

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government

Supplementary Budget Estimates 17-20 October 2011

Question: 57

Topic: Ongoing Funding for the Policy Centre

Asked By: Senator JOYCE

Type of Question: Written

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

Number of pages: 1

- a) Is funding for the policy centre ongoing, or is the \$8 million allocated in 2011-12 a one-off?
- b) Will the centre be completely self-funding?
- c) If self-funding, can you give a guarantee that the centre will be independent and will it provide independent advice to government?

Answer:

In 2011-12, \$8 million has been committed for the establishment of the Policy Centre. On 21 September 2011, the Regional Development Policy Centre was registered under the *Corporations Act 2001* as a public company limited by guarantee and independent of Government. The Policy Centre will provide an additional source of expert advice on regional policy matters for the Parliament and the wider community.