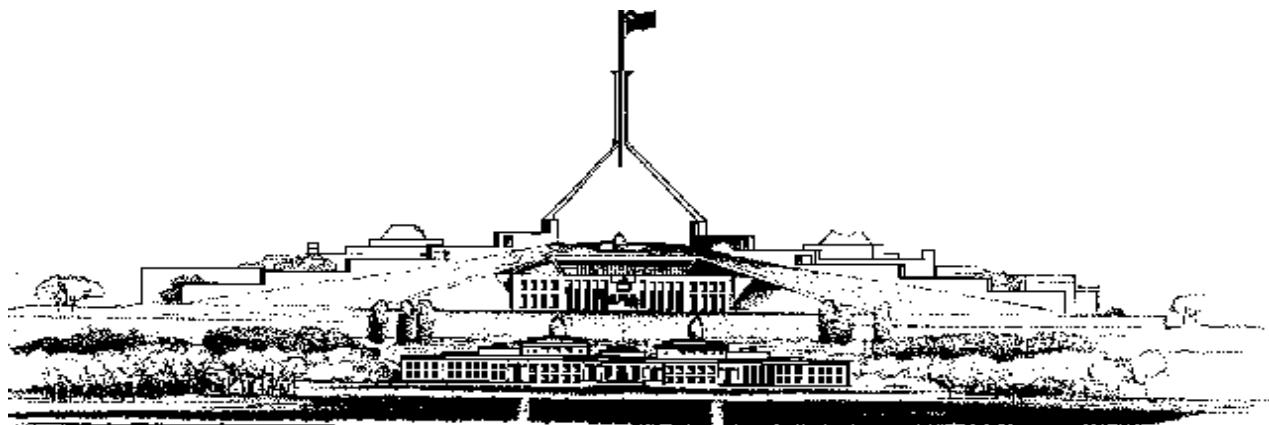




COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES



SENATE

Official Hansard

**No. 2, 2003
TUESDAY, 4 MARCH 2003**

FORTIETH PARLIAMENT
FIRST SESSION—FOURTH PERIOD

BY AUTHORITY OF THE SENATE

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SITTING DAYS—2003

Month	Date
February	4, 5, 6
March	3, 4, 5, 6, 18, 19, 20, 24, 25, 26, 27
May	13, 14, 15
June	16, 17, 18, 19, 23, 24, 25, 26
August	11, 12, 13, 14, 18, 19, 20, 21
September	8, 9, 10, 11, 15, 16, 17, 18
October	7, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15, 16, 27, 28, 29, 30
November	3, 4, 24, 25, 26, 27
December	1, 2, 3, 4

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<i>PERTH</i>	585 AM
<i>HOBART</i>	729 AM
<i>DARWIN</i>	102.5 FM

SENATE CONTENTS

TUESDAY, 4 MARCH

Questions Without Notice—	
National Security: Information Kits	8935
Economy: Fiscal Policy	8936
Superannuation: Children's Accounts.....	8937
Small Business: Growth	8938
Banking: Credit Card Schemes.....	8939
Medicare: Bulk-Billing.....	8940
Medicare: Bulk-Billing.....	8940
Information Technology: Internet Content	8942
Distinguished Visitors.....	8943
Questions Without Notice—	
Medicare: Bulk-Billing.....	8943
Social Welfare: China.....	8944
Business: Executive Remuneration	8945
Iraq	8946
Questions Without Notice: Additional Answers—	
Taxation: Goods and Services	8947
Questions Without Notice: Take Note of Answers—	
Medicare: Bulk-Billing.....	8948
Medicare: Bulk-Billing.....	8953
Notices—	
Presentation	8953
Withdrawal	8955
Presentation	8955
Postponement	8956
Withdrawal	8956
Committees—	
Community Affairs References Committee—Reference	8956
Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts	
References Committee—Extension of Time	8957
Fuel: Ethanol.....	8957
Committees—	
Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services—Meeting.....	8958
Superannuation Committee—Meeting	8958
Economics Legislation Committee—Meeting	8958
Immigration: Detention Centres	8958
Human Rights: China and Tibet.....	8958
Budget—	
Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—Additional	
Information.....	8958
Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee—Additional	
Information.....	8958
Assent	8959
Documents—	
National Security: Information Kits	8959
National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits—Budget Measures)	
Bill 2002 [No. 2]—	
Second Reading	8960
Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 6) 2002—	
Second Reading	8982
Third Reading.....	8989

SENATE CONTENTS—*continued*

Migration Legislation Amendment (Contributory Parents Migration Scheme) Bill 2002	8989
Migration (Visa Application) Charge Amendment Bill 2002— Second Reading	8989
Documents— Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.....	8992
International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-Fouling Systems on Ships	8993
Tasmanian Regional Forest Agreement..... Consideration.....	8993 8994
Adjournment— Women: Queensland Liberal Party.....	8994
Exercise of Power.....	8998
HMAS <i>Yarra</i> Association.....	9000
National Security: Information Kits	9003
Human Rights: Vietnam	9005
Environment: Murray River	9007
Workplace Relations: Industrial Action.....	9009
Committees— Native Title and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Fund Committee—Meeting	9010
Adjournment— China: Australian Labor Party Delegation	9010
China: Australian Labor Party Delegation	9015
Workplace Relations: Paid Maternity Leave	9019
Documents— Tabling.....	9021
Tabling.....	9022
Questions on Notice— Aviation: BAe 146 Aircraft—(Question No. 462)	9023
Trade: Live Animal Exports—(Question No. 495)	9024
Defence: Air 5077 Project—(Question No. 624)	9025
Bankruptcy Reform Consultative Forum—(Question No. 680).....	9026
Quarantine: Veterinary Scholarships—(Question No. 688)	9028
Trade: Live Animal Exports—(Question No. 723)	9029
Agriculture: Independent Reference Group—(Question No. 726).....	9031
Defence: Superannuation—(Question No. 760).....	9032
Defence: Gulf War Syndrome—(Question No. 771).....	9033
Civil Aviation Safety Authority: Code of Conduct—(Question No. 780).....	9034
Civil Aviation Safety Authority: Code of Conduct—(Question No. 781).....	9035
Civil Aviation Safety Authority: Code of Conduct—(Question No. 782).....	9035
Australian Defence Force: Personnel—(Question No. 835)	9035
Australian Defence Force: Enlistment Targets—(Question No. 837)	9045
Defence: Recruitment—(Question No. 841)	9047
Defence: Health Services—(Question No. 842).....	9048
Defence: Hospitals—(Question No. 843).....	9050
Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service: Staff Recruitment— (Question No. 872)	9051
Defence: Bad and Doubtful Debts—(Question No. 875)	9052
Defence: Funding—(Question No. 876)	9052

