Appropriation

Glossary

Accrual accounting System of accounting where items are brought to

account and included in the financial statements as they are earned or incurred, rather than as

they are received or paid.

Accumulated depreciation The aggregate depreciation recorded for a

particular depreciating asset.

Additional estimates Where amounts appropriated at Budget time are

insufficient, Parliament may appropriate more funds to portfolios through the Additional (Parliamentary Departments) Appropriation

Acts.

Annual appropriation Appropriation Bills are introduced into

Parliament in May and comprise the Budget for the financial year beginning 1 July. Further Bills are introduced later in the financial year as part of the additional estimates. Parliamentary

departments have their own appropriations.

An authorisation by Parliament to spend moneys from the Consolidated Revenue Fund

for a particular purpose.

Capital expenditure Expenditure by an agency on capital projects, for

example purchasing a building.

Consolidated Revenue Fund Section 81 of the Constitution stipulates that all

revenue raised or money received by the Commonwealth forms the one consolidated revenue fund (CRF). The CRF is not a bank account. The Official Public Account reflects

most of the operations of the CRF.

Departmental items

Assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses that are controlled by the agency in providing its outputs. Departmental items would generally include computers, plant and equipment assets used by agencies in providing goods and services and most employee expenses, supplier costs and other administrative expenses incurred.

Depreciation

Apportionment of an asset's capital value as an expense over its estimated useful life to take account of normal usage, obsolescence, or the passage of time.

Expense

Total value of all of the resources consumed in producing goods and services or the loss of future economic benefits in the form of reductions in assets or increases in liabilities of an entity.

Equity or net assets

Residual interest in the assets of an entity after deduction of its liabilities.

Measure

A new policy or savings decision of the Government with financial impacts.

Operating result

Equals revenue less expense.

Outcome

An outcome is the intended result, consequence or impact of government actions on the Australian community.

PGPA Act

Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013.

Program

Activity that delivers benefits, services or transfer payment to individuals, industry and/or the community as a whole, with the aim of achieving the intended result specified in an outcome statement.

Revenue

Total value of resources earned or received to cover the production of goods and services.

Department of the Senate Budget Statements

Special appropriations

An amount of money appropriated by a particular Act of Parliament for a specific purpose and number of years. For special appropriations the authority to withdraw funds from the Consolidated Revenue Fund does not generally cease at the end of the financial year.

Standing appropriations are a sub-category consisting of ongoing special appropriations — the amount appropriated will depend on circumstances specified in the legislation.