

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES – 25 MAY 2011

DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL AUSTRALIA, REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

| Q No. | Program : | Senator | Broad Topic | Question | Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q | Date Rec'd | Date Tabled |
|-------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------|--|--|------------|-------------|
| 1 | 1.1 | HUMPHRIES | Category B NDRRA loans | <p>Mr Leeper: Senator, as of 3 May in Victoria some 31 category B NDRRA loans have been approved to assist small business owners. Twenty-nine of those were primary producers; two of those were small businesses.</p> <p>Senator HUMPHRIES: Sorry, what is a category B?</p> <p>Mr Leeper: This is an up to \$25,000 grant, I think, and a loan component for those experiencing hardship following flooding events. There are 31 at the present time. What we do not know is what the possible potential eligible population is, that is data we would need to seek from Victoria at some point. The advice I have got is that the flooding events have probably directly impacted about 7,500 people but I am sorry, what I do not have here is how many businesses that might represent. We could seek that information from Victoria if it is important?</p> | F&PA 7-8 | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 2 | 1.1 | JOYCE | Inspectorate Meetings | <p>Senator JOYCE: Can we get a copy of the minutes?</p> <p>Mr Leeper: I will take that on notice, if I may.</p> | F&PA 8 | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 3 | | JOYCE | | <p>Senator JOYCE: They are in the process of reporting back to you?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: There is information coming through all the time.</p> <p>Senator JOYCE: When will that process be complete?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: In terms of the assessment of the road damage? I would have to take that on notice.</p> | F&PA 10 | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 4 | 1.1 | JOYCE | Business Leaders Group | <p>Senator JOYCE: Were there any apologies for any of those meetings?</p> <p>Mr Leeper: I would need to check the minutes for each of the meetings. I do not have those with me.</p> <p>Senator JOYCE: Was the chairman at the meetings?</p> <p>Mr Leeper: The meetings are chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister and Treasurer and as far as I am aware, he has attended all of the meetings, yes.</p> <p>Senator JOYCE: So your belief is he has attended all the meetings?</p> | F&PA 10-11 | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 5 | 1.1 | JOYCE | Business Leaders Group | <p>Senator JOYCE: I would like you to check that on notice, yes very much. How much in donations has the Business Leaders Group been able to leverage?</p> <p>Mr Leeper: We will have to take that on notice, I am sorry.</p> | F&PA 11 | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 6 | 1.1 | JOYCE | Community Infrastructure | <p>Ms Beauchamp: I cannot give you an amount by electorate, no, but I can give you</p> | F&PA 18 | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |

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| | | | Program | <p>an amount that appears in the budget papers around the community infrastructure grants program.</p> <p>Senator JOYCE: For any of those 80 projects can you say that it is in the seat of Corangamite and it is \$50 million or \$20 million or \$200?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I could probably give you that but I would have to take it on notice. I have not got that here in front of me unless one of my colleagues has that.</p> | | | |
| 7 | 1.1 | JOYCE | Community Infrastructure Program | <p>Senator JOYCE: I am really interested in the post ones because what I am basically working out is that you did a deal with the Independents; I can quote the three you have got in Lyne and I can tell you how much the amount of money is. I just want to know how much the amount of money is for these post-election prioritisations for the seat of New England.</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: Can we take that on notice? As I mentioned, we are administering 80 of the projects under the Community Infrastructure Grants. I would like to do that reconciliation between what was in the agreement and what has been appropriated.</p> | F&PA 19 (25/5/11) | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 8 | 1.1 | JOYCE | Community Infrastructure Program | <p>Senator JOYCE: I might ask the officers myself. Is the Bolivia Hill upgrade in those 80 projects?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator JOYCE: Take the Tenterfield bypass on notice as well; actually take on notice if any of those 80 projects are in New England.</p> | F&PA 20 (25/5/11) | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 9 | 1.1 | JOYCE | RDAF | <p>Are you aware if any conversations have been had from your department where people have suggested that an election commitment that was made might like to be applied through a separate fund such as the RDA fund?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: Sorry, Senator I do not understand your question.</p> <p>Senator JOYCE: I will ask again. Do you know of any election commitments where the proponents have subsequently been asked to apply for funding through a competitive grants program such as the RDA fund?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I will have to take that on notice. I am not personally aware.</p> | F&PA 20 (25/5/11) | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 10 | 1.1 | JOYCE | Community Infrastructure Program | <p>Senator JOYCE: Okay, I will make it a question. Do you believe that the Prime Minister's answer was far more decisive than that when she said that they were going to get funded?</p> <p>Senator Sherry: We will take that on notice. It is a silly question, to expect the witness to go to a question like that.</p> | F&PA 31 (25/5/11) | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 11 | 1.1 | MACDONALD | Regional Skilled Migration | <p>Ms Foster: A large number of our RDAs have identified growth as a priority for them. There is good interaction within communities about how to bring together strategies, as Mr Atkinson said, to encourage and support regional migration.</p> | F&PA 32 (25/5/11) | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |

