

**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:** 4/2.1

**Topic:** Sustainability Requirements for the Major Office Machines Tender

**Senator:** Rhiannon

**Question reference number:** F22

**Type of question:** Hansard, F&PA Committee, page 61, 18 October 2011

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

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question**

Were there any other sustainability requirements for those tendering for this contract?

**Answer:**

As indicated during the Senate Estimates Committee hearing on 18 October 2011, sustainability requirements are one of the elements taken into account in the establishment of whole of government contracts. The requirements depend on the nature of the supply.

The Request for Tender (RFT) for the coordinated procurement of Stationery and Office Supplies was released on AusTender on 17 June 2011 and closed on 20 July 2011 (Ref: RFT FIN11/FMG010). Tenders received in response to the RFT are currently being evaluated.

Clause 63 of the Request for Tender outlined Finance's commitment to the sustainable use of resources and, specifically, the requirement for Tenderer's to comply with the Australian Government ICT Sustainability Plan 2010 – 2015, released by the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities, and the mandatory environmental standards applicable to the provision of deliverables to the Commonwealth.

In addition to compliance with the aforementioned policy, tenderers were requested to provide a product offering against each item listed in the Basket of Goods for each classification being premium, house, environmental and budget. Offerings against the environmental classification were required to be products that met the functional specifications, be of good quality, minimised unnecessary packaging and had justifiable environmental credentials. Tenderers were required to provide a description of how their product offering was sourced and selected.

Tenderers were also required to provide detail with regard to their organisation's environmental policies and practices, for example, has their organisation undertaken any

initiatives to reduce its environmental impact and detail their programs or initiatives relating to waste minimisation strategies.