

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Finance and Administration Portfolio**

**Australian Electoral Commission**

**Budget Estimates Hearing – May 2007**

**Question: F50**

**Outcome 2, Output 2.1.3**

**Topic: Willmac Enterprises direct mailing**

**Hansard Page: F&PA 38**

**Senator Brown asked:**

**Senator BOB BROWN**—Mr Bodel said that the balance of expenditure disclosed by Willmac Enterprises, \$120,667, was spent on direct mailing. Where was it spent on direct mailing and what was directly mailed?

**Mr Campbell**—Again, we will take that on notice.

**Senator BOB BROWN**—Did that include direct mailing in Tasmania?

**Mr Campbell**—We will take that on notice.

**Answer:**

Third party political expenditure returns require the disclosure of total expenditure across a number of categories. One of those categories is expenditure on direct mailing.

Third party electoral expenditure returns do not require specific details, such as the recipient of a specific payment or the sum of a specific payment, to be disclosed. Consequently, the information available to the AEC on Willmac Enterprises' expenditure on direct mailing is not comprehensive.

The Willmac Enterprises political expenditure return for the 2004 federal election lists expenditure of \$120,667 on direct mailing. The items of expenditure for which the AEC has evidence are as follows:

- Salmat (\$52,253.91)
- Securexpress (\$34,000)
- Salmat Letterbox Delivery (\$7,574.34)