SENATE CONTENTS—*continued*

Defence: Computers—(Question No. 877)	9053
Environment: Great Artesian Basin—(Question No. 882).....	9054
Agriculture - Advancing Australia Communication Program—(Question No. 897).....	9055
Veterinary Health: Memoranda of Understanding—(Question No. 911).....	9055
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry: Visit to Japan, Korea and the Philippines—(Question No. 914).....	9056
Fisheries: Illegal Fishing—(Question No. 925)	9057
Trade: Korea—(Question No. 931)	9058
Agriculture—Advancing Australia: Projects—(Question No. 932).....	9058
Quarantine: Campaign—(Question No. 941)	9059
Defence: Budget—(Question No. 951)	9060
Defence: Vehicles—(Question No. 960)	9060
Defence: Capital Equipment Projects—(Question No. 963).....	9063
Defence Science and Technology Organisation—(Question No. 965).....	9069
Defence: Project SEA 1429—(Question No. 974)	9070
Agriculture: Farm Help Program—(Question No. 979)	9072
Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry: Financial Statements—(Question No. 981).....	9073
Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry: Financial Statements—(Question No. 982).....	9075
Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry: Customer Service Line—(Question No. 983).....	9076
Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service—(Question No. 984).....	9077
Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry: Breach of Constitution—(Question No. 985).....	9078
Drought—(Question No. 988)	9078
Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry: Secretary—(Question No. 989)	9079
Forestry: Logging—(Question No. 993)	9080
Aviation: Ansett Australia—(Question No. 999)	9080
Trade: Beef Sales to Japan—(Question No. 1006).....	9081
Trade: Beef Sales to Japan—(Question No. 1007).....	9082
South Australia: National Radioactive Waste Repository—(Question No. 1013).....	9083
Portfolio Agencies: Contracts—(Question No. 1018).....	9084
Family and Community Services: Contracts—(Question No. 1020)	9088
Defence: Air Traffic Controllers—(Question No. 1024).....	9157
Foreign Affairs: Burma—(Question No. 1030).....	9157
Medicare: Cards—(Question No. 1032).....	9157
Japan: Dolphin Deaths—(Question No. 1037)	9158
Employment: Working Holiday-Makers—(Question No. 1038).....	9158
Defence: Procurement Review—(Question No. 1040)	9159
Defence: Frigates—(Question No. 1041)	9160
Veterans' Affairs: Services—(Question No. 1043).....	9161
Industry, Tourism and Resources: Roam Consulting—(Question No. 1058).....	9165
Science: Cooperative Research Centres—(Question No. 1060)	9165
Forestry: Plantations—(Question No. 1070)	9166
Forestry: Plantations—(Question No. 1071)	9167
Forestry: Standards—(Question No. 1073)	9168
Science: Chief Scientist—(Question No. 1074)	9169

SENATE CONTENTS—*continued*

Science: Chief Scientist—(Question No. 1075)	9178
Science: Chief Scientist—(Question No. 1076)	9182
Indonesia: Mining—(Question No. 1078).....	9182
Environment: Greenhouse Gas Emissions—(Question No. 1080).....	9183
Industry, Tourism and Resources: Roam Consulting—(Question No. 1081).....	9184
Health: Nutrition Labelling—(Question No. 1086).....	9184
Health and Ageing: Aged Care in Rural and Remote Communities— (Question No. 1087).....	9186
Gippsland Electorate: Program Funding—(Question No. 1090).....	9186
Gippsland Electorate: Program Funding—(Question No. 1097).....	9187
Gippsland Electorate: Program Funding—(Question Nos 1105 and 1117)...	9195
Gippsland Electorate: Programs and Grants—(Question No. 1106)	9196
Health: Magnetic Resonance Imaging—(Question No. 1141)	9198

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

The PRESIDENT (Senator the Hon. Paul Calvert) took the chair at 2 p.m., and read prayers.

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

National Security: Information Kits

Senator MACKAY (2.01 p.m.)—My question is addressed to Senator Ellison, the Minister for Justice and Customs and the Minister representing the Attorney-General. I refer to a statement by the Attorney-General last night that he had ordered Australia Post to destroy returned antiterrorism kits. Given that postal workers are reporting in many places that the kits are being destroyed without being counted, why did the Attorney-General decide to override Australia Post's commitment to the parliament to keep and count the kits and also the contract between Prime Minister and Cabinet and Australia Post to keep these kits in case of further demand? Given that Minister Alston yesterday labelled Labor's revelation that the kits were being destroyed as 'nonsense' and bizarre, why didn't the Attorney-General bother telling Senator Alston of the instruction to destroy the kits?

Senator ELLISON—We can see we are on the big issues here, that is for sure! What we had with that information campaign was a very important campaign to inform the people of Australia in relation to the current security environment. Of course, it is interesting that the opposition were the first to say, when we upped the security alert back in November last year, that we should have an information campaign of this sort. They said, 'You should inform the people of Australia as to the threat and how to deal with it.' And so it was that the Prime Minister's office, in conjunction with the Attorney-General, embarked on a comprehensive information campaign, and that has been very well received. In fact, in the press today, it says that it is one of the best remembered advertisements of those recently shown on television. That shows you just how important a campaign it has been. The fact is that the opposition do not want to acknowledge that we have an environment that we have to deal

with and that we have to inform the Australian public about. They are more interested in how many kits were sent to Australia Post and whether they were destroyed.

Senator Sherry—What about the facts?

Senator ELLISON—I am about to tell you, Senator Sherry. The advice that I have from the Attorney-General is that approval has been given for the destruction of some kits in the Canberra mail centre to address storage issues. Instructions will be issued shortly to Australia Post to destroy all other returned kits. The government will not allow Commonwealth workers to be put at risk by exposure to any possible contaminant. You have to realise that there has been an irresponsible campaign by some people who have said, 'Return the kits and put some white powder in in order to send a message.' We know that the opposition do not care about workers. They are not interested in the safety of the workers or the Australian postal workers.

What we are concerned about is the possible anxiety that could be caused to workers if there were some kits returned with powder in them. Some irresponsible elements of the Australian community are saying, 'You should show your opposition to war by putting a hoax—white powder—in a kit and returning it.' If you were an Australian postal worker and you got a kit like that and there was white powder in it, of course you would be quite anxious about it. What we are about here is safety and addressing that possible concern of Australian postal workers because of the thoroughly irresponsible actions of some people in the Australian community—a very small minority, too.

There has been a suggestion that the decision to destroy all returned kits will prevent Australia Post from counting the number of kits returned. That is not correct. I have outlined reasons for the destruction of the kits, and I am sure the opposition would agree with that. The arrangement has always been that Australia Post would estimate the number of kits returned. This will continue to be done prior to the destruction of kits, so there will be no hiding of the number of kits that have been returned. The estimating will be done by Australia Post. But first and fore-

most we have to address the threats of irresponsible people in the community to send a hoax through the mail by putting white powder in these kits. You can just imagine the concern that could cause to Australian postal workers.

Senator MACKAY—Mr President, I ask a supplementary question. Minister, how can the government claim that this is an occupational health and safety issue when postal workers are still collecting and sorting this mail without any official health warnings—that is, the Australia Post workers have not been told the information you have just given the Senate? If the Attorney-General's concern really is that the kits have been tampered with or contaminated, are the kits being tested for dangerous substances before they are being destroyed and how many of the kits have been found to be contaminated?

Senator ELLISON—I have already answered the question by saying that the destruction of these kits has been done in the interests of the safety of workers concerned. There have been a small number of incidents where they have seen that the kits have been tampered with, I might add, and that has been the cause of investigation. One can only assume that Australian postal workers would be involved in that and in the detection of the tampering with these kits. I stress again that it is a very irresponsible small number of people in the community who have urged people to return these kits with white powder in them.

Economy: Fiscal Policy

Senator WATSON (2.07 p.m.)—On a positive note, I ask the Leader of the Government in the Senate, Senator Hill, will the minister inform the Senate how the Howard government's continued strong and responsible management of the Australian economy is providing benefits for Australia?

Senator HILL—I thank Senator Watson for his question. The Australian economy continues to prosper under the responsible stewardship of the Howard government. The 2003 OECD economic survey of Australia—

Senator Cook—What about this report, Robert? Explain that away!

The PRESIDENT—You are out of order, Senator Cook, and you know that as well as I do.

Senator HILL—Senator Cook has given up on economic questions. The 2003 OECD economic survey of Australia was released yesterday and it provides a strong endorsement of our economic performance and reform policies. Australia is expected to outperform most OECD economies with GDP growth at three per cent this year and 3.8 per cent in 2004. The survey noted that the dogged pursuit of structural reforms to the economy has worked to make Australia 'one of the best performers in the OECD'. Furthermore, it stated:

The Government's commitment to reform, its willingness to commission expert advice and to heed it, to try new solutions, and to patiently build constituencies that support further reforms, is also something that other countries could learn from.

Senator Cook interjecting—

The PRESIDENT—Senator Cook, would you come to order. After 20 years in this place—minus one day—I think you should know how to behave.