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| | | | | Senator IAN MACDONALD: Thank you for that. Could you just give me a summary of the RDAs' advice in this regard, which you just mentioned? Ms Foster: Certainly. | | | |
| 12 | 1.1 | MACDONALD | CRC | Senator IAN MACDONALD: There have been some budget cuts in the CRC program. This is again a question for that department. From your understanding as a member of the controlling committee, are those budget cuts likely to impact upon this particular CRC in which this department has a financial stake? Ms Fleming: I am not directly aware, but we could take that on notice. | F&PA 33 (25/5/11) | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 13 | 1.1 | MACDONALD | EKDP | Senator IAN MACDONALD: In response to question no. 12—and again I thank you for the response—I was asking in the last estimates about the \$44 million of projects that are not yet tendered. I was told they are tendered but have not yet started. The answer to my question on notice was that all projects have now been tendered. Can you tell me about that? Who has been engaged to do those projects? Ms Fleming: I would have to take that on notice, but I might be able to get you an answer to that in this session. | F&PA 33 (25/5/11) | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 14 | 1.1 | MACDONALD | Ord Expansion | Senator IAN MACDONALD: The Western Australian government's contribution was for hard infrastructure in channels, roads and in the opening up of new land. Do you have knowledge of how that project is going, or is that something that the Western Australian government keeps to itself? Ms Fleming: I could take that on notice and update for you on the Ord expansion. | F&PA 34 (25/5/11) | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 15 | 1.1 | MACDONALD | North Australian beef industry | Senator IAN MACDONALD: Do you have details of who is the working group? Ms Fleming: I would have to take that on notice..... Senator IAN MACDONALD: Does it include other organisations like AgForce Queensland and perhaps cattle and landowner organisations, and Indigenous input? | F&PA 34 (25/5/11) | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 16 | 1.1 | MACDONALD | Northern Australia Sustainable Futures Program | Ms Fleming: No, it is in the budget, and it is known as the Northern Australia Sustainable Futures Program. Senator IAN MACDONALD: So all of these projects come out of the— Ms Fleming: It is a \$6 million program over three years, and they are subparts of it. I am happy to provide you with an update on each of those. Senator IAN MACDONALD: Okay. You will get me an update on all of them, but do I take it that work really has not started? I see that it states, 'Partnership with the CRC for Remote Economic Participation.' We spoke about that earlier. | F&PA 38 (25/5/11) | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 17 | 1.1 | MACDONALD | Green Hills Dam on the Gilbert River | We spoke about the Green Hills dam on the Gilbert River. Are you aware if the department or any other agency of government—and I was speaking with Mr Keegan in Infrastructure Australia in the other committee before I was here—is looking at any other water storage projects apart from the East Kimberley? Apparently you are on the working group for the Green Hills dam? | F&PA 39 (25/5/11) | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |

