

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: Caring for our Country

Senator: MACDONALD

Question reference number: 27a

Type of question: Hansard F&PA page 62, Tuesday 19 October 2010

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

Senator IAN MACDONALD—Can I leave out the polemic at the end and say: is it something that would concern the office or the minister taking on Mr Gray's role of advocacy for Northern Australia to find that a mere 12 per cent of the total funds for Caring for our Country has gone to Northern Australia, which constitutes half of the continent, and the balance has gone to the southern part of Australia?

Senator Sherry—You are asking the officers for a policy political observation in view of the allocation of funds based on a minister's decision. I will take it on notice for the minister.

Senator IAN MACDONALD—Okay. Is it legitimate to ask the office if it has some concerns with that sort of approach?

Senator Sherry—I take it on notice.

Number of pages: 1

Answer:

The Caring for our Country program is administered jointly by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry and the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities.

Information about the program and the priorities for investment in the Business Plan 2010-11 is available on the Australian Government Website <http://www.nrm.gov.au/>.

