

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Group Corporate

Question No. 16

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 18 November 2013:

Senator LUDWIG: As part of the coalition's promises, a number of agencies would be exempt from the efficiency dividend. If I am right about that, is it being applied in respect of ... [the Federal Circuit] court—that is, that it will not be required to provide the efficiency dividend?

Senator Brandis: I will take that question on notice.

Senator LUDWIG: Which part is unclear? Is it coalition policy to exempt—which was submitted to the PBO?

Senator Brandis: I will take that question on notice. I want to consult a document.

Senator LUDWIG: Thank you.

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

The efficiency dividend being referred to is an election commitment which has not yet been introduced as policy by the Government. The Parliamentary Budget Office post-election report states that, consistent with advice provided by the Coalition, its costing for the proposal to increase the efficiency dividend by 0.25 per cent assumes that a number of agencies will be exempt from the proposed increase in the efficiency dividend. This includes the Federal Circuit Court.