

Estimates 2005-06 — Supplementary Budget Estimates, October – November 2005**Questions on Notice Index—Finance and Administration portfolio**

QON No.	Department / agency	Senator	Hansard reference	Question	Comments
F1	DOFA	Sherry	F&PA 9 1/11/05	Senator SHERRY—I am just asking about the guideline in respect of consultancy appointments. Obviously there is something in writing that outlines the guidelines for the selection of consultancies. Mr Staun—Yes, they are based on the PM&C guidelines. Senator SHERRY—Can I have a copy of those? Mr Staun—Yes, Senator.	Answered 1/11/05 with documents tabled
F2	DOFA	Sherry	F&PA 11 1/11/05	Senator SHERRY—I do not want the figures now, but can you provide on notice a copy of the detail of that analysis?	Answered 10/2/06
F3	DOFA	Sherry	F&PA 12-13 1/11/05	Senator SHERRY—I asked for the turnover rates within workgroups. Could I also have the turnover rates within SES levels on notice? Dr Watt—Yes.	Answered 8/2/06
F4	DOFA	Nash	F&PA 20 1/11/05	Senator NASH—I have two quick questions. Do you know how many sites United Petroleum currently have? Mr Suur—I do not have that information. Senator NASH—Could you get that for me? Dr Watt—We can get that for you.	Answered 1/11/05 tabled documents
F5	DOFA	Nash	F&PA 21 1/11/05	Senator NASH—It would be quite useful to know how many outlets they have. Does the department have a list of sites around the country where service stations are currently offering E10? Mr Suur—I do not know that we would have that information. We can check with LeasePlan to see whether they do. I imagine that that sort of information would be held by individual fuel supply companies.	Answered 1/11/05 tabled documents
F6	DOFA	Sherry	F&PA 43 1/11/05	Senator SHERRY—Can I have a list of the performance pay paid, as indicated in the CSS-PSS reports? I am not seeking it next to the names of individual officers. It says that the average performance pay was \$16,122 and a total of \$306,324 was paid to 19 staff. Could I have a list of the actual amounts, please? Mr Gibbs—Yes. I do not have that with me, but I will provide it.	Answered 8/2/06

QON No.	Department / agency	Senator	Hansard reference	Question	Comments
F7	CSS/PSS	Crossin	F&PA 47 1/11/05	<p>Senator CROSSIN—Can you explain to me what the situation is with people who are employed at the University College of the Northern Territory, then renamed Northern Territory University and now named Charles Darwin University?</p> <p>Mr Gibbs—I cannot because I do not know the circumstances that you describe.</p> <p>Senator CROSSIN—It is the same university. It has had three different names over the last 12 years.</p> <p>Mr Gibbs—As you would appreciate, whether it is the same employer is an issue that we would have to look at on a case-by-case basis. I simply cannot stand here and say that it would or would not be. It depends on whether it was just a renaming or there was a successorship and so forth.</p> <p>Senator CROSSIN—Can you take that on notice for me? I put to you that at least three people that we are aware of who have been employed by the Northern Territory University—and it was renamed Charles Darwin University at the end of 2003, when the legislation went through the parliament—since April of last year have resigned their permanent employment at the university, taken up a contract with the university two days later and have been able to access their lump sum benefit.</p> <p>Mr Gibbs—I can only say that I will take that on notice.</p>	Answered 8/2/06
F8	CSS/PSS	Crossin	F&PA 47 1/11/05	<p>Senator CROSSIN—Can you also tell me perhaps how many Commonwealth CSS members you would have at the university these days? Also, how many would have been able to access their lump sum payments since April of last year?</p> <p>Mr Gibbs—Since April 2004?</p> <p>Senator CROSSIN—Yes.</p> <p>Mr Gibbs—Certainly; we can take that on notice.</p>	Answered 8/2/06

