

Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department of Finance and Deregulation

Supplementary Estimates Hearing – October 2010

Outcome 1, Program 1.1

Topic: Efficiency Dividend

Question reference number: F39

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 3 December 2010

Number of Pages: 1

Senator Bernardi asked:

- a) Has your portfolio started implementing the Government's savings election commitment of maintaining the annual efficiency dividend on departmental expenses at 1.25 per cent? If not, why not? If yes, give details.
- b) Will any agencies in your portfolio be seeking an exemption to implementing the efficiency dividend?
- c) How do you think you will implement it? Give examples of the types of cuts you will make (i.e. no more pot plants in departmental buildings).
- d) Will there be cuts to staff? If yes, give details.

Answer:

a), b), c) & d)

Refer to Attachment A.

FINANCE AND DEREGULATION PORTFOLIO – IMPLEMENTING THE EFFICIENCY DIVIDEND

Agency	a)	b)	c)	d)
Department of Finance and Deregulation (Finance)	No. This commitment applies from 2011-12 onwards.	No.	Finance will consider its internal budget for 2011-12 in the first quarter of 2011. The impact of this commitment will be taken into account as part of the overall internal budgeting process.	No cuts to staff are anticipated. The Government's commitment included a policy undertaking that there would be no forced redundancies.
Australian Electoral Commission (AEC)	No. Refer to part c.	No.	Efficiencies will be achieved by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Making general cuts to operating budgets across the AEC. - Focussing activity on priority work such as implementing the recommendations of the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters; - Directing activity to most value for money options such as use of mail outs to maintain the Electoral Roll. 	No cuts to staff are anticipated.
ComSuper	ComSuper is a cost recovery agency and as such, is not directly impacted by the efficiency dividend.	N/A	N/A	N/A
Future Fund Management Agency (FFMA)	The FFMA's investment and operating costs are met from the assets of the fund, not via appropriations and reflect the continued work to establish the organisation and deploy capital in line with the investment strategy.	N/A	N/A	N/A