

Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Additional Estimates Hearing – February 2010

Department of Finance and Deregulation

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Outcome 2, Program 2.1

Topic: Expenditure on Consultancies

Question reference number: F11

Type of Question: Hansard F&PA 18-19, 9 February 2010

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 26 March 2010

Number of Pages: 1

Senator Ronaldson asked:

But will you take on notice my question of whether there has been a \$395 million cut, which was in that press release, has actually been achieved?

Answer:

On 2 March 2007 Minister Tanner announced that there would be a \$395 million cut in the use of consultants by the Australian Government.

On 22 November 2007, the Minister announced the introduction of a one-off additional 2 per cent increase in the efficiency dividend (\$1.5 billion) which would incorporate savings previously announced on 2 March 2007, including: advertising expenditure; expenditure on consultancies; non-defence related recruitment expenses; opinion poll and market research spending; and media monitoring undertaken by departments.