QON No.	Department / agency	Senator	Hansard reference	Question	Comments
F9	DOFA	Faulkner	F&PA 56 1/11/05	<p>Mr Suur—No, that is not true. In addition to a formal assets register, which is a document that is kept, in a formal sense, for auditing purposes, we keep our own record of portable and attractive items that we own. That is a discipline that we have in different business groups, and we observe it in relation to ministers' officers and the GMS as well.</p> <p>Senator FAULKNER—Could you provide a copy of that as it relates to the GMS?</p> <p>Mr Suur—Yes, I could.</p> <p>Senator FAULKNER—How often do you update the inventory? Is it on a regular basis? I assume it would be.</p> <p>Mr Suur—In the light of you foreshadowing that you would ask this question this morning, I had somebody send me some information as at 31 October. They were able to derive that information fairly readily.</p> <p>Senator FAULKNER—That is very helpful, and if you could provide that I would appreciate it. Could you ask them, also on notice, to provide similar information for, say, 31 July?</p> <p>Mr Suur—2004?</p> <p>Senator FAULKNER—Yes. You can throw in 2005, if you like. That would be good. You can provide 31 July 2004 easily, and you have got 31 October 2004.</p> <p>Mr Suur—I have 31 October 2005. I have a list of what was held by the GMS as of yesterday.</p> <p>Senator FAULKNER—I would like to go back to 2004. I want you to provide the end of July 2004, the end of October 2004, the one you have and, say, the end of February 2005. We can leave it there.</p> <p>Dr Watt—We have taken that on notice.</p>	Answer received 6/2/06
F10	DOFA	Faulkner	F&PA 57 1/11/05	<p>Senator FAULKNER—Are you able to quickly identify where we find the extra five?</p> <p>Ms Clarke—No. I think I will have to take the table away and do a comparison with the last table. I do not have that information in front of me.</p> <p>Senator FAULKNER—You might save time and take that on notice. I suppose, Dr Watt, if we work on these documents, a minor amendment to the table would be useful in a comparison over the last estimates round.</p> <p>Dr Watt—We will have a look at it.</p>	Answer received 6/2/06

QON No.	Department / agency	Senator	Hansard reference	Question	Comments
F11	DOFA	Faulkner	F&PA 63 1/11/05	<p>Senator FAULKNER—Let us find out what the costs of this particular contract were. That ought to be able to be provided very quickly I think. Could you also, as quickly as possible, Ms Mason, indicate the additional furniture and any other office refurbishment or renovations that have been required. I hope that can be provided within a very short period of time—a matter of minutes—so we have the full picture.</p> <p>Ms Mason—I think that the cost of the contract can be obtained quickly. In terms of the furniture and any modifications to offices, I am not sure how long that will take but if we can do it quickly I will provide it this afternoon.</p>	Answer received 6/2/06
F12	DOFA	Faulkner	F&PA 64 1/11/05	<p>Senator FAULKNER—I am interested in the complaints that you have received, the trolleys that have been purchased to put this whopping great franking machine on, and any refurbishments that have taken place in the electorate office and what the cost of all this has been—over and above the \$1.9 million cost for the actual purchase of the aircraft carriers themselves.</p> <p>Senator Abetz—All that will be taken on notice.</p>	Answer received 6/2/06
F13	AEC	Nash	F&PA 69 1/11/05	<p>Mr Campbell—We are in a process now with the Australian Federal Police of pursuing cases of multiple voting. We have handed a brief over to the Federal Police and they have been investigating.</p> <p>Senator NASH—When did that go to the police?</p> <p>Mr Dacey—I do not have the date, but it would have been shortly afterwards. I would have to get back to you on that.</p>	Answer received 6/2/06
F14	AEC	Nash	F&PA 70 1/11/05	<p>Senator NASH—So there was only one. Are you absolutely certain that voting more than twice could not have occurred more once?</p> <p>Mr Campbell—In the seat of Richmond, there has been only one case that we have referred to the Federal Police and the DPP. There might have been several other cases—which I will have to take on notice—but we would have investigated and found reasons that they were not to be pursued through the courts.</p>	Answer received 6/2/06
F15	AEC	Brandis	F&PA 71 1/11/05	<p>Senator BRANDIS—The name of the informant, please?</p> <p>Mr Dacey—It would have been Mr Avery.</p> <p>Senator BRANDIS—If you want to check that please take it on notice.</p> <p>Mr Dacey—I will.</p>	Answer received 6/2/06

