

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2011-2012

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of Finance and Deregulation
Outcome/Program: General
Topic: Efficiency Dividend

Senator: Ryan

Question reference number: F63

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 2 December 2011

Number of pages: 1

Question:

- a) How has the efficiency dividend been implemented?
- b) Please list where and what spending has been reduced to meet the efficiency dividend.

Answer:

- a) and b) Finance has begun the process to identify savings in the following areas:
- Reductions in the use of consultants and contractors;
 - Replacing domestic and international travel with the use of the Government's virtual meeting (telepresence) facilities;
 - Reducing legal expenses;
 - Reductions in agency spend on hospitality and entertainment;
 - Minimising media and advertising expenditure;
 - Reductions in printing and publications expenditure; and
 - More efficient and consistent delivery of training.

The Government's strong expectation is that agencies will continue to meet the efficiency dividend without resorting to forced redundancies, or reduced services to regional Australia.

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Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department/Agency: Australian Electoral Commission

Outcome/Program: General

Topic: Efficiency Dividend

Senator: Ryan

Question reference number: F63

Type of question: Written

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Question:

- a) How has efficiency dividend been implemented?
- b) Please list where and what spending has been reduced to meet the efficiency dividend.

Answer:

- a) The efficiency dividend was not implemented as the AEC incurred an operating deficit of \$16.563 million in 2010-11. The deficit is the result of election year funding being insufficient to cover the election and the operating baseline of the AEC.
- b) N/A.

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Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department/Agency: ComSuper
Outcome/Program: General
Topic: Efficiency Dividend

Senator: Ryan

Question reference number: F63

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 2 December 2011

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Question:

- a) How has the efficiency dividend been implemented?
- b) Please list where and what spending has been reduced to meet the efficiency dividend.

Answer:

- a) ComSuper is now a full cost recovery agency and the efficiency dividend has been incorporated into the fee structure, which was negotiated in early 2011.
- b) ComSuper is in the process of implementing structural changes, which were initially announced by the Government in the Portfolio Additional Estimates 2009-10. The maintenance of the 1.5 per cent efficiency dividend has been incorporated into these changes across the organisation. Examples of how these efficiencies are being made include merging Comsuper's customer information centres, a consolidation of committees and a more streamlined management structure.

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Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department/Agency: Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation

Outcome/Program:

Topic: Efficiency dividend

Senator: Ryan

Question reference number: F63

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 2 December 2011

Number of pages: 1

Question:

How has the efficiency dividend been implemented?

Please list where and what spending has been reduced to meet the efficiency dividend.

Answer:

N/A.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
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Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department/Agency: Future Fund Management Agency

Outcome/Program: General

Topic: Efficiency Dividend

Senator: Ryan

Question reference number: F63

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 2 December 2011

Number of pages: 1

Question:

- a) How has the efficiency dividend been implemented?
- b) Please list where and what spending has been reduced to meet the efficiency dividend.

Answer:

- a) The efficiency dividend is not applied to the Future Fund Management Agency, as it is not funded through Appropriations.
- b) Not applicable.