

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
FAMILY COURT/FEDERAL CIRCUIT COURT

Question No. 14

Senator Brandis asked the following question at the hearing on 29 May 2013:

Senator BRANDIS: Thank you. Where is the effect of that change in the accounting treatment due to the transparency ushered in by Operation Sunlight explained in the notes to the accounts?

Mr Harriott: In terms of budget, the notes to the accounts are quite abbreviated. We are not required to provide the equivalent level of notes that you would do in the annual financial statements.

Senator BRANDIS: Was that another reform ushered in by Operation Sunlight?

Mr Harriott: They are different documents. If you look at the annual report and the complete financial statements, you will see those note disclosures fully and transparently. I do not have them with me at the moment, but I am quite happy to take that on notice.

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

Note 27 in the FCoA Financial Statements as published in the 2011-12 Annual Report per the below link provides the explanatory note which answers the Senator's question.

http://www.familycourt.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/FCOA/home/about/publications/annual/FCOA_ar_11-12

Extract from part 7 Financial Statements

Family Court of Australia

Note 27 Net Cash Appropriation Arrangements

	2012	2011
	\$'000	\$'000
Total comprehensive (loss) before unfunded depreciation /amortisation expenses (previously funded as revenue appropriations)1.	(4,301)	(1,268)
Plus: depreciation/amortisation expenses previously funded as revenue Appropriation.	<u>(7,353)</u>	<u>(6,915)</u>
Total comprehensive (loss) - as per the Statement of Comprehensive Income	<u>(11,654)</u>	<u>(8,183)</u>

1. From 2010-11, the Government introduced net cash appropriation arrangements, where revenue Appropriations for depreciation/amortisation expenses ceased. The Court now receives funding for minor asset replacement (i.e. assets worth \$10 million or less) in its Departmental Capital Budget (DCB). DCBs are disclosed separately in the Portfolio Budget Statements (PBS) and Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements (PAES).