QON No.	Department / agency	Senator	Hansard reference	Question	Comments
F16	AEC	Carr	F&PA 75 1/11/05	<p>Senator CARR—It states that the majority report asserts that only 151 people were needed to alter their preferences to change the outcome in Richmond. Was it also case that the preference flows identified in this minority report in a number of other electorates demonstrated that that was most unlikely to have occurred? Would you concur with the figures that are produced in that report?</p> <p>Mr Dacey—I have not examined it that closely so I would have to take that on notice.</p>	Answer received 6/2/06
F17	AEC	Brandis	F&PA 77 1/11/05	<p>Senator BRANDIS—I am sorry—it said something that was ultimately conveyed to you by the intermediate officer about the colours. What was said to you through the intermediate officer specifically on the topic of colour?</p> <p>Mr Dacey—I would have to go back and look at the notes from that day. I do not have them with me.</p> <p>Senator BRANDIS—Would you please do that and take it on notice? Would you please also, in giving us the answer on notice, produce a photocopy of your note? If there was a memo to you at the time, can you provide a photocopy of the memo as well?</p> <p>Mr Dacey—I can give you a chronology of what we had.</p> <p>Senator BRANDIS—No, that is not what I asked for. I ask for a copy of your note, if you made one—I gathered that you said you did, because you said, ‘I would have to look at my note’—and, if there was a memo to you, a copy of that memo as well, please.</p> <p>Mr Dacey—Sure.</p>	Answer received 6/2/06
F18	AEC	Carr	F&PA 77 1/11/05	<p>Senator CARR—You mentioned the question of multiple voting in Richmond. How do they compare with other electorates?</p> <p>Mr Campbell—We would have to take that on notice.</p>	Answer received 6/2/06
F19	AEC	Carr	F&PA 77 1/11/05	<p>Senator CARR—Over the last 10 years, how many prosecutions have there been for offences relating to false enrolments?</p> <p>Senator Abetz—Some of them just get promoted to be chief adviser to the New South Wales Premier.</p> <p>Mr Dacey—We do have figures for the last 10 years, but we would have to get them on notice.</p>	Answer received 6/2/06
F20	AEC	Carr	F&PA 77 1/11/05	<p>Senator CARR—How many of those were the result of the AEC detecting fraudulent—</p> <p>Mr Dacey—Quite a few, but we would need to get those figures for you.</p>	Answer received 6/2/06

QON No.	Department / agency	Senator	Hansard reference	Question	Comments
F21	AEC	Carr	F&PA 77 1/11/05	Senator CARR—Can you give me an estimate of the number of false enrolments per year, per electoral division, per state and per election? Mr Dacey—Once again, we would have to take that on notice.	Answer received 6/2/06
F22	AEC	Carr	F&PA 80 1/11/05	Senator CARR—How many amendments were there made to party or candidate returns for the last year? Ms Mitchell—I do not have those statistics with me. I will take that on notice. Senator CARR—And for the previous year, as well—2003-04 and 2004-05. Can you provide those on notice? Ms Mitchell—Yes I can.	Answer received 6/2/06
F23	AEC	Carr	F&PA 80 1/11/05	Senator CARR—Do you have any details available on the size and the nature of the amendments that are made? Ms Mitchell—The table that we gave to the joint standing committee included dollar figures. I can update that.	Answer received 6/2/06
F24	AEC	Carr	F&PA 80 1/11/05	Senator CARR—Is there any pattern emerging from the statistics that you have kept? For instance, are the figures consistent over recent years? Ms Mitchell—I cannot remember the figures off the top of my head. Mr Campbell—We can give you those figures.	Answer received 6/2/06
F25	AEC	Carr	F&PA 81 1/11/05	Ms Mitchell—There is a list in appendix 3 of the report of the candidates who, at the time of collation of the report, had yet to lodge their disclosure returns. These may also be matters that might be referred to the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions for possible prosecution where they still remain outstanding. Senator CARR—How many are still outstanding? Ms Mitchell—I would have to get that figure for you. I would like to take that on notice.	Answer received 6/2/06
F26	AEC	Carr	F&PA 81 1/11/05	Senator CARR—Are you able to indicate which of these 52 have now complied? Ms Mitchell—No, I am not, but I can take that on notice.	Answer received 6/2/06

