

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2010-11 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: Cross

Question No: 010

Topic: Efficiency Dividend

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Fifield asked:

Has FaHCSIA started implementing the Government's savings election commitment of a maintaining the annual efficiency dividend on departmental expenses at 1.25 per cent? If not, why not? If yes, give details

Answer:

The Department manages the efficiency dividend, including any changes to the rate, through early allocation of internal budgets, to Groups and States to ensure that business planning is linked to available resources, and two budget reviews conducted during the financial year.

This allocation of budgets encompasses:

- the efficiency dividend
- lapsing or terminating measures
- new policy proposals
- adjustments to current budget measures
- wage cost index supplementation
- workloads/priorities across the Department.