

Senate Finance and Public Administration Standing Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES HEARINGS

PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET PORTFOLIO

Department/Agency: Department of Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government

Outcome: 1

Topic: Departmental Budget

Senator: MACDONALD

Question reference number: 9

Type of question: Hansard F&PA 34, Tuesday 19 October 2010

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

Senator MACDONALD: Senator IAN MACDONALD—What budget have you been allocated for the balance of the financial year as an overall department?

Ms Beauchamp—I am sorry, Senator, I will have to take the detail of that on notice and provide further detail, as we are still going through the transfer of those departmental resources. At the moment there has been an initial transfer of around \$25 million so we can operate as a department, so we can enter into contracts and so we can take people on and do the things that you can do legally. But I will be in negotiations with the secretary of Attorney-General's, and Infrastructure and Transport to finalise those resources coming across.

Senator IAN MACDONALD—So you do not have an overall budget for the next nine months at this stage?

Ms Beauchamp—I have a pretty good indication of what the annual budget is.

Senator IAN MACDONALD—What is that?

Ms Beauchamp—Around \$25 million. What I need to find out is how much of that has been expended before I appoint any other—

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Answer:

As at 19 October 2010, the funding transferred to the Department for the balance of the financial year is \$28.7 million.