QON No.	Department / agency	Senator	Hansard reference	Question	Comments
F27	AEC	Carr	F&PA 84 1/11/05	<p>Senator CARR—I want to know who they are.</p> <p>Ms Mitchell—I do not have that information. You would like to know who the people are that needed to lodge amended returns?</p> <p>Senator CARR—That is right, and which candidates failed to disclose donations in excess of \$200 and who the person was giving the money. Can you provide a full list to the committee?</p> <p>Ms Mitchell—I can provide you with a list of people who lodged returns that were initially incomplete that we followed up and got amended returns from. The last paragraph on page 29 refers to a number of returns that were only partially completed and did not have all the details on them that they needed to have. We followed up with the candidates to get them to provide all of the information that they needed to set out in their return. I can provide you with the information as to those candidates were.</p> <p>Senator CARR—Yes, thank you.</p>	Answer received 6/2/06
F28	AEC	Carr	F&PA 84 1/11/05	<p>Senator CARR—So where these amendments occur, I presume there is a requirement to declare who the donor was?</p> <p>Ms Mitchell—Yes.</p> <p>Senator CARR—Are you able to provide a list to me of where that has occurred?</p> <p>Ms Mitchell—Where we have obtained amended returns? It would take some time to collate because we do not keep it in that form but I think I could probably—</p> <p>Senator CARR—Can you take that as a separate question if it is going to take some time? Obviously, the data would be available. It would be a reflection in the amended return, would it not?</p>	Answer received 6/2/06

QON No.	Department / agency	Senator	Hansard reference	Question	Comments
F29	AEC	Carr	F&PA 84-85 1/11/05	<p>Senator CARR—On page 31 you refer to these disclosures and possible breaches of the act. Can you tell me on how many occasions this has occurred? How many cases have you discussed with the DPP but not necessarily taken up to the point of prosecution?</p> <p>Ms Mitchell—Yes.</p> <p>Senator CARR—Can you also provide me with a list of those cases and what the issues were?</p> <p>Ms Mitchell—Yes.</p> <p>Senator CARR—Are you able to tell me who was involved?</p> <p>Ms Mitchell—I would have to take advice on whether that was an appropriate question to respond to.</p> <p>Senator CARR—I am sure you would; nonetheless, I put it to you in those terms.</p> <p>Mr Campbell—We understand the question, Senator. If we can provide it we will.</p>	Answer received 6/2/06
F30	AEC	Carr	F&PA 85 1/11/05	<p>Senator CARR—I am obviously interested in that level of detail if it is possible for it to be provided. If not, I will look for an explanation as to why it cannot be provided. Could you also provide me with the advice that was received from the DPP as to why prosecution did not proceed?</p> <p>Ms Mitchell—These were all verbal discussions so there is no advice in writing.</p> <p>Mr Campbell—Even if we did have it in writing I am not sure that we would be able to release it.</p> <p>Senator CARR—Yes, I figured that would be your answer.</p> <p>Mr Campbell—We might be able to give you some generic reasons but certainly not specific advice in particular cases.</p>	Answer received 6/2/06
F31	DOFA	Conroy	Written	Attached	Answered 8/2/06
F32	AEC	Conroy	Written	Attached	Answer received 6/2/06
F33	Comsuper	Conroy	Written	Attached	Answered 8/2/06
F34	CSS/PSS	Conroy	Written	Attached	Answered 8/2/06 (CSS and PSS)
F35	CGC	Conroy	Written	Attached	Answered 10/2/06
F36	DOFA	Murray	Written	Attached	Answered 8/2/06
F37	AEC	Murray	Written	Attached	Answer received 6/2/06
F38	Comsuper	Murray	Written	Attached	Answered 8/2/06

QON No.	Department / agency	Senator	Hansard reference	Question	Comments
F39	CSS/PSS	Murray	Written	Attached	Answered 8/2/06 (CSS and PSS)
F40	CGC	Murray	Written	Attached	Answered 8/2/06
F41	DOFA	Fielding	Written	Attached	Answered 8/2/06
F42	AEC	Fielding	Written	Attached	Answer received 6/2/06
F43	Comsuper	Fielding	Written	Attached	Answered 8/2/06
F44	CSS/PSS	Fielding	Written	Attached	Answered 10/2/06 (CSS and PSS)
F45	CGC	Fielding	Written	Attached	Answered 10/2/06
F46	DOFA	Fielding	Written	Attached	Answer received 6/2/06
F47	DOFA	Sherry	Written	Attached	Answered 8/2/06
F48	DOFA	Sherry	Written	Attached	Answered 13/2/06
F49	DOFA	Sherry	Written	Attached	Answered 10/2/06
F50	DOFA	Sherry	Written	Attached	Answered 10/2/06
F51	Comsuper	Sherry	Written	Attached	Answered 8/2/06
F52	DOFA	Sherry	Written	Attached (Revised)	Answered 8/2/06
F53	AEC	Carr	Written	Attached	Answer received 6/2/06
F54	CSS/PSS	Sherry	F&PA 43 1/11/05	Senator SHERRY—On notice, could you provide me with a summary—I do not want a 10-, 20-, 30- or 40-page judgment—of the decisions that went against the board in both cases? Mr Gibbs—Yes. If there were any in that particular year I will do so.	Answered 8/2/06
F55	DOFA	Faulkner	F&PA 61 1/11/05	Senator FAULKNER—One of your state managers was actually in an office when a machine arrived, and he would be aware of that. How many of these machines are so big that they are still in the cartons and have not been opened yet because no-one knows where to put them?	Answer received 6/2/06
F56	DOFA	Evans	Written	Attached	Transferred from PM&C 25/11/05 Answered 8/2/06
F57	DOFA	Faulkner	Written	Attached	Answer received 6/2/06
F58	DOFA	Faulkner	Written	Attached	Answer received 6/2/06