Senator HILL—This is a glowing endorsement and it is further backed up by some recently released figures. Recent labour force figures, for example, showed that employment rose by 111,000 to a record high of over 9.58 million in January of this year. Full-time employment increased by 72,400 to also stand at a record high, while part-time employment rose by 38,600. The unemployment rate declined to 6.1 percent. Since the coalition were elected in 1996, we have created more than 1.2 million jobs—or 470 new jobs every day.

Another clear indication of our position as one of the world's leading economies is our recent restoration to a AAA rating by the international credit ratings agency Standard and Poor's. Australia's foreign currency credit rating was of course downgraded in 1986 and 1999 under the Labor government's reckless mismanagement of the economy. As we approach the May budget, our continuing campaign of economic reform must be allowed to continue. The OECD points out that, in line with the government's

objective of raising living standards, further reforms will be needed to encourage more people to join and remain in the work force and to steadily raise productivity. That leaves the Labor Party hopelessly out of step. Their only policy, as we know, is to oppose everything the government try to do to strengthen our economy and provide more jobs and to provide a better standard of living for all Australian families. We all remember how Labor mindlessly opposed our tax reform package that delivered \$12 billion of personal income tax cuts to Australian families. We all remember how Labor predicted that the GST would mug the Australian economy. How wrong they were!

The government remains committed to its sound economic management. While we know the Labor Party has no policies of its own, Labor owes it to the Australian people to support the government's efforts. It can start by passing our reforms relating to the labour market and the key measures from last year's budget, Senator Cook. The obstruction of Labor and its refusal to do what is in the national interest are in stark contrast to what we are doing.

Senator Faulkner—Mr President, I rise on a point of order. I am very surprised that you did not call the Leader of the Government in the Senate to order when he addressed Senator Peter Cook across the chamber. You normally do that.

The PRESIDENT—I admit it.

Senator Faulkner—I do not blame you for one moment, if you were not listening to him.

The PRESIDENT—I was not.

Senator HILL—It is embarrassing for Senator Cook, because he was the Labor economic minister who said that the budget was in surplus. *(Time expired)*

Superannuation: Children's Accounts

Senator SHERRY (2.12 p.m.)—My question is to Senator Coonan, Assistant Treasurer and Minister for Revenue. Can the minister confirm that the Liberal government has budgeted for 47,000 children's superannuation accounts being opened over two years? How many accounts have been opened to date?

Senator COONAN—I thank Senator Sherry for the question. The government took to the last election, and budgeted for, a policy to allow the opening of child accounts. The measure is only one of a comprehensive suite of measures to make superannuation more attractive and more available. It allows parents, grandparents and indeed other relations—if Senator Sherry produced a child, he could even open an account on its behalf—to make contributions of up to \$3,000 every three years on behalf of a child. This measure has been in effect for a short time only, with commencement on 1 July 2002. The government recognises that Australians tend to have several key savings goals throughout their lifetime, which may include saving for retirement, a home, education, travel or a car. The priority assigned to each of these savings goals will ultimately depend on the preferences of individual Australians, so the superannuation for life measure gives Australians more choices as to how they save for their retirement.

The measure is a voluntary savings vehicle. It builds on the government's commitment to provide an increasingly flexible and available system that meets the diverse needs of Australia and its ageing population. As the measure has only been in place since July of last year, and in circumstances where it is not always possible to identify where such an account may be, it is not possible to say how many there are so far. But what is of great interest is that whilst Senator Sherry and those on the other side of the chamber obsess about one measure—child accounts—they continue to obstruct the measures that this government wishes to introduce that will bring real flexibility into the superannuation system and real choice for Australians. It is a scandal.

This government wishes to wind back the surcharge so that those who can afford to save for their retirement will be able to do so and those on low incomes will get a much needed boost—up to \$1,000—to match the contribution. The package for surcharge and co-contribution is a sensible measure. The Labor opposition originally opposed the surcharge and now they are opposing rolling it back. The Labor Party are all over the place.

We never hear of a policy from the Labor Party or Senator Sherry, who has been shadowing retirement incomes for seven years. Senator Sherry has not moved very far from his blank sheet of paper.

Senator Sherry—Mr President, I rise on a point of order that goes to relevance. The minister is all over the place. The question is: how many children's superannuation accounts have been opened up? That is the question: how many?

The PRESIDENT—There is no point of order. You will have the chance to ask a supplementary question, and I presume you will be asking the same question.

Senator COONAN—Mr President, I can understand how this really needles Senator Sherry, because you will remember that after the 1996 election he said that he was going to start with a blank piece of paper. He was going to have a comprehensive review of superannuation, and of course we still have only a blank piece of paper from the ALP. We have nothing but obstruction of sensible and well thought out measures that are ready to be introduced, and the Labor Party should stop obstructing what will improve the retirement incomes of all Australians.

Senator SHERRY—Mr President, I ask a supplementary question. The Liberal government has budgeted for 47,000 children's accounts. Is the Assistant Treasurer aware that the Prime Minister, Mr Howard, stated on 5 November 2001, the date of the Liberal's launch, 'The children's superannuation accounts package is a trailblazer in the area of superannuation for children, and the wonders of compound interest on contributions made on behalf of young people would yield considerable returns and produce a strong savings and investment culture.' How does this fit with the government's record of not one account ever being opened?

Honourable senators interjecting—

The PRESIDENT—Order! Senators on both sides of the chamber will please come to order so we can hear the minister's answer.

Senator COONAN—What Senator Sherry knows, what all those on the other side know and what every Australian knows

is that this government has already budgeted for the co-contribution and the winding back of the surcharge. It should be introduced now so that all Australians, particularly those on low incomes, which the Labor Party supposedly represents, will have an opportunity to improve their retirement benefits.

Small Business: Growth

Senator BARNETT (2.19 p.m.)—My question is to the Minister representing the Minister for Small Business and Tourism, Senator Abetz. Will the minister update the Senate on efforts by the Howard government to further secure the livelihoods of Australian small businesses, their workers and families? Is the minister aware of any alternative policies that oppress the small business sector rather than help it grow?

Senator ABETZ—I thank Senator Barnett for his question. Senator Barnett has established himself as a true champion of small business, and it is of little wonder, therefore, that Senator Barnett should ask such an important question today. The Howard government has tried to implement a positive legislative agenda that would have helped secure the employment of Australians employed in the 1.1 million small businesses. We have tried to implement job-creating laws that ensure small business has the right to trade without fear of trade unions restricting trade.

The Howard government is seeking to give Australian small businesses protection from secondary boycotts by giving the ACCC the authority to take representative actions on their behalf. Unfortunately, Labor continues to succumb to its union master's influence and has again rejected this important government initiative. Labor does nothing to help small businesses to grow, to employ more Australians and to improve the living standards of our nation. Without the protection of the government's small business protection bill, small business is effectively denied the full protection offered by the Trade Practices Act and will continue to bear the costs of unlawful strike action by militant trade unions.

The playing field is not level for many of Australia's small businesses. It is incredibly

difficult for a cash-strapped small business to successfully take on a trade union in the courts. For example, there was the small business that took a union to the New South Wales Supreme Court.

Senator Forshaw interjecting—

Senator ABETZ—I can understand why a New South Wales Labor senator, a former trade union hack, does not want to hear what happened in the New South Wales Supreme Court, but, for Senator Forshaw's benefit, the court found that the members of the union had been physically blocking access to and from some of the premises, throwing missiles and interfering with the free passage of vehicles on public roads by removing keys from the ignition of vehicles, cutting and spiking motor vehicle tyres, deliberately scratching motor vehicles, verbal abuse and so on.

The Labor Party, dominated by the trade union movement, do not want the ACCC to be involved in protecting a small business from those sorts of actions. The New South Wales Supreme Court in that case also stated that the targets of their activities were other employees who were continuing to work or seeking to do so, and suppliers and carriers of goods to and from the plaintiff's premises. The powerful trade unions have resources that a small family-owned business simply cannot match. No wonder so few small businesses take on the unions in unlawful secondary boycotts or in unfair dismissal cases. I have said it before and I am sure I will have to say it again: Labor's actions will continue to oppress small business, not help them, and Labor need to start taking the nation's interests to heart rather than their own trade union interests.