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| | | | | Ms Fleming: It is my understanding that the department of environment has a water futures program, but I would have to take on notice the direct correlation between that program and our work. | | | |
| 18 | 1.1 | ADAMS | RDA committees WA | Senator ADAMS: That was your stock standard answer last time—‘within the coming weeks’. That was in February. We are now in May. Senator Sherry: It is the minister’s call. You cannot criticise the public servant like that. I will find out from the minister what the issue or delay is, but that is the best we can do, I am afraid. | P40 (25/5/11) | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 19 | 1.1 | JOYCE | ALGA Toolkit | Senator JOYCE: Does it give you the capacity for feedback, in terms of the information that is being sent out? Ms Foster: Yes, I am sure it does. I do not have details of the feedback to hand, but we can follow up and see what we have. | F&PA 42 (25/5/11) | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 20 | 1.1 | JOYCE | ALGA | Senator JOYCE: Can you table for us the information they gave you as to the sorts of activities they were proposing? Ms Foster: I do not have it to hand, but I can do that on notice. | F&PA 43 (25/5/11) | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 21 | 1.1 | JOYCE | Australian Centre for Excellence | Senator JOYCE: The Australian Centre of Excellence for Local Government, ACELG. Can you explain what the national assessment framework being conducted by the Australian Centre of Excellence for Local Government involves? What is this national assessment framework? Ms Foster: That is not ringing a bell with me in terms of the programs that the Centre of Excellence for Local Government runs but let me seek some advice from my staff and see if anyone who is here with us can help point me to the right area of their efforts. We will do that while you ask the next question, if you like. | F&PA 43 (25/5/11) | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 22 | 1.1 | JOYCE | ACLG | Senator JOYCE: The next two questions are about the national assessment framework. I might put them on notice. What will the government do if the assessment finds that a council or group of councils is falling behind? When will the questionnaire be made public? That must be part of the assessment framework. What is the future of the Australian Council for Local Government? | F&PA 43 (25/5/11) | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 23 | 1.1 | MOORE | Women in Local Government | Senator MOORE: I have a general question about Women in Local Government, a very active organisation. Do they receive any funding? Ms Foster: Yes, I am not sure I have the details here with me. Senator MOORE: That is fine. I will put that on notice. | F&PA 44 | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 24 | 1.1 | MOORE | Women in Local Government | Ms Foster: Within the next couple of months. I think the Commonwealth funding has sponsored something in the order of 10 women to participate in that course. Senator MOORE: If I actually put this on notice, can we get some details of that process? I would imagine the scholarships go to regional women to allow them to come into such a process. But I will put that on notice and we will get a bit of a | F&PA 44 (25/5/11) | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |

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| | | | | report on it. Ms Foster: Certainly. | | | |
| 25 | 1.1 | MACDONALD | Magnetic Island Walkway | Senator IAN MACDONALD: There was an election promise of \$4.7 million in federal funds to construct the Magnetic Island walkway. Perhaps you do not have it immediately in front of you. As I said, the infrastructure department said it would be your area. If you do not have it could you take on notice if that funding has been allocated in this budget and, if not, when it might be, bearing in mind the commitment by the Prime Minister to meet all election commitments? Ms Beauchamp: I will take that on notice. My apologies, Senator. | F&PA 62 (25/5/11) | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 26 | 1.1 | HUMPHRIES | National Disaster Recovery Taskforce | What sort of benchmarks has the taskforce set for the Inspectorate's role of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ scrutinising rebuilding contracts; ▪ inspecting projects to ensure they are meeting progress milestones; ▪ investigating complaints or issues raised by the public; and ▪ examining high-value projects prior to completion. | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 27 | 1.1 | HUMPHRIES | National Disaster Recovery Taskforce | Will the taskforce report to the Parliament, or only to the Government? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 28 | 1.1 | HUMPHRIES | National Disaster Recovery Taskforce | Will the taskforce provide any reports on its interim findings to the public, or will release of such information be at the Government's discretion? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 29 | 1.1 | HUMPHRIES | National Disaster Recovery Taskforce | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department's website mentions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ "One of the main aims of the Taskforce is to ensure that the recovery effort takes account of local community engagement and input; balances concepts of betterment with the need for timely reconstruction and value for money; leverages available funding, and coordinates existing Commonwealth strategies and investment." <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ On the point of local community engagement and input | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |

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| | | | | <p>– what benchmarks will the taskforce use and how will these aspects be enforced?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Noting the Prime Minister's assurance that local labour would be used where possible in reconstruction (Question Time, 10 February 2011), what sort of benchmarks has the taskforce set for itself in ensuring that local labour is used and local communities are engaged in the reconstruction effort? | | | |
| 30 | 1.1 | HUMPHRIES | National Disaster Recovery Taskforce | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What sort of resources does the taskforce command? In terms of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Staff ○ Travel ○ Administration ○ Office space | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 31 | 1.1 | HUMPHRIES | National Disaster Recovery Taskforce | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What sort of resources does the Australian Government Reconstruction Inspectorate command? In terms of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Staff ○ Travel ○ Administration ○ Office Space | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 32 | 1.1 | HUMPHRIES | National Disaster Recovery Taskforce | What compelling powers will the taskforce and inspectorate have at their disposal to review contracts and state government spending? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 33 | 1.1 | HUMPHRIES | National Disaster Recovery Taskforce | Given that the taskforce is departmental, and the Inspectorate is 'appointed', how has the Government ensured the Inspectorate's independence from Government? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 34 | 1.1 | JOYCE | Promoting | There is \$10 million allocated in the forward estimates for Promoting Regional | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |

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| | | | Regional Living | Living. Can you please provide an overview of this program and how it will work? | | | |
| 35 | 1.1 | JOYCE | Promoting Regional Living | How will organisations be eligible for this funding? How will they apply for this funding? When will they be able to apply? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 36 | 1.1 | JOYCE | Promoting Regional Living | Will any of this funding go towards the evocities program? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 37 | 1.1 | JOYCE | Regional Development Policy Centre | Can you please provide an update as to the progress of the Regional Development Policy Centre? When will it be operational? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 38 | 1.1 | JOYCE | Regional Development Policy Centre | Do we know where this policy centre will be located? If not, is there a shortlist? Have universities or other organisations applied for it? If so, who? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 39 | 1.1 | JOYCE | myregion.gov.au website | Please provide an update on the establishment of the myregion.gov.au website? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 40 | 1.1 | JOYCE | myregion.gov.au website | By what date will the myregion.gov.au website be operational? Has the Department completed developing the business requirements for the new website? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 41 | 1.1 | JOYCE | Inter-Governmental Agreement on Cost Shifting | The intergovernmental agreement on cost shifting was due for review before 12 February 2011. Can you please provide an update on what arrangements have been put in place for the review process to take place? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 42 | 1.1 | JOYCE | Inter-Governmental Agreement on Cost Shifting | Has the process for consultation as part of the review of the <i>Inter-Governmental Agreement Establishing Principles to Guide Inter-governmental Relations on Local Government Matters</i> been resolved between the signatories to the Agreement? If yes, Are there any plans for an internal or public inquiry into the renewal of the intergovernmental agreement on cost shifting? If no, when will this process be completed? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 43 | 1.2 | JOYCE | Mid-North Coast Aviation Plan | In relation to reports that up to \$19 million will be provided for new and upgraded infrastructure and facilities at Port Macquarie, Kempsey and Taree airports as part of the Mid North Coast Regional Aviation Plan. Are you aware of this commitment? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |

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| 44 | 1.2 | JOYCE | Mid-North Coast Aviation Plan | I understand that the Mid-North Coast Aviation Plan was put together by three local councils. When was this Plan provided to the Department for consideration? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 45 | 1.2 | JOYCE/ WILLIAMS | Mid-North Coast Aviation Plan | What other research, inquiry, business case or other information did the Department rely upon in providing advice to the Minister in relation to this matter? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 46 | 1.2 | JOYCE | Mid-North Coast Aviation Plan | What program is this initiative funded under? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 47 | 1.2 | JOYCE | Mid-North Coast Aviation Plan | The Minister in his press release of 13 May 2011 states that the money is “now in the federal budget”. Can you refer me to which of the budget papers the Minister is referring to? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 48 | 1.2 | JOYCE | Mid-North Coast Aviation Plan | When will the \$19 million be paid? In which financial years? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 49 | 1.2 | JOYCE | Mid-North Coast Aviation Plan | Does the \$19 million fully cover the cost of the proposals announced in the Plan? <i>The plan:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Upgrades, extends and strengthens the main runway at Port Macquarie to cater for up to B737-800 and A320 series aircraft; ○ Funds the first stage of construction of new general aviation business precincts, including taxiways, aprons, hangar sites and access roads at Kempsey and Taree; ○ Resurfaces the existing runway at Kempsey; and ○ Upgrades the passenger terminal building and car parking at Port Macquarie | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 50 | 1.2 | JOYCE | Mid-North Coast Aviation Plan | If not, how much is it expected the Plan’s upgrades will cost? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 51 | 1.2 | JOYCE | Mid-North Coast Aviation Plan | What exactly will the \$19 million build and at which airport? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 52 | 1.2 | JOYCE/ WILLIAMS | Mid-North Coast Aviation Plan | Is the Federal Government contribution capped at \$19 million? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 53 | 1.2 | JOYCE/ WILLIAMS | Mid-North Coast Aviation Plan | Are State or Local Council funds being contributed to the projects? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 54 | 1.2 | JOYCE | Mid-North Coast Aviation Plan | If so, how much from the State Government and how much from the Local Government? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 55 | 1.2 | JOYCE | Mid-North Coast Aviation Plan | If not, are State or Local Council contributions being sought to supplement funding for the projects? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 56 | 1.2 | JOYCE | Mid-North Coast | If so, how much is being sought? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |

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| | | | Aviation Plan | | | | |
| 57 | 1.2 | JOYCE | Mid-North Coast Aviation Plan | What consultation has taken place with the State Government and the Local Councils in relation to these projects? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 58 | 1.2 | JOYCE | Mid-North Coast Aviation Plan | When was this consultation undertaken? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 59 | 1.2 | JOYCE/ WILLIAMS | Mid-North Coast Aviation Plan | I am aware of reports that this was originally a \$22 million project. Has the funding available for this project decreased by \$3 million? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 60 | 1.2 | WILLIAMS | Mid-North Coast Aviation Plan | If the correct figure is \$19 million, what would Mr. Oakeshott be referring to when he announced \$22 million. Where is the discrepancy? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 61 | 1.2 | WILLIAMS | Mid-North Coast Aviation Plan | . If the correct figure is \$19 million, and Mr. Oakeshott is indicating it is \$22 million, where will the balance come from? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 62 | 1.2 | JOYCE | RLCIP | In the ANAO's report on The Establishment, Implementation and Administration of the Council Allocation Component of the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program, it was highlighted that the Department needs to improve the monitoring of performance by funding recipients. What measures will the Department take to insure that this area is improved in the future? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 63 | 1.2 | JOYCE | RLCIP | What measures will the Department put in place to promote the timely and effective delivery of community infrastructure programs in the future? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 64 | 1.2 | JOYCE | RLCIP | Has the Department's estimates of the spending profile for the Regional Development Australia fund been influenced by these recommendations? Are you forecasting a slower level of spending under the Regional Development Australia Fund compared with the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure program? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 65 | 1.2 | JOYCE | RLCIP | How much has been spent under the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure program? What does that work out as on an annual basis? How much is the Regional Development Australia Fund spending on an annual basis on regional infrastructure projects? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 66 | 1.2 | JOYCE | Funding of Election Commitments | On 20 th July 2010, Mr Albanese announced a \$5 million contract with Wyong Shire Council for two new surf life saving facilities at Shelly and Soldiers beaches on the New South Wales Central Coast had been signed. Is this being funded from the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program? Is it part of the 80 | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |

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| | | | | projects which have been announced to receive funding under this program? http://www.alp.org.au/federal-government/news/shelly---soldiers-beaches-surf-life-saving-club-fu/ | | | |
| 67 | 1.2 | JOYCE | Funding of Election Commitments | On 10 th August 2010, Mr Albanese announced a \$3.7 million package to fund the revitalisation of the Romsey Park Sports Precinct. However, only \$3.3 million has been allowed for this project under the Community Infrastructure Grants Program. Can the Department please explain the difference in funding? http://www.alp.org.au/federal-government/news/federal-labor-investing-in-romsey-park-sports-prec/ | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 68 | 2.1 | HUMPHRIES | Norfolk Island | Mr Yates: Principally through the written responses to the request that was made at the public meeting..... Senator HUMPHRIES: How many written comments have you had from people on island? Mr Yates: I have no information on that yet. I would have to take that on notice. | F&PA 47 (25/5/11) | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 69 | 2.1 | HUMPHRIES | Kavha | Mr Yates: The broad approach is equal funding. The KAVHA funds break-up are divided into areas of relative interest where the Australian government pays 100 per cent of the funding for the areas of greatest interest. Unfortunately you will not see this in the PBS; there is just the single figure there. I can take on notice the break-up of the figures and how the funding works. It is relatively complex between the two governments, and I think this is one of the areas that I would like to see on a better footing. | F&PA 48-49 (25/5/11) | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 70 | 2.1 | CASH | Christmas Island Infrastructure | I refer to the answer given to QoN 311 from the February Additional Estimates for Immigration & Citizenship, in which the department stated that the upgrade to the sewerage system on Christmas Island is being funded by the Department of Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government. Please provide further details in relation to the upgrade of the sewerage system including cost and capacity of the system. | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 71 | 2.1 | CASH | Christmas Island Infrastructure | I refer to the answer provided by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship to QoN 327 from February Additional Estimates which states "Christmas Island has been administered by the Department of Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government since its creation in September 2010." Please provide a breakdown of expenditure by the Department of Regional Australia, | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |

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| | | | | Regional Development and Local Government with respect to Christmas Island from September 2010 to date. | | | |
| 72 | 2.1 | JOYCE | Centenary of Canberra | The Government has indicated that they will provide a gift to the ACT Government to commemorate the Centenary of Canberra in 2013, at a cost of \$62 million over four years. Wasn't this money originally committed by the Howard Government? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 73 | CORP | FIFIELD | Staffing | How many permanent staff recruited this FYTD? What classification are these staff? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 74 | CORP | FIFIELD | Staffing | How many temporary positions exist or have been created this FYTD? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 75 | CORP | FIFIELD | Staffing | This FYTD, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 76 | CORP | FIFIELD | Staffing – Efficiency Dividend | Have staffing numbers been reduced as a result of the efficiency dividend and/or other budget cuts? If so, where and at what classification? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 77 | CORP | FIFIELD | Staffing – Efficiency Dividend | Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details ie. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc. | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 78 | CORP | FIFIELD | Graduate Recruitment– Efficiency Dividend | What changes are underway or planned for graduate recruitment, cadetships or similar programs? If reductions are envisaged please explain including reasons, target numbers etc | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 79 | CORP | FIFIELD | Government Advertising | What communications programs has the Department/Agency undertaken, or are planning to undertake? For each program, what is the total spend? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 80 | CORP | FIFIELD | Board Appointments | What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 81 | CORP | FIFIELD | Board Appointments | Please detail any board appointments for the FYTD. | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 82 | CORP | FIFIELD | FOI | Has the Department/agency received any advice on how to respond to FOI requests? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 83 | CORP | FIFIELD | FOI | How many FOI requests has the Department received? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 84 | CORP | FIFIELD | FOI | How many have been granted or denied? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 85 | CORP | FIFIELD | FOI | How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 86 | CORP | FIFIELD | Community Cabinet | a) What was the cost of Ministers travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings held this FYTD? b) How many Ministerial Staff travelled with the Minister for the Cabinet meeting? What was the total cost of this travel? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |

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| | | | | c) How many Departmental officers travelled with the Minister for the Cabinet meeting? What was the total cost of this travel? d) What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office? | | | |
| 87 | CORP | FIFIELD | Reviews | a) How many Reviews are currently being undertaken by all departments and agencies in each portfolio? b) When will each of these reviews be concluded? c) What reviews have been concluded FYTD? d) Which of these reviews has been provided to Government? e) When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed? f) What is the estimated cost of each of these Reviews? g) What further reviews are planned for 2010 - 11 FY? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 88 | CORP | FIFIELD | Consultancies | How many consultancies have been undertaken or are underway this FYTD? Please identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc). Please also include total value for all consultancies. | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 89 | CORP | FIFIELD | Consultancies | Does each department and agency stand by its current tenders on the Austenders website? Have any changes or corrections been made for any tenders advertised on to Government Tenders website (www.tenders.gov.au) for tenders advertised this financial year? Explain. Are up to date with reporting requirements? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 90 | CORP | FIFIELD | Consultancies | How many consultancies are planned for this calendar year? Have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and if not why not? In each case please identify the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known. | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 91 | CORP | FIFIELD | Media Monitoring | a) What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office FYTD? b) Which agency or agencies provided these services? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 92 | CORP | FIFIELD | Media Monitoring | a) What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Department and its agencies in FYTD? b) Which agency or agencies provided these services? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 93 | CORP | FIFIELD | Social Media | Has there been any changes to department and agency social media or protocols about staff access and useage of Youtube; online social media, such as Facebook, MySpace and Twitter; and access to online discussions forums and blogs since October 2010? Please explain. | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 94 | CORP | FIFIELD | Contractors | Has the department/agency ever employed Hawker Britton in any capacity or is it considering employing Hawker Britton? If yes, provide details. | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |

