

**Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration**

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing – October 2009

Department of Finance and Deregulation

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

**Outcome 2, Program 1**

**Topic: Disposal of Surplus Public Land (status of recent disposals)**

**Question reference number: F11 (a-d)**

**Type of Question: Written**

**Date sent by the committee for the return of answer: 4 December 2009**

**Number of Pages: 1**

**Senator Payne asked:**

- a) In June 2009, in response to a question on notice (No F62) the Committee was told that several surplus sites around the country had been released for sale onto the market. This included several CSIRO sites in Brisbane and Defence sites in Melbourne and the Northern Territory. How many new housing lots have been created as a consequence of these land sales?
- b) It is noted that the Defence sites are awaiting rezoning for future residential uses. Is there any timeframe for when this will be resolved?
- c) The Defence site at Schofields in Western Sydney was due to be rescheduled for disposal. It is understood that there was a need for a subdivision of part of the site that is to be sold to the NSW site for railway infrastructure. Has there been any progress on this sale?
- d) The West Wattle Grove site at Holsworthy was being reviewed by the Defence Department in terms of its logistics requirements and whether residential housing is the most appropriate use of the site. Has there been any progress on this review?

**Answer:**

(a) No new housing lots have been created as negotiations for the sale of the land is in progress. It will be the responsibility of the owners to determine how many housing lots are created once the sale is finalised.

(b) No. Once the sale process is finalised, the owners are responsible for submitting a rezoning application.

(c) Yes. The Commonwealth has agreed to the sale of the land required to support the rail infrastructure and the contract of sale is in the final stages of drafting.

(d) The logistics study is continuing and is expected to finish in 2010.