

Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Department of Finance and Administration

Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing – October 2006

Question: F51

Outcome 1, Output 1.1

Topic: Discretionary Grants

Written Question on Notice

Senator Sherry asked:

Could you provide me with a list of the grants and amounts by portfolio entered into that register in the 2005-06 financial year. The processes and computer programs that are employed for the register: does it identify that there is no double-dipping, as I would describe it, on grants?

Answer:

The Discretionary Grant Central Register (DGCR) is for internal use by the Australian Government, and is used for reporting to Senior Ministers and the Cabinet. However, the information sought is available in relevant agencies' annual reports. All government annual reports are required to be tabled by 31 October. Therefore, 2005-06 annual reports should now be available.

Agencies are able to access the DGCR online to check whether a recipient has previously received funding for the same or a similar purpose. Agencies are required to check for double dipping prior to making a recommendation on a grant application.