

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Supplementary Budget Estimates 18-21 October 2010

Question: PM53

Asked By: Senator Humphries

Topic: Reduction to the Australia Council

Type of Question: FPA 4, 19 October

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Senator HUMPHRIES-Over a one-year period, what would that entail in terms of a reduction in the allocation to the Australia Council?

...

Ms Bean-Sorry. There is supplementation for part of the efficiency dividend. So the efficiency dividend applies to the entire appropriation. But with one part of it-the money that is targeted for the major performing arts company-the council is supplemented for the money that would be lost through the efficiency dividend. So that is maintained. Yes, it is that ultimately the efficiency dividend does not apply to that component. It is around 57 per cent or 58 per cent of their appropriation. I do not have the exact number of how much they are scheduled to pay in the efficiency dividend or what it would amount to. I would have to take that on notice.

Answer:

The efficiency dividend is currently applied to the Australia Council's base appropriation. Supplementation has been received for the 28 major performing arts organisations since 2006 in order to offset the impact of the efficiency dividend for those organisations. The net impact of the efficiency dividend is approximately \$800,000 over a one-year period.