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: PM76

Asked By: Senator Payne

Topic: National Affordable Housing Agreement: Baseline performance report for 2008-09 - COAG Reform Council

Type of Question: Written

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

With regard to the National Affordable Housing Agreement: Baseline performance report for 2008-09:

a) What if any, changes to the outputs in the National Affordable Housing Agreement are being made to ensure that they are precise and measurable, as per Recommendation 6 of the report?

b) What has been done to address the failure of governments to develop indicators to measure the outcome of the National Affordable Housing Agreement that 'People have access to housing through an efficient and responsive housing market' as per Recommendation 6 of the report.

c) Why hasn't COAG endorsed the interim indicator suggested by the National Housing Supply Council for reporting on the outcome that 'People have access to housing through an efficient and responsive housing market', as per Recommendation 6 of the report?

Answer:

a) There is no change proposed for the outputs. However, the method of measuring five (outputs (a) to (e)) of the seven outputs (that is, how the indicator is calculated and the data used) has been developed and endorsed by the Housing and Homelessness Policy Research Working Group. The final draft of the methodology has been provided to the Steering Committee for the

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Review of Government Service Provision, which under the Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations has overall responsibility for collating the necessary performance data for National Agreements. The remaining two outputs (outputs (f) and (g)) will be further reviewed during 2010-11.

- b) A specification for the interim performance indicator used in the baseline report on the National Affordable Housing Agreement to measure the outcome that 'People have access to housing through an efficient and responsive housing market' was endorsed in July 2010 by the Housing and Homelessness Policy Research Working Group. The final draft specification has been provided to the Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision, which under the Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations has overall responsibility for collating the necessary performance data for National Agreements.
- c) The interim indicator for reporting on the outcome that 'People have access to housing through an efficient and responsive housing market' does not require COAG endorsement. A final draft interim indicator has been provided to the Steering Committee for the Review on Government Service Provision, which under the Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations has overall responsibility for collating the necessary performance data for National Agreements.