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: Spatial accounting model – Department of Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government's involvement in/with the Department of Finance and Deregulation

Senator: MACDONALD

Question reference number: 37

Type of question: Written, Tuesday 19 October 2010

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

a) Does the Department already collect information on funding on a regional basis? If so, how is this funding classified? Is funding identified as "inner regional", "outer regional", etc?

b) Could the Department provide the Committee with any information it has on where (on a geographical classification basis), the following programs have allocated funds?

Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program

Better Regions

Jobs Fund – bike paths

Jobs Fund – Infrastructure Employment Projects

Number of pages: 1 Answer:

- a) The Department does not collect information on funding on a regional basis other than for the Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) to local government. Details on FAGs are available in the 2007-08 Local Government National Report located at http://www.regional.gov.au/local/assistance.
- b) Information on the location of grants is published on the Department's website consistent with the requirements of the Commonwealth Grant Guidelines. This outlines the location of individual grants but is not analysed on a geographical classification basis.

The grants information is at http://www.infrastructure.gov.au/department/grants/index for projects approved prior to 1 October 2010 under the former Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government. Grants approved post 1 October 2010 will continue to be reported on this website in addition to the Department of Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government website http://www.regional.gov.au.