Banking: Credit Card Schemes

Senator WONG (2.23 p.m.)—My question is to Senator Coonan, the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer. Further to the question asked of the Assistant Treasurer on 29 August last year, does she recall that, after the Reserve Bank announced credit card reforms last August, the Treasurer said that the ANZ Bank had told him categorically that they would not raise fees, and he called on the banks to pass on to consumers

the \$300 million to \$400 million worth of savings resulting from the reforms? Is the minister further aware of recent reports that the ANZ Bank are considering tripling all annual credit card fees in response to the RBA reforms? Now that the ANZ are openly defying the Treasurer, will he finally grant the ACCC surveillance powers over the implementation of credit card reforms before all of the \$400 million or more of savings intended for small business and consumers are gobbled up by the banks?

Senator COONAN—I thank Senator Wong for the question. The impact of the credit card changes is of course something that has to be very carefully monitored. It is certainly true that the ANZ have made that announcement. ASIC and the ACCC are maintaining a watching brief on the surcharge developments and ASIC is monitoring merchants to ensure that surcharging, when it occurs, is in accordance with the standard. The ACCC will ensure that there is no anticompetitive behaviour between merchants in setting surcharge levels. The other elements of the RBA reforms, which involve regulations to facilitate the access regime, will obviously have to look very carefully at allowing non-banks to offer services, and they are currently being developed.

The standard to regulate the fees charged between banks and merchants is not to commence until 1 July this year. In those circumstances, the introduction of a transparent and cost based system for setting interchange fees and fees between financial institutions to deliver credit card services should in fact result in reductions. The reduction was thought to be nearly 40 per cent in average interchange fees in Australia, so there is no doubt that there is the potential there for consumers to benefit from these changes through a reduction in the general level of prices. The ending of the restrictions imposed by credit card schemes on which financial institutions can provide credit card services should also reduce merchants' costs and increase the choice of those who acquire their transactions. Allowing merchants to surcharge does provide customers with clearer market signals that credit cards are a more expensive means of payment. In Sep-

tember last year both Visa and MasterCard had foreshadowed action in the Federal Court over the reforms, but now the reforms appear to be well accepted. It is certainly the case that the ACCC will continue to monitor to ensure that consumers get the benefit of the savings and that they can be passed on.

Senator WONG—Mr President, I ask a supplementary question. Is the minister aware that the Reserve Bank has written privately to banks and credit card companies asking them to report quarterly on the fees they charge to retailers for credit card and EFTPOS services? Minister, will you commit to making this data public each quarter so that parliament can make its own assessment as to whether savings generated by these reforms are actually being passed on?

Senator COONAN—In my previous answer to Senator Wong, I did say that the ACCC will continue to monitor these matters. It is very important that any savings can be passed on to consumers. The whole thrust of the reforms was to ensure that consumers would get a much better deal. Obviously it is a situation where the regulations do not come into effect until 1 July 2003. It will be closely watched.

Medicare: Bulk-Billing

Senator ALLISON (2.28 p.m.)—My question is to the Minister for Health and Ageing. The Prime Minister said yesterday that Medicare was never intended to provide universally free primary health care. Isn't the minister's announcement today that GPs will be rewarded for bulk-billing people on pensions and benefits effectively endorsing means tested bulk-billing? Does this mean that your government will also be telling the states to means test our universally free public hospital system?

Senator PATTERSON—No and no.

Senator ALLISON—Mr President, I ask a supplementary question. Can the minister perhaps elaborate on her answer? Would she also indicate how much she thinks people should pay over and above the scheduled Medicare fee if they are on low incomes and perhaps have chronic illness in the family? Will the government limit those copayments on medical fees?

Senator PATTERSON—Rather than trying to develop another policy to help Mr Smith develop a policy, I would ask Senator Allison to think very carefully about what is going to happen to the PBS, because we need to ensure that not only is the MBS sustainable, but the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme is sustainable. She has a chance to come out with a bit of courage and say, 'We need to address the issue of the sustainability of the PBS,' and to indicate that the modest increase of \$1 from 50 scripts—because people after they have had 50 scripts get—

Senator Allison—Mr President, I raise a point of order. The minister is again debating the PBS, legislation for which is on the *Notice Paper*. I ask you to remind her that I asked a question about bulk-billing, not about the PBS.

The PRESIDENT—Minister, would you please complete your answer. I would hope that you would return to the question that was asked.

Senator PATTERSON—I tried to explain to Senator Allison yesterday, but she did not understand, that the health budget is a whole budget. It has MBS, PBS and all the other aspects of health. You cannot take it out of the silo and say, 'We'll do one thing with MBS and we want to do something else with PBS.' She has a chance to assist me in making sure we can balance the health bill—not borrow money like Labor did; not borrow \$10 billion a year to pay for—(*Time expired*)

Medicare: Bulk-Billing

Senator FORSHAW (2.31 p.m.)—My question is also directed to Senator Patterson, the Minister for Health and Ageing. You might have a go at answering this one, Minister. Can the minister confirm that in December 2001, one month after the last election, a leaked health department memo warned you as minister that:

Now ... it is clear that the rate of bulk billing is falling steeply (perhaps by as much as a percent a month). How long this decline will continue and where the new stable level will be are unclear ... Without intervention bulk billing rates could continue to fall significantly further ...

Isn't it the case that, in the 15 months since you became health minister, bulk-billing by GPs has fallen by a further 5.6 per cent? Given the clear warnings from the health department when you first became minister, why have you done nothing since to stop bulk-billing going into free fall to the detriment of Australians and their families?

Senator PATTERSON—There are two issues which affect bulk-billing rates. One of them is the number of doctors and where they are distributed. When we came into government there was an appalling maldistribution of general practitioners. We had far too many in the city and far too few in the country and outer metropolitan areas. We have spent \$562 million on a range of programs to encourage doctors to go into rural areas. Some of the measures included increasing the number of people from rural areas in universities by introducing a range of three scholarships to encourage rural students, because we would hope they would go back to rural areas. Some of them are bonded to go back to rural areas.

Senator Ferguson interjecting—

Senator Forshaw—The rates are falling in the rural areas even more.

Senator George Campbell interjecting—

Senator PATTERSON—You cannot turn around overnight the sort of neglect in the work force that we inherited. It is impossible to do that. But we have seen with those measures an 11 per cent increase in full-time equivalent doctors—the number of doctors on the ground is actually higher. Senator Forshaw asked a question and he has been shouting the whole time. I do not know how he can be listening to what I am saying. It might be better if I just sat down.

Senator Forshaw—I raise a point of order, Mr President. I have actually been answering a question from Senator Ferguson. We answer questions on this side. Could the minister return to the question and answer it this time.

The PRESIDENT—Senator Forshaw, the minister was answering the question. Senator George Campbell, I ask you to refrain from shouting across the chamber and, Senator Ferguson, likewise.

Senator PATTERSON—As I was saying, there are two factors. One of them is the maldistribution of doctors. I was explaining some of the 14 programs we have put in place to drive up the number of doctors in rural areas—spending \$560 million. We have a program to get doctors into outer metropolitan areas which started at the beginning of this year. We have to ensure that we do not have incentives that attract doctors back from rural areas. Mr Smith has been saying that one of the things that has caused the issue with bulk-billing has been that the coalition have screwed down the increases on rebates. Let me get the facts on the table. In the last six years we have increased the rebate for a standard consultation—because there are standard and long consultations—by \$4.20, a 20 per cent increase. In their last six years in government the Labor Party increased it by \$1.70, which was nine per cent. In the same comparative period we have increased the rebate by 20 per cent; they increased it by nine per cent. So do not let Mr Smith try and mislead the Australian public that we have screwed down the rebates.