QON No.	Department / agency	Senator	Hansard reference	Question	Comments
F59	DOFA	Evans	Written	Attached	Transferred from PM&C 1/12/05 Answer received 6/2/06

Please note that answers are due on 31 January 2006

Written QON

F31 to F35

Performance of Information Technology outsourcing arrangements

1. Please provide details of total departmental/organisational spending on Information and Communications Technology products and services during the last 12 months.
2. Please break down this spending by ICT function (eg communications, security, private network, websites).
3. Was this spending in line with budget forecasts for this 12 month period?
 - a. If not, please provide details of:
 - i. The extent that ICT spending exceeded budget forecasts for this 12 month period;
 - ii. Details of on specific ICT contracts which resulted in department/organisation spending in excess of budget forecasts for this 12 month period;
 - iii. The reasons ICT spending exceeded budget forecasts for this 12 month period.
4. Please provide details of any ICT projects that have been commissioned by the Department/organisation during the past 12 months that have failed to meet designated project time frames (ie have failed to satisfy agreed milestones by agreed dates).
 - a. For such projects that were not completed on schedule, please provide details of:
 - i. The extent of any delay;
 - ii. The reasons these projects were not completed on time;
 - iii. Any contractual remedies sought by the Department/organisation as a result of these delays (eg penalty payments).
5. Please provide details of any ICT projects delivered in the past 12 months that have materially failed to satisfy project specifications.
6. Please provide details of any ICT projects that were abandoned by the Department/organisation within the last 12 months before the delivery of all project specifications outlined at the time the project was commissioned.
 - a. For such abandoned projects, please provide details of:

- i. Any contractual remedies sought by the Department as a result of the abandonment of these projects.
 - ii. Any costs of re-tendering the ICT project.
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F36 to F40

Order for departmental and agency contracts

1. What guidance is provided to staff with responsibilities for contract negotiations specifically about the requirements of the Senate Order? If relevant guidance is not provided, please explain why this is the case.
 2. What training and awareness sessions are provided, either in-house or through other training providers (eg. DOFA, APS Commission or private firms) in respect of the Order? Please provide a list of the dates, the identity of the training providers and the content of the training that staff attended in 2005. If training and awareness sessions are not provided, please explain why this is the case.
 3. Has the department/agency revised its procurement guidelines to incorporate the new Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines that took effect from 1 January 2005, particularly with respect to the confidentiality elements contained in those guidelines? If so, when did this occur and can a copy be provided? If not, what is the cause of the delay and when will the revision occur?
 4. ANAO audits for the last three years have revealed a consistently low level of compliance across most agencies with DOFA confidentiality criteria (February 2003) for determining whether commercial information should be protected as confidential. The ANAO's latest report on the Order (No.11 2005-2006, September 2005) states that departments and agencies need to give higher priority with this important requirement of the Senate Order.
 - What specific measures have been or will be taken to address this problem, give it higher priority and raise compliance levels?
 - What guidance and training are provided to staff about the confidentiality criteria and the four tests employed to determine whether information should be protected?
 - What internal auditing or checking is performed to test compliance in this area? If none is performed, why not and is the agency considering the adoption of internal controls and checks?
 5. What problems, if any, has the agency and/or relevant staff experienced in complying with the Senate Order? What is the nature and cause of any problems? What measures have been, or could be, adopted to address these concerns?
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F41 to F45

1. How much money has the portfolio spent on domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years?
2. How much money has the portfolio spent on overseas airfares for each of the last three financial years?
3. How much money has the portfolio spent on economy class domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years?
4. How much money has the portfolio spent on business class domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years?

