

Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing – October 2006

Question: F69 – F74

Outcome, Output: All

Topic: Annual Report Tabling

Written Question on Notice

Senator Ludwig asked:

With regard to each agencies (and the department itself) that fall inside the department's portfolio, could the department indicate

1. What date the agency's 2005-06 Annual Report was tabled before parliament?
2. If the annual report was not tabled by 31 October 2006, could the department indicate:
 - a. When the report was tabled, or if it remains untabled what date the report is expected to be tabled by.
 - b. Whether the agency's own legislation provides an alternative timeframe for its annual report. If so, could the department provide:
 - i. A description and reference to the relevant provision and legislation.
 - ii. An explanation of why the agency cannot meet the general timeframe set out in the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet's Requirements for Annual Reports, and so requires an alternative timeframe?
 - c. Whether the agency was granted an extension under section subsections 34C(4) - (7) of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*? If so, could the department provide:
 - i. The date for finalizing the report as set out in the extension.
 - ii. The reason given for granting the extension.
 - iii. The date that the Minister tabled in Parliament a statement explaining why an extension was granted.
 - iv. A copy of the Minister's statement.
 - d. Where the agency's legislation doesn't provide for an alternative timeframe (as per question b) nor was the agency granted an extension (as per question c) could the department provide:
 - i. Explanation for why the Annual Report was tabled outside the timeframe set by DPM&C despite there being no provision alternative timeframe set out in the agency's legislation nor there being any formal extension granted.

Details of any other arrangement in place for the tabling of the agency's Annual Report.

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Answer:

Department of Finance and Administration (Finance)

Australian Electoral Commission (AEC)

Commonwealth Grants Commission (CGC)

ComSuper

1.

Agency	Date of Tabling
Finance	31 October 2006
AEC	10 October 2006
CGC	18 October 2006
ComSuper	18 October 2006

2. Not applicable.

Future Fund Management Agency (FFMA)

1. The 2005-06 Annual Report for the FFMA was provided to the Tabling Office on 1 November 2006, tabled in the House of Representatives on 2 November 2006 and in the Senate on 7 November 2006.

2.

- a. See (1) above.
- b. No.
- c. No.
- d. The 2005-06 Annual Report for the FFMA and the Future Fund Board of Guardians was tabled after the due date of 31 October 2006 due to our internal editing processes taking longer than expected. These delays can be attributed to the inaugural nature of the report, the embryonic nature of the Agency and the need to present an Annual Report in accordance with the Annual Report Guidelines that reflected the unique structure of the Future Fund.

Public Sector Superannuation Scheme Board (PSS Board)

1. 12 December 2006.

2.

- a. 12 December 2006.
- b.
 - i. In accordance with section 28(1) of the *Superannuation Act 1990* (the Act), the Annual Report must be prepared as soon as practicable after the end of each financial year. In accordance with section 28(4) of the Act where the Board does not finish a report within six months of the end of financial year it must provide an interim report.
 - ii. Completion of the Annual Report for 2005-06 was delayed as a result of delays in preparation of the financial statements.

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- c. Australian Reward Investment Alliance (ARIA) as successor to the PSS Board was granted an extension to 31 December 2006 in accordance with section 34C(5) of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*.
 - i. 31 December 2006.
 - ii. Delays in the preparation of financial statements.
 - iii. 30 October 2006.
 - iv. A copy is attached.
- d. Not applicable.

Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme Board (CSS Board)

- 1. 12 December 2006.
- 2.
 - a. 12 December 2006.
 - b.
 - i. In accordance with section 161(1) of the *Superannuation Act 1976* (the Act), the Annual Report must be prepared as soon as practicable after the end of each financial year. In accordance with section 161(4) of the Act where the Board does not finish a report within six months of the end of financial year it must provide an interim report.
 - ii. Completion of the Annual Report for 2005-06 was delayed as a result of delays in preparation of the financial statements.
 - c. ARIA as successor to the CSS Board was granted an extension to 31 December 2006 in accordance with section 34C(5) of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*.
 - i. 31 December 2006.
 - ii. Delays in the preparation of financial statements.
 - iii. 30 October 2006.
 - iv. A copy is attached.
 - d. Not applicable.