With a longer consultation where people can spend time with their general practitioner and have an issue or an illness looked at in more detail we increased the rebate to \$80.40, a 23 per cent increase. Guess how much Labor increased it in their last six years in government? It went up to \$65.20, a five per cent increase in six years. We put the rebate for short consultations up by 20 per cent; they put it up under the same period by nine per cent. For a long consultation we put it up by 23 per cent; Labor put it up by five per cent. Talk about screwing down the rebate! In their last six years in government Labor got the winch and put it right on the rebate. For Mr Smith to come out is a bit rich.

Senator Vanstone—In a period of high inflation too.

Senator PATTERSON—That is right, Senator Vanstone; it was a period of high inflation. The Labor Party did not care about outcomes or about people with chronic diseases like diabetes, asthma and mental health problems. We now pay doctors to see patients with a chronic illness and to work

through a 3 plus plan with them. The average income for GPs from that is about \$18,000 a year. Labor never included that. It was never in any rebate. They never looked to try and drive better outcomes through general practice. Mr Smith said that our commitment to Medicare had been clearly demonstrated by—*(Time expired)*

Senator FORSHAW—Mr President, I ask a supplementary question. I thank the minister for the answer. Given that she could not answer the question, she spent all of her time talking about what Mr Smith said. Of course, Mr Smith says some very important things on this issue. Minister, given that you were advised by the health department in December 2001, therefore you knew when you first became a minister that bulk-billing was in sharp decline and that the situation would get worse if you did not intervene—they were the warnings in the health department, Minister, when you became the minister in 2001—why haven't you done anything about it? Isn't it a fact that you are achieving, by your own inaction, what the Prime Minister set out to achieve: to destroy Medicare and bulk-billing to the detriment of all Australians?

The PRESIDENT—I remind Senator Forshaw that questions of a minister should be asked through the chair.

Senator PATTERSON—The Prime Minister just said in the House that he supports Medicare and the universality of Medicare. He indicated, as he did yesterday, that we are working on a plan. When that plan and review are completed, we will make an announcement. We are in a budgetary cycle, as everyone knows. Senator Forshaw said that Mr Smith said some very important things. Well, he did. He said we were going to increase the Medicare levy, and his leader had to come out three days later and say, 'Oh no, that is not true.' What Mr Smith says is so important that it is overturned three days later by Mr Crean, the Leader of the Opposition.

Information Technology: Internet Content

Senator HARRADINE (2.38 p.m.)—My question is to the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts.

Doesn't the report by the Australia Institute that the great majority of 16- and 17-year-olds are exposed to sexually degrading pornography call for urgent action? What is the government going to do to protect these young people and to assist their parents? In particular, what is the government's response to the recommendations by the Australia Institute that Internet service providers be required by law to effectively filter out online pornography in order to protect children? Isn't it of concern that the ABA and NetAlert were seen to be more concerned with promoting Internet use than with protecting these young people from its dangers?

Senator ALSTON—It certainly is an issue that the government take very seriously. Despite the fact that this survey was done on a relatively small sample size, it indicates how relatively easy it is to either deliberately or accidentally come across highly offensive and inappropriate material. The problem to date has been that, while it is relatively simple to close down content sites that are within our jurisdiction, it is much more difficult when the servers are located offshore. We established an online content scheme back in 1999 and at the same time we established NetAlert to try to promote community awareness of these issues. We established a complaints based regime which allowed people to bring matters to the attention of the ABA. The ABA in turn was able to require all ISPs to make people aware of the filter packages that might be available. It is fair to say that, even in the relatively short period of time since then, there have been a number of important developments which indicate that some of those software filter packages are much more effective now than they were a few years back, with artificial intelligence being applied to keyword technologies and the ability to trace graphics through and identify them. There is a lot to be said for taking another look at whether we should expect more from ISPs.

I do not take the laissez-faire attitude that the Labor Party takes on this issue. Senator Lundy puts out a press release every week which says, effectively, that it is all too hard, you cannot do anything about it and the solution is user education. The fact is that

every child in Australia knows you can get this sort of material on the Internet, and I suspect the vast majority of parents do as well. Senator Lundy ought to take notice of what was said in that report. It said:

Too often the global nature of the Internet has been used to argue that nothing can be done about the problem of pornography.

That is a very succinct summary of the Labor Party position on the issue. We do not share that view; we take the view that, if it is possible to do something about it, you ought to. It is not good enough to say that you will not bother because you will not get 100 per cent coverage. That is what Labor says. Labor says, 'Of course it won't be 100 per cent effective, so don't even try,' which is the ultimate in policy laziness. Most laws are not 100 per cent effective, but that is no excuse for not making a serious effort.

We are pursuing the matter. We are conducting a review at the moment of the online content regulation regime. We also have a review of spam going, because spam is another way in which many teenagers and others access pornographic material—quite often accidentally via attachments to emails. People who are subscribers to Hotmail find vast quantities of unwanted material being made available to them, interfering with the way in which they would much prefer to use the technology. So in the course of those reviews, we will have a good hard look at what more might be done in expecting ISPs to take a more effective position than perhaps they have to date. Some of those filter packages are not all that effective, and there may be better ways of identifying a minimum standard that should be expected. We are on the case.

Senator HARRADINE—Mr President, I ask a supplementary question. Is it not a fact that the ISPs have a commercial interest and do not want to see the filtering systems work? All of the ISPs are getting more and more money as more and more pornography is accessed. Doesn't that indicate that those ISPs are complicit in the predatory actions of the porn merchants against our children? Something needs to be done about it urgently. What urgent action is being proposed?

Senator ALSTON—There are a number of possible options. One of the more draconian is to require all material to go via a proxy server so that you can have a black list that filters out any unacceptable Internet sites. There are many sites that appear out of nowhere on a daily basis, so it is a very difficult job tracking down a lot of these sites. It is probably overstating the case to suggest that the ISPs are calling all of the shots. They obviously have a view and a commercial interest and we ought to take that into account, but, at the end of the day, we have to make judgments based on what we think the community expects in terms of effective protection. Certainly some material is criminal or morally unacceptable—most of the take-down notices issued with respect to online content regulation relate to paedophilia in Australia. Clearly, you cannot just sit back and do nothing, as the Labor Party would do. We accept that we have a social obligation in this area and we will do our best to address it.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS

The PRESIDENT—Order! I draw the attention of honourable senators to the presence in the chamber of a delegation from the Special Committee on Modernisation and Improvement of Procedures of the House of Commons of Canada, led by the Hon. Don Bourdria MP, PC, Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons. On behalf of honourable senators, I have pleasure in welcoming you to the Senate. I hope that your stay here is both informative and enjoyable.

Honourable senators—Hear, hear!

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Medicare: Bulk-Billing

Senator HUTCHINS (2.46 p.m.)—My question is to Senator Patterson, the Minister for Health and Ageing. Can the minister confirm that yesterday the Prime Minister signalled the end of Australia's universal health system when he told parliament:

What we can do is to commit ourselves to the maintenance of a high availability of bulk-billing for the less fortunate and for concession card-holders in our community.

Minister, what will this mean for those millions of Australians who do not hold pensioner or concession cards and for whom the availability of bulk-billing can be the difference between choosing to see a doctor and staying sick?

Senator PATTERSON—I want to say that Mr Smith's plan to give different rebates to people in different areas would undermine the universality of Medicare. The Prime Minister has indicated a number of times—and I think twice today in the House of Representatives—that we are committed to Medicare and to the universality of Medicare, and we are going to address the strains on bulk-billing in rural and outer metropolitan areas. When we have completed that, we will advise the Australian public in due course. We are not undermining the universality of Medicare. I will tell you who is undermining the universality of Medicare—Mr Smith, with his kaleidoscope policy he dreamt up the weekend before last. He will go back next weekend and get his kaleidoscope out and twist it again and find another policy. Then that dark shadow will come across and it will be Mr Crean saying: 'No! We didn't mean that policy. We didn't mean to increase the Medicare levy,' and Mr Smith will go back to Western Australia to look for his kaleidoscope to find yet another policy. I can tell you that his policy of getting rid of the 30 per cent rebate and his policy to increase rebates for people in different geographical areas will undermine the universality of Medicare. He is assisted by his state colleagues who are encouraging—and, I would even say, misleading—people to think that they have to use their private health insurance in public hospitals. That would undermine the universality of Medicare.