5. How much has the portfolio spent on first class domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years?
 6. What would be the estimated financial year dollar saving if all public servants in the portfolio travelled economy class for flights of less than one and a half hours duration?
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F46

Ministerial and Parliamentary Services questions

Staff of politicians

Ministerial staff

1. How much money was spent on domestic airfares for Ministerial staff for each of the last three financial years?
2. How much money was spent on overseas airfares for Ministerial staff for each of the last three financial years?
3. How much money was spent on economy class domestic airfares for Ministerial staff for each of the last three financial years?
4. How much money was spent on business class domestic airfares for Ministerial staff for each of the last three financial years?
5. How much money was spent on first class domestic airfares for Ministerial staff for each of the last three financial years?
6. What would be the estimated financial year dollar saving if all Ministerial staff travelled economy class for flights of less than one and a half hours duration?
7. What is the dollar value of travel allowance claimed by Ministerial staff for each of the last three financial years?

Staff of shadow ministers

8. How much money was spent on domestic airfares for staff of shadow ministers for each of the last three financial years?
9. How much money was spent on overseas airfares for staff of shadow ministers for each of the last three financial years?
10. How much money was spent on economy class domestic airfares for staff of shadow ministers for each of the last three financial years?
11. How much money was spent on business class domestic airfares for staff of shadow ministers for each of the last three financial years?
12. How much money was spent on first class domestic airfares for staff of shadow ministers for each of the last three financial years?
13. What would be the estimated financial year dollar saving if all staff of shadow ministers travelled economy class for flights of less than one and a half hours duration?
14. What is the dollar value of travel allowance claimed by the staff of shadow ministers for each of the last three financial years?

Politicians

Ministers

15. How much money was spent on domestic airfares for Ministers for each of the last three financial years?

16. How much money was spent on overseas airfares for Ministers for each of the last three financial years?
17. How much money was spent on economy class domestic airfares for Ministers for each of the last three financial years?
18. How much money was spent on business class domestic airfares for Ministers for each of the last three financial years?
19. How much money was spent on first class domestic airfares for Ministers for each of the last three financial years?
20. What would be the estimated financial year dollar saving if all Ministers travelled economy class for flights of less than one and a half hours duration?
21. What is the dollar value of travel allowance claimed by Ministers for each of the last three financial years?

Shadow ministers

22. How much money was spent on domestic airfares for Shadow Ministers for each of the last three financial years?
23. How much money was spent on overseas airfares for Shadow Ministers for each of the last three financial years?
24. How much money was spent on economy class domestic airfares for Shadow Ministers for each of the last three financial years?
25. How much money was spent on business class domestic airfares for Shadow Ministers for each of the last three financial years?
26. How much money was spent on first class domestic airfares for Shadow Ministers for each of the last three financial years?
27. What would be the estimated financial year dollar saving if all Shadow Ministers travelled economy class for flights of less than one and a half hours duration?
28. What is the dollar value of travel allowance claimed by Shadow Ministers for each of the last three financial years?

Caretaker period

Airfares

29. For the caretaker period last year (31 August 2004 to 9 October 2004), what was the cost of all air travel undertaken by Ministerial staff?
30. For the caretaker period last year (31 August 2004 to 9 October 2004), what was the cost of all air travel undertaken by staff of shadow ministers?
31. For the caretaker period last year (31 August 2004 to 9 October 2004), what was the cost of all air travel undertaken by Ministers?
32. For the caretaker period last year (31 August 2004 to 9 October 2004), what was the cost of all air travel undertaken by shadow ministers?

Travel allowance

33. For the caretaker period last year (31 August 2004 to 9 October 2004), what was the cost of all travel allowance claimed by Ministerial staff?
34. For the caretaker period last year (31 August 2004 to 9 October 2004), what was the cost of all travel allowance claimed by staff of shadow ministers?
35. For the caretaker period last year (31 August 2004 to 9 October 2004), what was the cost of all travel allowance claimed by Ministers?
36. For the caretaker period last year (31 August 2004 to 9 October 2004), what was the cost of all travel allowance claimed by shadow ministers?

