

**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: PM54**

**Asked By: Senator Humphries**

**Topic: Australia Council - Efficiency Dividend**

**Type of Question: FPA 5, 19 October**

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

**Number of pages: 1**

**Senator HUMPHRIES-But the Australia Council is essentially a funding body. Most of what it receives it gives out in grants, does it not?**

**Mr Eccles-Yes.**

**Senator HUMPHRIES-There is only so much efficiency you can make in the administrative arm to reach that target. There is no doubt, is there, that the efficiency dividend cut will affect the amounts going to arts organisations and individuals?**

**Mr Eccles-Yes.**

**Senator HUMPHRIES-Yes. Well, you might like to take on notice a question about the extent it does that. Can you tell me whether my maths is wrong? Perhaps there is less of a cut in store for the arts?**

**Mr Eccles-Yes. We will get the precise maths.**

**Answer:**

The annual net impact of the efficiency dividend on the Australia Council's appropriation is approximately \$800,000. There is supplementation provided to ensure the 28 major performing arts organisations are not impacted by the efficiency dividend. The budget allocation for artists' grants has remained unchanged for 2010-11.