

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: 2, Output: 2.1
Topic: Medibank**

**Question reference number: F36
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**Number of Pages: 1
Senator Colbeck asked:**

It would be nice to have some parameters around the time given. If there is no formal due date [for Medibank's Corporate Plan 2009-11] and you are asking for an extension to an unknown date, my issue is, 'At what point in time do I expect to have some understanding of what is going on?'

Dr Watt: We will see what we can get to you.

Senator Colebeck: Thank you.

Answer:

On 22 May 2008, Medibank wrote to the Minister seeking his consent to extend the submission date for the 2009-11 Corporate Plan to 15 July 2008.

On 3 June 2008, the Minister approved the extension sought by Medibank. The department will brief the Minister shortly on the 2009-11 Corporate Plan.

The Governance Arrangements for Commonwealth Government Business Enterprises (GBEs) 1997 provides guidance on the submission of Corporate Plans to the responsible Minister. Best practice is that the draft Corporate Plan is submitted to the responsible Minister by 31 May and the Minister would respond within 45 days of receipt of the draft Plan. However, under the *Governance Arrangements for GBEs 1997*, the responsible Minister has discretion to agree to a submission date outside of the guidelines.