

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012-2013

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of Finance and Deregulation

Outcome/Program: 2/2.3

Topic: Natural Disaster Relief & Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA)

Senator: Xenophon

Question reference number: F21

Type of question: Hansard, F&PA Committee, page 41, 16 October 2012

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 30 November 2012

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator XENOPHON: So are you aware of whether state and territory governments actually have an asset register?

Mr Tune: No, I am not aware of that. My people might be, but I am not. I will take that on notice, if that is okay?

Senator XENOPHON: Sure, of course. Has the department issued a data template so that the states and territories can supply consistent data in the future which can be appropriately analysed by the department?

Mr Tune: Once again, I will have to take that on notice.

Answer:

As part of their response to the *Review of the Insurance Arrangements of State and Territory Governments under the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements Determination 2011- Phase 2 Report* (the report), all state and territory (States) governments submitted information on their public assets, including asset descriptions and values. No State provided a consolidated asset register—asset information was provided separately by state and local governments.

Appendix C of the report provides an updated Guide to Submission Requirements which includes a Best Practice Submission Template. This template is designed to ensure standardisation of the presentation of asset and risk data by States in future submissions. The report recommends (Recommendation 1) that the Commonwealth considers revising the NDRRA Determination to include compliance with the updated Finance Guidelines as a condition of Commonwealth assistance. Whether the recommendations in the report will be implemented is a decision for the Attorney-General in accordance with Guideline 5/2011 of the NDRRA Determination 2011.