Senator HUTCHINS—Mr President, I ask a supplementary question. Does the minister agree with Treasurer Costello's comments this morning that Medicare was never intended to be a universal health care system? Is the Treasurer indicating that a major announcement is imminent regarding the Howard government—that it is now effectively abandoning the principle of universal access to Medicare and that in future entitlement to Medicare and bulk-billing will

be dependent on income rather than on medical need?

Senator PATTERSON—I do not think Senator Hutchins heard my answer when I said that the Prime Minister has indicated twice today in the House of Representatives that we will maintain the universality of Medicare. I remind Senator Hutchins what Dr Blewett said in 1987, when he was introducing the rebate for visits to GPs. He said: What we have mostly in this country is not doctors exploiting bulk-billing but compassionate doctors using the bulk-billing facility to treat pensioners, the disadvantaged and others who are not well off or who are in great need of medical services, which was always the intention.

Social Welfare: China

Senator PAYNE (2.49 p.m.)—My question is to the Minister for Family and Community Services, Senator Vanstone. Will the minister inform the Senate of the ongoing cooperation between Australia and China in the area of social policy? Can the minister advise whether she is aware of any alternative policy approaches in this area?

Opposition senators interjecting—

Senator VANSTONE—I thank Senator Payne for the question and ignore a fairly tasteless interjection on the other side. Since 1999, there have been 47 visits to Australia by Chinese officials or delegations in relation to cooperation in the social security field. That is a significant number of delegations and a good indicator of the sort of cooperation going on between the Howard government and the Chinese government in the social security area. We have two memoranda of understanding with different departments in China and we are working on a third, which is not far away. We have had a couple of projects in China that we have worked on with the Ministry of Labour and Social Security, the Ministry of Finance and the Shanghai Municipality Finance Bureau. My department has strong links with the State Development Planing Commission, the Ministry of Finance, the Minister of Labour and Social Security and, of course, the Ministry of Civil Affairs. We have a strong relationship.

In January, I was in China to open a sectoral conference on social insurance which was jointly hosted by my own department and the Minister of Labour and Social Security. It was a great success for both this government and the Chinese government, the private sector firms that participated and the Chinese specialists who came from each province to participate. Retirement income is a big issue for the Chinese government, as it is for the Australian government. We can have very effective cooperation and exchange in that area.

As to other policies, I did notice a speech recently by Ms Macklin with a stunning revelation in its title 'Why China matters', as though she has only just figured out that China is important. The speech is not an intellectual tour de force—that is pretty clear. In fact, it would not be too rude to describe it as deeply shallow. All she really says is that China is important because it has a big economy and is a growing power in our region. I think a kid in grade 7 could have told you that some time ago. It is a clear example of where the basic facts are ignored in a speech. I recommend it to Ms Macklin's colleagues as an insight into the vacuous state of Labor's policy development.

Ms Macklin lovingly referred to Gough Whitlam's trip to China in 1971 as though that was the first time Australia had discovered China. History, of course, starts with the Labor Party, when Gough Whitlam was there. Mind you, she was a bit discreet. She did not mention Mr Whitlam's apparent remarks about our Vietnamese friends and she had a complete mental blank when it came to Arthur Calwell's remarks. So we will move on from those. But she did make the entirely fatuous claim that this was the first involvement of Australia with China. Of course, what she does not know, or deliberately omits, is the fact that the first Australian government to send a representative to China was the government of Sir Robert Menzies. It was, in fact, this side that first sent an independent person to represent us in China. Be that as it may, in her speech, which is insightful, Ms Macklin informed the audience that her then upcoming trip to China was very timely because it was a critical op-

portunity for the new leadership in China to meet the alternative Australian government: Kim Carr and Peter Cook. I can just see Hu Jintao and Jiang Zemin getting up and saying, 'Goody, goody, goody! Today I am going to meet Peter Cook and Kim Carr.' I mean, really! *(Time expired)*

Senator PAYNE—Mr President, I ask a supplementary question. I thank the minister for outlining those details in relation to China. Given the importance of the regional relationships on social policy, can the minister provide any further information on Australia's relations in the region?

Senator VANSTONE—As it happens, I can. Ms Macklin very thoughtfully added in her speech, in a rather 'Cheryl Kernotesque' way, that one area—get this—of Australian expertise that could be of value to China is the provision of social welfare services. I tell you what, sister, you are about two years too late. She is a few years off the pace, this woman. This government has been on the job. We are up there; we are doing it. Labor is thinking about it and we are already doing it. We are doing it very well and enjoying very strong cooperation from the Chinese government in this area. We are also working closely not only in China, but in Vietnam, Singapore and Indonesia. I know it offends senators opposite to realise that this government can work very well in Asia. It offends them to recognise that we are actually doing a better job than they ever did.

Business: Executive Remuneration

Senator CHRIS EVANS (2.55 p.m.)—My question is directed to the Minister for Health and Ageing, Senator Patterson, and I pass on Mr Smith's regards. Can the minister confirm reports that, while private health insurance funds have sought increases of around six per cent in premiums this year, Australia's major private health insurance companies have been massively increasing the fees paid to their own directors? Is it the case that Australia's biggest health fund, Medibank Private, increased the fees it paid to its directors from \$700,000 to \$1.3 million? Is the minister also aware that last year MBF reportedly doubled its directors fees from \$1 million to \$2 million and Australian Unity also doubled its directors fees from

\$1.1 million to \$2.2 million? Can the minister explain whether she supports these massive increases in directors fees for private health insurance companies?

Senator PATTERSON—When Labor was in government, private health insurance premiums were going up at the rate of 12 per cent per annum—and one year they went up by 20 per cent—with very little supervision or scrutiny by the Labor Party. Membership was down to 33 per cent, hospitals were threatening to close because they had insufficient patients, because too few people were in private health insurance, and private health insurance was in an absolutely diabolical state. By giving the 30 per cent rebate, which Labor has refused to support or indicate that it will—and I am sure that the nine million people who belong to private health insurance would be very interested to know whether Mr Smith and the Labor Party would actually get rid of the 30 per cent rebate if they were ever to come into office—we increased membership through lifetime cover. We have now seen private health insurance cover going up to about 44 per cent—sustainable. That is nine million Australians who now are able to use private hospitals, who have taken the strain off public hospitals. We have seen an increase of 12 per cent in the number of people who have procedures done in private hospitals, while in public hospitals we have seen a decrease of 0.1 per cent. So it has taken a huge strain off.

What the directors are paid is a commercial decision by the companies. PHIAC, which is the prudential regulator, looks at any increase that they request and looks at all those issues to ensure that the increase is based on the need to meet the claims of their members. It is a commercial decision by those companies as to what they will pay their directors. Let me just remind people that, under Labor, private health insurance premiums went up by 12 per cent per annum, and one year they went up by 20 per cent. They have gone up 4.7 per cent under us. That 4.7 per cent is reduced by 30 per cent because of the rebate. Let me remind Australians that under Labor they would definitely pay 30 per cent more because Labor refuses to support the 30 per cent rebate.

Senator CHRIS EVANS—Mr President, I ask a supplementary question. I thank the minister for finally turning her attention to the question, which went to directors fees. Can the minister also confirm that the 30 per cent subsidy paid by the Commonwealth on behalf of taxpayers goes directly to pay a third of those directors fees? Is it not a fact that a third of every increase in directors fees is paid by the Australian taxpayers? So it is relevant to ask the minister what she is doing to protect taxpayers' interests. What is she doing to prevent corporate excess in terms of directors fees paid inside these companies? Minister, given that we are footing a third of the bill, what are you doing to protect taxpayers' interests?

