

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE
Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio
Department of Climate Change
Budget Estimates Hearing—May 2009

Written question reference: CC71

Outcome/Output: Outcome 1, Output Group 1.1 – Response to climate change

Topic: Assistance to local government on effects of climate change

Hansard Page: Not relevant for written QoN

Question: (Senator Williams)

What assistance is being given to local government to prepare for climate change, particularly relating to their responsibilities and roles?

Answer:

The Australian Government recognises that local government is in many ways at the forefront of managing the risks from climate change impacts. The Local Adaptation Pathways Program is providing \$2.37 million to help councils incorporate planning for climate change into their business operations by undertaking climate change risk assessments and identifying priorities for adaptation. The Australian Government also funded the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives Cities for Climate Protection Adaptation Initiative, which has developed a ‘Local Government Climate Change Adaptation Toolkit’.

In addition, the Government is undertaking a range of general program activities which will strengthen the ability of governments (including local governments), business and the community to adapt to impacts of climate change.