F47

Future Fund

1. What are the processes for moving money held as deposits by the Reserve Bank to the Future Fund?
 2. Provide the projected cash call on the fund for each year out to 2041-42.
 3. Provide the projected earnings of the fund out to 2041-42.
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F48

Finance's estimates performance

For the measures below and specified on page 42, Output 1.1.1 of the 2005-06 PBS 1.9A report the outcome for 2003-04 and 2004-05 for the following against the specified benchmark.

1% difference between first forward year estimated expenses and final outcome.

0.5% difference between Budget estimated expenses and final outcome.

0.3% difference between revised estimated expenses at Mid Year Economic Fiscal Outlook and final outcome.

0.25% difference between revised estimated expenses at Budget time and final outcome.

F49

Charter of Budget Honesty processes

1. Advise the number of written and verbal requests made by the Department of Finance and/or the Department of the Treasury for additional information for the Investing for the Future Coalition policy from the date of receipt on 10 September 2004 of the costing request and the date non-completion was advised on 8 October 2004.
2. Advise who each request for further information was made to and on what date(s)?
3. What additional information was requested?
4. Which request(s) was/were responded to?
5. How many phone calls were made to follow up this request?
6. When was the decision taken that the costing could not be completed and on what basis was that decision made.
7. What advice did the General Manager Budget Group and/or the General Manager Financial Management Group tender to the Secretary of Finance to inform that decision?

8. Cite relevant provisions of the Guidelines issued jointly by the Secretaries to the Department of the Treasury and of Finance and Administration to come to that decision and the officer(s) that took the decision.
 9. Advise the number of written and verbal requests made by the Department of Finance and/or the Department of the Treasury for additional information for the Medicare Gold policy from 1 October 2004, the date of receipt of the costing request, to 8 October 2004 when Finance advised the costing was complete.
 10. Advise during this period to whom each request for further information was made to and on what date(s)?
 11. What additional information was requested and which request(s) was responded to?
 12. How many phone calls were made to follow up this request?
 13. When was the decision taken that the costing could be completed and on what basis was that decision made.
 14. What advice did the General Manager Budget Group and/or the General Manager Financial Management Group tender to the Secretary of Finance to inform that decision?
 15. Cite relevant provisions of the Guidelines issued jointly by the Secretaries to the Department of the Treasury and of Finance and Administration to come to that decision and the officer(s) that took the decision.
 16. On the Medicare Safety net, indicate the number of phone calls, oral briefings and written briefings that were made to the Office of the Minister for Finance in the two months prior to 31 August 2004.
 17. What was the cut-off date for preparation of the 2004 PEFO?
 18. When were the Medicare Safety net estimates validated on 2 September 2004 first entered? Were they modified before validation on 2 September? If so on what dates did those modification(s) take place? Who authorised the final validation?
 19. What briefings, oral or written, were made by the Department to the Office of the Minister for Finance two weeks before the cut-off for PEFO?
 20. What briefings were prepared or given after the cut-off and before the commencement of the caretaker mode on 31 August 2004 to the Office of the Minister for Finance?
 21. What advice did the General Manager Budget Group and/or the General Manager Financial Management Group tender to the Office of the Minister for Finance in the two months before the commencement of the caretaker period and after that time?
 22. Did any Interdepartmental Committees meet to discuss cost increases in the Medicare Safety Net during July, August, September or October 2005?
 23. If so, on what dates and which Departments and officers were present at each meeting of the IDC?
-

F50

Telstra

During the 2004 election the Department of Finance reported on 7 October 2004 that Labor's position of not selling Telstra would save \$140.6 million in 2007-08.

Update those numbers including the impact on Telstra dividends received by the Government, the Public Debt Interest (PDI) impact and sale costs. Consistent with the costing methodology used at the time of the election, this should include the latest information including dividend estimates provided by Telstra on a confidential basis.

F50

Telstra sale process:

1. Are different sale discounts being considered for retail and non retail investors?
 2. Describe some of the options being considered including delayed payment and hybrid security arrangements.
 3. Who is on the selection panel to pick the investment banks for the sale?
 4. Is it true that that ANAO has been called in to advise on the controls to be placed on investment banks for their global roadshows?
 5. Will investment banks be required to sign contracts on the types and levels of spending they will be able to undertake and conflicts of interest?
 6. Describe the nature of those contracts or agreements banks will be expected to sign?
-

F51

For reference to Comsuper under Outcome 1.1

In reference to a DFRDB pension recipient, Mr Shaun Hunt who had his pension downgraded in 2004.

