nationals	Ms SAFFIN	
Petrie	Liberal	Mrs D'ATH	
Robertson	Liberal	Ms NEAL	
Solomon	CLP - The Territory Party	Mr HALE	
Swan	Australian Labor Party	Mr IRONS	
Wakefield	Liberal	Mr CHAMPION	

Seats that had a retiring member

Electorate	Party	Member	Yes/No
Forrest	Liberal	Ms MARINO	
Blaxland	Labor	Mr CLARE	
Franklin	Labor	Ms COLLINS	
Charlton	Labor	Mr COMBET	
Port Adelaide	Labor	Mr BUTLER	
Parkes	The Nationals	Mr COULTON	
Isaacs	Labor	Mr DREYFUS	
Brand	Labor	Mr GREY	
Mitchell	Liberal	Mr HAWKE	
Corio	Labor	Mr MARLES	
Cook	Liberal	Mr MORRISON	
Fremantle	Labor	Ms PARKE	
Grey	Liberal	Mr RAMSEY	
Fadden	Liberal	Mr ROBERT	
Maribyrnong	Labor	Mr SHORTEN	

F102.a (STOTT DESPOJA)

Will the Government implement the recommendations made by participating Labor members to the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services 2006 inquiry into corporate social responsibility, *Corporate Responsibility: Managing risk and creating value*, requiring mandatory reporting against sustainability targets for all Australian Government agencies, including targets for water, energy, waste, vehicles and general procurement?

F102.b (STOTT DESPOJA)

Will the Government implement the recommendations made by participating Labor members to the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services 2006 inquiry into corporate social responsibility, *Corporate Responsibility: Managing risk and creating value*, including a governmental audit of how governmental regulation and financial arrangements impact for better or worse upon corporate responsibility and sustainability practices?

F103 (STOTT DESPOJA)

What other policies and strategies does the Government have in place in relation to Corporate Social Responsibility, especially in relation to compliance by all contractors and sub-contractors involved in providing goods or services to the Commonwealth with appropriate legal and ethical procurement requirements as 'good corporate citizens'?

F104 (WATSON)

What proportion of the assets under management are in instalment warrants? [this question relates to a QON taken during the F&PA Committee Tuesday, 19 February 2008 hearing- for reference, see Question 64]

F105 (RONALDSON)

When was the CCSTU created?

F106 (RONALDSON)

What area of the building does the CCSTU occupy?

F107 (RONALDSON)

Who is the employing Minister for the CCSTU?

F108 (RONALDSON)

Who do the CCSTU report to?

F109 (RONALDSON)

What Dept is responsible for equipment supplied to the CCSTU?

F110 (RONALDSON)

What office equipment, computers etc or other supplies have been provided to the CCSTU? Can you provide an itemised list?

F111 (RONALDSON)

What are the operational costs for CCSTU – including wages, office equipment, stationary and Travel?

F112 (RONALDSON)

Who signed the employee contracts of those employed in the CCSTU?

F113 (RONALDSON)

How many people are employed in the CCSTU and what are their classifications, band level and job descriptions/roles?

F114 (RONALDSON)

Did any of the staff work in the previous aNiMaLS unit?

F115 (RONALDSON)

Have any employees of CCSTU been previous union members?

F116 (RONALDSON)

What merit based accountability mechanism (Code of Conduct) was used to employee members of the CCSTU and what code will they be subject to?

F117 (RONALDSON)

When will the CCSTU be called before an Estimates Hearing?

F118 (RONALDSON)

What output will the CCSTU be under?

F119 (RONALDSON)

If the CCSTU was formed before the additional Senate estimates hearings the week beginning 18 February 2008 why was the committee not informed that they could have been called to appear at Estimates?