

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 Hearing 24 May-3rd June 2010

Question: PM24

Topic: COAG - Funding allocations

Type of Question: Hansard, F&PA 56, 25 May

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 9 July 2010

Number of pages: 3

Dr Grimes-Indeed. As you could imagine, all of our branches, certainly in my group and many of the branches in the other groups of the department, do have involvement in COAG-related policy matters and so embedded in their budgets is funding to support COAG processes. In fact, I do not even think it would be feasible for us to be able to extract financial information at that level of detail. However, we do provide a budget to our COAG unit, and we would certainly be able to provide you with information on the funding allocation for our COAG unit. That includes base funding. The amounts you are referring to here are additional funding that has been allocated in this budget. Of those amounts, those that are specifically earmarked against COAG-related matters would include the \$1.5 million in 2010-11, the funding for the CRC, which of course is allocated over three years, and then some portion of the \$12 million is supporting our work on health reform, which is being undertaken under the auspices of COAG.

Senator PAYNE-And you will provide me with as much information as you can in terms of the totality of that?

Dr Grimes-If you like, we could take on notice the funding allocation for the CRC, which is an identified unit, and also the COAG unit in our department.

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 Hearing 24 May-3rd June 2010

Answer:

In the 2008-09 Budget, the department received additional funding of \$9.5 million over four years to support the expanded Council of Australian Governments (COAG) reform agenda. This funding included \$3.1 million for both 2008-09 and 2009-10 followed by reduced funding of \$1.6 million in 2010-11 and 2011-12.

Of the \$3.1 million appropriated in 2009-10, \$1.6 million was internally allocated to operate the department's COAG Unit. The remaining funding of \$1.5 million was allocated to other divisions in the department to fund their role in delivering the COAG agenda.

In the 2010-11 Budget, the department received additional funding of \$1.5 million to maintain support for the delivery of the COAG reform agenda, bringing the total funding for 2010-11 to \$3.2 million, consistent with previous two years. In line with the 2009-10 internal allocation, the COAG unit was allocated \$1.6 million in funding in 2010-11 with the balance of \$1.6 million allocated to other divisions undertaking COAG related work.

The COAG Reform Council (CRC) has received funding through three separate measures since 2007-08. The fiscal impact, as published in the Budget Papers, is detailed in the following table.

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 Hearing 24 May-3rd June 2010

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
2007-08 Additional Estimates – operating	1,178	358	-	-
– capital	25	-	-	-
Funding provided to establish the CRC.				
2009-10 Budget – operating	1,096	2,577	2,867	2,895
– capital	762	-	-	-
To support the CRC's expanded role under the COAG Reform Agenda.				
2010-11 Budget – operating	411	724	319	-
To independently review the consistency of capital city strategic planning systems with the new national criteria.				
Total	3,472	3,659	3,186	2,895