

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: Local Government projects

Senator: MacDonald

Question reference number: 88

Type of question: Written, Tuesday 19 October 2010

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

How does the Department assess the merits of local government infrastructure projects? What accountability mechanisms are in place to monitor the effective utilisation of Commonwealth funds?

Number of pages: 1

Answer:

For how the Department assesses the merits of local government infrastructure projects, please see Question on Notice 20c.

Accountability mechanisms are identified in the publicly available guidelines and are supported by performance and financial monitoring frameworks. These frameworks are specified in funding agreements and include: payment against specific milestones where appropriate; frequent progress reports; compliance and monitoring visits; and at the conclusion of the project, acquittal of funds by council through an independent audit process and a final report.