

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee— Budget Estimates 2005-06 (May 2005)

Parliament Portfolio, Department of Parliamentary Services

Answers to Questions on Notice

Topic: Efficiency dividend

Question P16 (written questions)

- 1 What financial impact will the increased efficiency dividend have on your Department/agency this financial year and in the out years?
- 2 The increase in the efficiency dividend was announced in last year's elections, what plans have you made to meet it?
- 3 What will this mean for staff numbers?
- 4 Will any specific programs be cut? Please specify which ones and the size of the estimated savings?
- 5 Will any core functions be affected by these savings measures?
- 6 How will meeting the efficiency dividend affect your graduate recruitment plans?
- 7 How will meeting the efficiency dividend affect your ability to retain experienced staff?

Answers:

- 1 The following table shows the yearly amount and the cumulative effect of the increased efficiency dividend.

Budget Year	ED per year \$000's	Cumulative ED \$000's
2005-2006	232	232
2006-2007	236	468
2007-2008	240	708
2008-2009	0	708

- 2 The additional efficiency dividend has been allocated to each group's budget across the department. Each group is responsible for identifying the required savings and managing within their allocated budget.
- 3 The effect of this reduced funding on our staffing levels cannot currently be assessed.
- 4 The department does not administer government programs.
- 5 Any reduction in appropriation reduces the amount of funding available to the department to meet its core functions. At this stage it is not possible to determine if any core functions will be affected by this measure.

6 The department does not have a graduate recruitment program.

7 The effect of this reduced funding on our staff retention levels cannot currently be assessed.