

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: Procurement

Question reference number: F63

Type of Question: Written

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

Number of Pages: 1

Senator Ryan asked:

Please provide an update on the standardised contract arrangements for procurement that the Department is undertaking.

- a) Has a standard contract for procurement been developed yet?
- b) If not, why not and what is the expected timing?
- c) Will there be a standard contract for procurement available for business to use?
- d) If there will be, when will it be available for business to use? How will business access it? Will it be available to all business to use?

Answer:

- a) Yes. Following wide consultations, including with industry, three standard contract documents for Accounting and Related Professional Services were released in December 2009. These documents are available on Finance's procurement website. A Deed of Standing Offer for Accounting and Related Professional Services and an associated standard Request for Tender, which are in final stages of development, are anticipated to be posted to Finance's procurement website by April 2010. At this time, departments and agencies are encouraged to use this documentation but use is not mandatory.
- b) Not applicable.
- c) Yes. All of these documents have been designed to be used by all Commonwealth officers procuring accounting and related professional services from business.
- d) Not applicable.