1. What is the current status of the appeals board hearing for Mr Shaun Hunt?
 2. What is the average time taken for members to have an appeal heard by the appeals board?
 3. In Mr Hunt's case it took over a year from when his pension was downgraded for an appeals board hearing, is this considered acceptable?
 4. Why are lengthy delays occurring?
 5. Is the Government decision to reassess all classifications last year a contributing factor to the lengthy delays Mr Shaun Hunt has endured?
 6. When will the situation of lengthy delays be rectified?
-

F52

For reference to Department of Finance & Administration under Outcome 1.1.1

In reference to a constituent, Mrs Stubbings of 44 Magdalene Terrace, Pasadema, SA, 5042 who is an invalid pensioner is claiming an act of grace payment. Mr Henry Stubbings is acting on behalf of his wife and they are seeking an Act of Grace payment for unclaimed invalid payments between 1971 and 6th October 1983;

1. What is the current status of the claim for an Act of Grace payment for Mr & Mrs Stubbings?
2. What is the average time for a decision to be made in regards to an Act of Grace payment?
3. In light of your statement that it took only a 24 hour turnaround to finalise two Act of Grace payments for two Iraqi citizens injured by Australian ADF personnel in Iraq why has it taken so long to review Mr & Mrs Stubbings case?
4. Why are lengthy delays occurring?
5. Is priority given to foreign citizens (such as the two Iraqi's) over Australian citizens?

And one further question

6. In light of the fact that Mr & Mrs Stubbings claim has been finalised, what is the outcome of their claim?
-

F53

1. Has a plan been drawn up by the AEC to process enrolment, re-enrolment or change of enrolment details between the issuing of the writs and the closure of the rolls seven days later if proof of identity is required?
 2. What would be the cost, would there need to be an increase of staffing levels and resources? Could a copy be given to the committee?
 3. Has the AEC commissioned a report or undertaken any investigations to detail the level of resources required to monitor all Government advertising to ensure that it complies with the Commonwealth Electoral Act? Can a copy be provided to the Committee?
 4. If not, when will be this completed and can a copy be provided to the Committee upon completion?
-

F56

In relation to the Indigenous COAG arrangements:

(1) In the May 2005 estimates, OEA said it was committed to a "three-year rolling evaluation plan" from 30 Jun 05 – 30 Jun 07. OEA also committed to having a program for this evaluation plan finalised towards the end of June or early July.

Is this program now available? Can you please attach if so.

(2) what will this evaluation encompass?

(3) OEA conducted an interim six-month program between Jan and Jun this year.

(a) What happened during this interim program?

(b) What were the conclusions of the interim program?

(c) Were any reports produced? Will these be publicly available?

(4) At the May estimates, OEA had not given any thought as to whether it will be able to assess the effectiveness of TSI programs. Has this changed? If so, please give details of any planned evaluations.

F57

AWAs

1. How many personal and electoral staff of Minister's and parliamentary secretaries are currently employed on AWAs?
 2. Of these, how many are employed at the level of Advisor or below?
 3. How many MOPs staff across the board are currently employed on AWAs?
-

F58

GMS

Does the Government Members Secretariat have any:

- (a) Colour photocopy machines? (If yes, how many machines and what is the brand and the model?)
 - (b) Colour printers? (If yes, how many printer and what is the brand and the model?)
 - (c) Photoshop software product? (If yes, how many copies and what version is it?)
 - (d) Scanners? (If yes, how many and what is the brand and the model?)
-

F59

Ministerial Staff and Departmental Liaison Officers [\[parts 1, 3, 4, 5 transferred to DOFA 1 December 2004; part 2 remains the responsibility of PM&C\]](#)

1. Please provide details of the number of personal and ministerial staff currently allocated to each minister and parliamentary secretary, itemised by the office of each minister and parliamentary secretary, along with the details of the classifications of these staff members.
2. Please provide details of the number of departmental liaison staff currently allocated to each minister and parliamentary secretary, itemised by the office of each minister and parliamentary secretary, along with the details of the classifications of these officers.

3. Please provide details of the numbers and classifications of staff currently working in the Government Members' Secretariat.
4. Do staff working in the Government Members' Secretariat constitute a separate staffing allocation to the overall ministerial and personal staff allocation made top the Government?
5. Does the number of Government ministerial and personal staff, used to as a basis to calculate the Opposition personal staff allocation, include staff working in the Government Members' Secretariat?