

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 1, Program 1.1

Topic: Performance information

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Type of Question: Written

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Senator Ronaldson asked:

Has the Department considered a publicly reported practitioners input assessment as part of its regulation design and development process?

Answer:

The *Government's Best Practice Regulation Handbook, 2007* states that "the Australian Government has made a commitment to improving mechanisms for consultation with business and supporting appropriate consultation with all relevant stakeholders". The Handbook emphasises that the nature of consultation should be commensurate with the magnitude of the problem and the size of the potential impact of the proposal.

The seven principles for best practice consultation are continuity, targeting, appropriate timeliness, accessibility, transparency, consistency and flexibility, and evaluation and review.