

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: 1/1.1

Topic: OBPR breaches and non-compliance

Senator: Cormann

Question reference number: F18

Type of question: Hansard, F&PA Committee, page 102, 19 October 2011

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

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator CORMANN: Have you had any feedback from the Office of Best Practice Regulation?

Mr Murphy: Yes. We were found to be in breach of the requirements.

Senator CORMANN: You were found to be in breach of the requirements.

Mr Murphy: Yes.

Senator CORMANN: That was non-compliance with best practice regulation requirements.

Mr Murphy: Yes.

Senator CORMANN: The Office of Best Practice Regulation has assessed the proposal as being non-compliant with the Australian government's best practice regulation requirements. How often—

Senator Sherry: That is not the original, Senator, but rather the amendments that were announced subsequent to it. I point out that it is not unusual to have amendments as a result of industry consultation after an original bill has been drafted and issued for public consultation.

Senator CORMANN: How often has the Office of Best Practice Regulation advised departments across government that they have breached best practice regulations?

Senator Sherry: That is not an issue for Treasury. I can put my deregulation hat on to say that is an issue for the Department of Finance and Deregulation. We can certainly take on notice; technically we can't, but, with my other hat on, I can ensure that we can put that to the Office of Best Practice Regulation, which is in the Department of Finance and Deregulation.

Answer:

The Office of Best Practice Regulation publishes an annual Best Practice Regulation Report, which lists the non-compliant RISs (and the responsible agency) for that year. As of 1 July 2010, the OBPR also hosts a website which identifies each proposal (and the responsible agency) which is non-compliant with the RIS requirements.