

MINISTER REPRESENTING THE MINISTER FOR
FINANCE AND DEREGULATION

SENATE

QUESTION NO 129

Senator the Hon Nick Minchin asked the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Deregulation, upon notice on 12 February 2008, with reference to Senator Minchin's letter to the Minister representing the Prime Minister, dated 1 February 2008, can the following information be provided prior to each round of Estimates and for Additional Estimates by 12 February 2008?

Questions:

- (1) (a) What appointments have been made by the Government (through Executive Council, Cabinet and Ministers) to statutory authorities, executive agencies and advisory boards within the Minister's portfolio; and

(b) for each appointment, what are the respective appointee's credentials?
- (2) How many vacancies remain to be filled by Ministerial (including Cabinet and Executive Council) appointments?
- (3) What grants have been approved by the Minister from within the Minister's Portfolio?
- (4) What requests have been submitted to the Department of Finance and Deregulation to move funds within the Minister's portfolio?

Answers:

- (1 a-b) See response to CORP 02
- (2) See response to CORP 03
- (3) See response to CORP 04
- (4) See response to CORP 05 as follows:

In year requests by Ministers to move funds between outcomes in their portfolios are delegated to the Minister for Finance and Deregulation for approval. The impact of any change is reflected in revised estimates in the relevant appropriation bills; and the Portfolio Budget Statements (PBS) or Additional Estimates Statements (PAES) which include details of the purposes of the appropriation

Where these movements are the result of changes to outcome structures – for example, as a result of Machinery of Government changes – agencies are required to highlight the changes made to outcome structures in their PBS or PAES and provide a comparison between the new and old structures.

Movements of administered funds between years are explained in Portfolio Budget Statements.

The honourable Senator is welcome to attend Estimates hearings in future and request the information sought in this Question on Notice.