

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Budget Estimates Hearings 2005-2006, 23 and 24 May 2005

Question: PM 86

Outcome 1, Outputs 1-4

Topic: Increase in Efficiency Dividend

Direct on Notice

Senator Carr asked:

- 1. What financial impact will the increased efficiency dividend have on your Department/agency this financial year and in the out years?**

The increase in the efficiency dividend will result in reductions in appropriations of \$0.108m in 2005-06, \$0.401m in 2006-07, \$0.611m in 2007-08 and \$0.326m in 2008-09.

- 2. The increase in the efficiency dividend was announced in last year's elections, what plans have you made to meet it?**

The department prepares an internal budget annually which allocates available funding in accordance with departmental priorities.

- 3. What will this mean for staff numbers?**

See answer to question 2.

- 4. Will any specific programs be cut? Please specify which ones and the size of the estimated savings?**

No.

- 5. Will any core functions be affected by these savings measures?**

See answer to question 2.

- 6. How will meeting the efficiency dividend affect your graduate recruitment plans?**

See answer to question 2.

- 7. How will meeting the efficiency dividend affect your ability to retain experienced staff?**

See answer to question 2.