

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates Hearing – February 2012
ANSWER TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet portfolio

Department/Agency: Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General

Program 1: Support for the Governor-General and Official Activities

Outcome 1: The performance of the Governor-General's role is facilitated through the organisation and management of official duties, management and maintenance of the official household and property and administration of the Australian Honours and Awards system.

Topic: Efficiency dividend

Senator: Ryan

Question reference number: PM84

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 30 March 2012

Number of Pages: 1

How will the efficiency dividend applied in the 2011-12 Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook be implemented in your agency/department?

What percentage of your budget must be cut?

Will any staff position be cut to meet the efficiency dividend? If yes, provide details of where the positions are located, the classification, whether the position is ongoing or not.

Please list where and what spending has been reduced to meet the efficiency dividend.

Answer:

The Office will continue to manage its operations within the resources provided by Government through budget processes, reducing operational expenditure where necessary as part of a package of efficiency measures.

The Office's Departmental Expense Budget will be cut by 2.5 per cent annually, and its Departmental Capital Budget will be cut by 20 per cent annually, from 2012-13 onwards.

At this stage no reduction in staffing levels is envisaged other than through natural attrition.

The Office manages its operations within the resources provided by Government through budget processes. The Office has reduced operational expenditure (including staffing and supplier expenses) over the past three years as part of a package of efficiency measures.