Senator PATTERSON—I think this actually indicates Senator Evans' lack of understanding of how business works. In fact, productivity gains have been made. We have seen a decrease in the management expenses of the funds through a number of measures. Some of the small funds—I think about 28 of them—have joined their back-of-office functions together to reduce management costs. So Senator Evans is assuming that the increase in directors' fees is just an increase, without any increase in productivity. Let me just remind Australians that, under Labor, their private health insurance would be 30 per cent dearer until Labor stand up, make a commitment and sign a document that says they will maintain the 30 per cent rebate.

Iraq

Senator BARTLETT (3.00 p.m.)—My question is to the Minister representing the Prime Minister and Minister for Defence. I note reports that the US and UK air strikes on Iraq have increased in the last few days and that even further US forces are being deployed to the Gulf region. I note also that the Australian government has repeatedly stated that Australian troops have been pre-deployed to the Gulf to increase diplomatic pressure on Iraq and that no decision has yet been made to participate in a war on Iraq. Can the minister say at what stage the increasing air strikes by the US and UK will become an act of aggression or a war? Has Operation Bastille been declared as 'warlike'

or ‘non-warlike’ for nature of service purposes?

Senator HILL—The predeployment of Australian forces is not warlike, because it is a predeployment designed to apply pressure on Saddam Hussein in an effort to achieve a peaceful resolution of this issue. It is still our objective to end the weapons of mass destruction program in a peaceful way. In relation to the strikes in southern Iraq, as the honourable senator would know, the United States, Britain and France have all been involved in enforcing Operation Southern Watch since the 1991 conflict. That operation was set up for the humanitarian objective of protecting the Shiites in southern Iraq from Saddam Hussein. Those overflights have either been fired on or had radars attached to them from time to time. When that has occurred, the fighter aircraft are entitled to retaliate. As I understand it, this occurred overnight and retaliation was the response. It was an act of self-defence, as was stated by Secretary Hoon in the British parliament, and was something that they are entitled to do to protect themselves in such circumstances.

Senator BARTLETT—Mr President, I ask a supplementary question. I note the minister’s answer that Operation Bastille is not warlike. Can he confirm therefore that a determination or declaration has been made that, for nature of service purposes, Operation Bastille is non-warlike? Can he also confirm whether or not it is the case that all personnel in Operation Bastille are nonetheless entitled to warlike conditions of service? Finally, can the minister indicate, if the US decides to go to war against Iraq, how long after that decision is it likely to be before the Australian government decides whether to withdraw our troops, as the Minister for Foreign Affairs claims Australia could still do, or to commit Australia to war?

Senator HILL—In relation to the conditions of service, I sometimes wonder where Senator Bartlett spends his time. That question has been asked several times in this place and has been extensively canvassed in estimates. I would commend estimates to the Australian Democrats and to Senator Bartlett in particular, because he would learn that, for consistency purposes, these forces have been

attached to Operation Slipper. In relation to an Australian decision post the UN process, that would be considered post the UN process. The Security Council is still deliberating on that particular matter. When that issue is resolved then no doubt, either pursuant to a United Nations Security Council resolution or otherwise, the issue will arise again and it will be considered expeditiously by the Australian government. Mr President, I ask that further questions be placed on the *Notice Paper*.

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE: ADDITIONAL ANSWERS

Taxation: Goods and Services

Senator COONAN (New South Wales—Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer) (3.04 p.m.)—On 6 February in a supplementary question Senator Harris asked about entry thresholds in the value of imported goods intended for home consumption. There was some cross-portfolio interest and I made an undertaking to Senator Harris that I would consult with the Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Ellison. I now have a response and I seek leave to incorporate it in *Hansard*.

Leave granted.

The document read as follows—

Senator HARRIS (Supplementary Question)

Mr President, I ask a supplementary question. Minister, in resolving the issue I became aware of a discrepancy in the exemption level between GST using an international courier service, where the level is \$250, and Australia Post, where the level is \$1,000.

Minister, are all taxes required to be equal between states and people within the states? Why should one person in a state pay more GST than another person based on a method of delivery? Minister, will the government preferably remove the GST on Christmas gifts or at least raise the exemption to \$1,000 regardless of how the gifts are received?

Senator Coonan (Response of 6 February 2003)

I thank Senator Harris for his question. The principle is that in relation to the question about the threshold levels, I will certainly look further into that matter for Senator Harris. But I point out that because the Customs Service acts in an agency capacity for the Australian tax office in the administration of the threshold issue, I do not actu-

ally have those facts ready at my disposal and there are, of course, cross-portfolio interests. I will consult with the Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Ellison, to see if there is a problem in relation to the application of different thresholds depending upon the courier company selected—that seems to be the point—and get back to Senator Harris.

Senator Coonan (Follow-up Response 3 March 2003)

I have consulted with the Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Ellison, and can provide the following additional information to Senator Harris.

The liability for duty and GST on imported goods applies equally across Australia. There is a 'screen-free' or revenue exemption threshold. This is the value of combined duty and GST below which an exemption applies. This is currently set at \$50, if the value of the goods does not exceed the relevant entry threshold.

The entry threshold is the value of imported goods at which the owner or broker is obliged to provide detailed information to the Australian Customs Service in the form of an entry for home consumption. There are currently two levels: \$1,000 for goods imported by post and \$250 for goods imported other than by post.

In May 2001 the Minister for Justice and Customs indicated that he intended to harmonise the entry threshold for incoming postal and non-postal consignments at the time that the Customs Amendment and Repeal (International Trade Modernisation) Act 2001 is implemented. This will bring the declaration requirements for postal and non-postal streams into alignment by mid-2004.

The gift concession is a different concession and applies equally to all bona-fide gifts regardless of mode of carriage. This concession is applied to the total value of the consignment. The first \$A200 of the value of the gift is duty and GST free, but only if the gift is a genuinely unsolicited non-recurring present. There are some exceptions to this concession, including alcohol and tobacco in excess of specified limits.

**QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE:
TAKE NOTE OF ANSWERS**

Medicare: Bulk-Billing

Senator FORSHAW (New South Wales) (3.05 p.m.)—I move:

That the Senate take note of the answers given by the Minister for Health and Ageing (Senator Patterson) to questions without notice asked today relating to Medicare and the decline in the rate of bulk-billing and to private health insurance.

Medicare is in crisis—there can be no other way to describe the situation that currently exists, particularly with respect to bulk-billing. This government and this particular minister have presided over the collapse of bulk-billing. It is interesting to go back and have a look at history, as the minister tried to do when she sought to avoid answering the questions that she was asked in question time. The Prime Minister himself is somewhat of a student of history, or he claims to be. The problem is that he and his government are seeking to repeat history. Therefore, it is instructive to go and have a look at just what is on the record from the Prime Minister back in the 1980s.

In 1986 the Prime Minister—then the Leader of the Opposition—Mr Howard, said, 'Medicare has been an unmitigated disaster.' In 1987 he said, 'Radical surgery will be performed on Medicare.' Again in 1987 he said on radio: 'The second thing we'll do is get rid of the bulk-billing system. It's an absolute rort.' In the same interview he said, speaking again about Medicare and bulk-billing, 'We'll pull it right apart.' These are definite, clear statements by the Prime Minister about his and his party's attitude to Medicare—that is, to rip it up, to destroy it, because they have never liked it. They did not like it when it was first introduced as Medibank under the Whitlam government, and they did not like it when it was reintroduced by the Hawke Labor government in 1983.

They are the real views of the Prime Minister and they are the views that he still has today. Notwithstanding having his and his party's policies rejected by the people on a number of occasions throughout the period of Labor government and notwithstanding having given a commitment back in 1996 in the health policy launch prior to the 1996 election when he said, 'Medicare will be retained in its entirety,' the Prime Minister has continued through inaction and other decisions of government to whittle away at Medicare and destroy it. He was never game, after his experience of rejection by the people, to come out openly again and say that they would destroy Medicare, but that is what they have been about. We now see

them—and I am sure other senators will pick up on it—trying to reduce the role of Medicare to what the Prime Minister and the Treasurer have indicated would be, essentially, focusing only on the needy.

