

Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

**Budget Estimates Hearing – May 2008
Department of Finance and Deregulation
Finance and Deregulation Portfolio**



Outcome 1, Output 1

Topic: Operation Sunlight

Question reference number: F34

Type of Question: Hansard F&PA 77, 28 May 2008

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 11 July 2008

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Senator Brandis asked:

What steps have been taken to increase the transparency of tax expenditure reporting?

Answer:

The following response has been provided by The Treasury.

The Australian National Audit Office has recently concluded a performance audit of the Preparation of the Tax Expenditures Statement (Audit Report No. 32 2007-08, 8 May 2008).

This report made 6 recommendations to improve the reporting and use of tax expenditures information.

The Treasury has agreed to all 6 recommendations, with some qualifications, and will be working together with the Australian Taxation Office to implement those recommendations where practicable for the 2008 Tax Expenditures Statement.