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| 95 | CORP | FIFIELD | Contractors | Has the department/agency ever employed Shannon's Way in any capacity or is it considering employing Shannon's Way? If yes, provide details. | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 96 | CORP | FIFIELD | Contractors | Has the department/agency ever employed John Utting & UMR Research Group in any capacity or is it considering employing John Utting & UMR Research Group? If yes, provide details | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 97 | CORP | FIFIELD | Contractors | Has the department/agency ever employed McCann-Erickson in any capacity or is it considering employing McCann-Erickson? If yes, provide details. | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 98 | CORP | FIFIELD | Contractors | Has the department/agency ever employed Cutting Edge in any capacity or is it considering employing Cutting Edge? If yes, provide details | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 99 | CORP | FIFIELD | Contractors | Has the department/agency ever employed Ikon Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing Ikon Communications? If yes, provide details. | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 100 | CORP | FIFIELD | Contractors | Has the department/agency ever employed CMAX Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing CMAX Communications? If yes, provide details. | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 101 | CORP | FIFIELD | Contractors | Has the department/agency ever employed Boston Consulting Group in any capacity or is it considering employing Boston Consulting Group? If yes, provide details. | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 102 | CORP | FIFIELD | Contractors | Has the department/agency ever employed McKinsey & Company in any capacity or is it considering employing McKinsey & Company? If yes, provide details. | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 103 | CORP | FIFIELD | Discretionary Grants | a) Could the Department provide a list of all discretionary grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants FYTD? Please provide details of the recipients, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants. b) Has the Department complied with interim requirements relating to the publication of discretionary grants? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 104 | CORP | FIFIELD | Commissioned Reports | a) How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in your portfolio FYTD? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members. b) How much did each report cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level? c) What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 105 | CORP | FIFIELD | Hospitality Spend | What is the Department's hospitality spend FYTD? Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events. Please detail any catering costs, listing the cost of food and beverages, and include a separate list of alcohol costs. | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 106 | CORP | FIFIELD | Hospitality Spend | For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary's office, please detail total | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |

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| | | | | hospitality spend FYTD. Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event. Please detail any catering costs, listing the cost of food and beverages, and include a separate list of alcohol costs. | | | |
| 107 | CORP | FIFIELD | Cabinet Committee and Sub-cabinet Meetings | a) How much time is spent preparing papers/submissions for Cabinet and Sub-Cabinet Committee meetings? b) How often must papers/submissions for Cabinet and Sub-Cabinet Committee Meetings be redrafted or resubmitted? Please provide example of why this would happen. (i.e. last minute policy changes or redate papers due to items not being discussed when initially scheduled). | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 108 | CORP | FIFIELD | Government Payment of Accounts | a) Has the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e. within 30 days)? If not, why not, and what has been the timeframe for payment of accounts? Please provide a breakdown, average statistics etc as appropriate to give insight into how this issue is being approached.) b) For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year? c) Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 109 | CORP | FIFIELD | Government Stationary Requirements | a) What are the government (Ministers/Parliamentary Secretaries) stationery requirements in your portfolio (i.e. special type of paper, envelopes)? b) What are the cost of these items? c) Is the Department/portfolio agencies paying for these? | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 110 | CORP | FIFIELD | Media Subscriptions | a) Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to pay TV (for example Foxtel)? If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what channels. b) Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to newspapers? If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what newspapers. c) Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to magazines? If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what magazines. | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 111 | CORP | FIFIELD | Travel Costs | a) For the FYTD, please detail all travel (itemised separately) undertaken by your portfolio Minister and Parliamentary Secretaries. Include what sum was spent on travel, accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses. b) For the FYTD, please provide the same information (itemised separately) for any Minister and Parliamentary staff that accompanied the Minister and Parliamentary on their travel and include a similar breakdown of the costs incurred | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |

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| | | | | by or on behalf of those staff. c) For the FYTD, please provide the same information (itemised separately) for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary on their travel and include a similar breakdown of the costs incurred by or on behalf of those staff. | | | |
| 112 | CORP | FIFIELD | Legal Costs | a) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services FYTD within the department and agency? Please provide a list of each service and costs. b) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services FYTD from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs. c) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services FYTD from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs. d) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services FYTD from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs. | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 113 | CORP | FIFIELD | Education Costs | Please detail all education expenses (i.e. in house courses and tertiary studies) for each portfolio department and agency. Include what type of course, the cost and how many participants. | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 114 | CORP | FIFIELD | Executive Coaching and Leadership Training | In relation to the purchase of executive coaching and/or other leadership training services purchased by each portfolio department and agency, please provide the following information FYTD: 1. Total spending on these services 2. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification 3. The number of employees who have utilised these services and their employment classification 4. The names of all service providers engaged | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 115 | CORP | FIFIELD | Executive Coaching and Leadership Training | For each service purchased from a provider listed under (4), please provide: a) The name and nature of the service purchased b) Whether the service is one-on-one or group based c) The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification d) The total number of hours involved for all employees e) The total amount spent on the service f) A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package) | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 116 | CORP | FIFIELD | Executive | Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |

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| | | | Coaching and Leadership Training | agency's own premises, please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The location used ii. The number of employees who took part on each occasion iii. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part iv. Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location | | | |
| 117 | CORP | FIFIELD | Paid Parental Leave | a) Please list how many staff in each portfolio department and agency are eligible to receive payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme? b) Please list which portfolio department and agencies are providing its employees with payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme? Please list how many staff are in receipt of these payments. | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 118 | CORP | FIFIELD | Workpoint Space | For each portfolio department and agency office please list the occupied workpoint space allocated per person. | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 119 | CORP | FIFIELD | Commonwealth Property Management Guideleines | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does this adhere to the Government's Commonwealth Property Management Guidelines (the Guidelines)? Explain. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. If yes, please explain if any refurbishment was required to meet the Guidelines and what the costs were. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What savings did each portfolio department and agency achieve by meeting the Guidelines? Please itemise each portfolio department and agency separately. b. How much of these savings has each portfolio department and agency kept? Please itemise each portfolio department and agency separately. II. If no, please give details why it does not, including whether an exemption has been received by the Finance Minister. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What funding has been taken from each portfolio department and agency because they do not meet the Guidelines? Please itemise each portfolio department and agency separately. b. Are there plans to meet the Guidelines? Please explain | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 120 | CORP | BIRMINGHAM | Funding to Organisations | Has the Department provided any funding to any of the following organisations in the current financial year or in any of the previous three financial years? If so, please detail when it was provided and for what purpose. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Australian Conservation Foundation b. Australian Council of Trade Unions | Written | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |

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| | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. Australian Youth Climate Coalition d. Climate Action Network Australia e. The Climate Institute f. Environment Victoria g. GetUp! h. Greenpeace Australia Pacific i. World Wildlife Fund Australia | | | |
| 121 | NCA | FAULKNER | National Memorials Ordinance 1928 | <p>Senator FAULKNER: I am asking has it been revised since 1928? Obviously the individuals, the Leader of the Opposition and the Prime Minister, are different individuals from whom they were in 1928. I think we understand that. But the positions ex officio were identified by ordinance then, or named in the ordinance then?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I would have to take that on notice.</p> | F&PA 57 (25/5/11) | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |
| 122 | NCA | MACDONALD | Efficiency Dividend | <p>Mr Rake: We have a commitment to our program responsibilities: planning the capital, fostering an awareness of the capital and enhancing and maintaining the capital. Those will be the last things that we will make changes to. I am very comfortable with our approach to dealing with the efficiency dividend this year.</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: On notice could you to indicate to me what you might be planning for next year, the following year and the following year as you deal with this?</p> | F&PA 61 (25/5/11) | 08/07/11 | 25/08/11 |