What have we seen under the Minister for Health and Ageing, Senator Patterson? Since she was appointed health minister after the last election, we have seen a further decline in bulk-billing of some 5.6 per cent. Under the Howard government since it was elected in 1996, bulk-billing rates have declined by about 11 per cent. Indeed, in some parts of the country, in outer metropolitan and rural areas, it is down to as low as 65 per cent and it is heading south. I can give examples of towns in rural New South Wales that I am aware of where there are large populations of retirees and gold card holders and yet there is no doctor who bulk-bills. Those people have to travel many kilometres to find a doctor who will bulk-bill. This is a disgrace. It is not as if the government was not warned that this was happening. As I said in question time, the minister was advised back in December 2001, only one month after the re-election of this government—supposedly because, they say, they are committed to protecting Medicare—by her own department that the rate of bulk-billing was falling. *(Time expired)*

Senator KNOWLES (Western Australia) (3.10 p.m.)—Here we are yet again. It is the second day in a row that the Labor Party has made accusations against the government that simply are not true. Yesterday there were accusations against the Minister for Family and Community Services about the top-up and payments of family tax benefits. The allegations that were made yesterday were as wrong as the allegations that are being made about bulk-billing today.

If one listened to just Senator Forshaw, one would think that when the Labor Party brought in Medicare it was designed to be a bulk-billing exercise for everybody, regardless of income. Senator Forshaw has not responded; he has not indicated one way or the other whether or not that was his belief. It is interesting to note that their allegation that Medicare bulk-billing should be available for everybody does not reflect what the govern-

ment had in mind at the time of Medicare's introduction. As Senator Patterson mentioned during question time today, the then health minister, Dr Blewett, said in 1987—I will say it again because clearly Senator Forshaw did not hear or did not want to hear, and he certainly did not refer to it in his contribution—

Senator Forshaw—No, I didn't, because I was referring to the Prime Minister.

Senator KNOWLES—Dr Blewett, on Senator Forshaw's side of politics, said this—

Senator Forshaw—I referred to the broken promises of the Prime Minister.

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT—Senator Knowles, ignore the interjections. Senator Forshaw, you were heard in relative silence; let Senator Knowles be heard.

Senator Forshaw—Mr Deputy President, I rise on a point of order: I draw your attention to the fact that throughout most of her remarks Senator Knowles has been directly referring to me and directing questions to me.

Senator KNOWLES—I did not.

Senator Forshaw—You did.

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT—Excuse me; I do not want either of you arguing across the chamber. Senator Forshaw, there is no point of order. Senator Knowles, will you continue, please?

Senator KNOWLES—My comments have all been directed through you, Mr Deputy President, and I have been commenting on the contribution—the stupid, silly little contribution—of Senator Forshaw on this issue. I was about to quote his former health minister, Dr Blewett, who in 1987 said:

What we ... in this country is not doctors exploiting bulk billing but compassionate doctors using the bulk billing facility to treat pensioners, the disadvantaged and others who are not well off or who are in great need of medical services, which was always the intention.

They are not my words; they are the words of a Labor minister for health. Senator Forshaw quite clearly decided to overlook in his contribution the intent of it, by saying that now, under this government, there is an em-

phasis on ensuring that bulk-billing is available to those to whom Dr Blewett referred; to treat 'pensioners, the disadvantaged and others who are not well off or who are in great need of medical services' now somehow makes the government derelict in its duty, when seven out of 10 services are bulk-billed! Did we ever hear Senator Forshaw, or Senator Anyone over that side, talk about seven out of 10 of all facilities currently being bulk-billed? No, we did not.

No wonder the opposition are trying to go on about this. Mr Smith has given a commitment to do away with the 30 per cent rebate; he has given a commitment on bulk-billing that he will not be able to keep. Mr Crean's leadership is in absolute turmoil. Therefore, we have them coming in here with an argument about bulk-billing that does not stack up with their own history, does not stack up with what is currently under way today and does not stack up with their own record on funding.

It is worth noting that under the coalition government the Medicare rebate for a standard consultation increased by 20 per cent. During the last six years of the Labor government, that rebate increased by less than nine per cent. Do we hear the Labor Party talking about that gap? No, we do not. Do we hear them talking about what happened during their last six years in government? The Medicare rebate for longer consultations increased by only five per cent under their government compared to 23 per cent under this government. No, we do not hear that, because that does not serve their purpose. That simply makes the whole issue a furphy to try and protect Mr Crean's abysmal, non-existent leadership and Mr Smith's desire to abolish the rebate. *(Time expired)*

Senator HUTCHINS (New South Wales) (3.16 p.m.)—It is always interesting to follow Senator Knowles, because you know that when the government has to defend a bad message, particularly in the areas of social security or health or community services, Senator Knowles will be wheeled out. You cannot argue that she is an effective debater; I wonder if anybody listening to the broadcast today would have been convinced

by the words that Senator Knowles advanced here today.

I do not know if the coalition realises it, but Medicare is in crisis at the moment. As a New South Wales senator, whether I go into the outer metropolitan areas or into regional New South Wales, I realise that the availability of health care to our citizens is being denied. Like a number of my colleagues in the Senate, I look after a number of duty electorates. I had the opportunity to go to Orange last weekend. I was spoken to by a number of people in that mid-western region of New South Wales. In towns like Orange, Lithgow and Bathurst only 18 per cent of GPs intend to offer full bulk-billing services in six months time. In Bathurst itself, a town with a population of 32,000 people, only one surgery offers full bulk-billing services now. According to official government figures, the rate on the Central Coast of New South Wales—where the seats of Robertson and Dobell are held by the coalition—has fallen by 15 per cent over the last two years. But local medical professionals say that the crisis is worse than that: only 28 per cent of GPs on the Central Coast intend to offer full bulk-billing services by August this year.

If you heard the answers from Senator Patterson today or the valiant effort by Senator Knowles to defend her, you would think that there was no crisis in the system. The crisis is there because GPs are no longer going to bulk-bill. The number is declining. We have heard from the Prime Minister and the Treasurer over the last two days that they are going to isolate access to bulk-billing to people who are card holders. I do not know where they get off thinking that people in this country are not disadvantaged financially when they isolate the opportunity for access to bulk-billing to pensioners and card holders. If that is the case, you will see a number of families who will make a decision about whether or not they themselves, either individuals or their families, will go to the doctor. Already there is a copayment of \$12.78; the copayment will possibly increase if this system proposed by the Prime Minister is implemented. There is also a bill before the Senate, which we will be debating later,

about whether or not we will increase the basic cost of prescriptions.

If we do not comment on the fact that the government is trying in its own way to abandon the universal health scheme, if we do not make it clear to the Australian people that this is a deliberate policy of the government to isolate in communities the haves and the have-nots, then we are not doing our job. There is nothing that has been said over the last few days that gives me or the people that I represent in New South Wales any comfort that there will be an increase in the standard of health care or the availability of it. I have highlighted to you, Mr Deputy President, a number of regions in New South Wales that within six months will feel the full force of not having access to universal health care or the opportunity for free service or discounted fees. This is a crisis, and there is nothing that I have heard in the last 24 to 48 hours that leads me to believe that anything has been done about it. All I have heard is that the government is going to try to charge the working community more money to access health care.

Senator EGGLESTON (Western Australia) (3.21 p.m.)—I would hate for people in Australia listening to this broadcast to get the impression from Senator Hutchins's remarks that the standards of Australian health are going to drop or that the universality of access to health services is going to cease because there has been in some way a small reduction in the number of bulk-billed services provided by GPs. Nothing could be further from the truth. The centre, the core or the essence of Medicare is the provision of free treatment to all Australians in public hospitals. That is really what Medicare is all about. There is no suggestion at all that that availability of free treatment in public hospitals will be changed by any slight reduction in the availability of bulk-billing GPs around this country.

Senator Hutchins—When was the last time you went to a hospital for medical services?

Senator EGGLESTON—I actually went to a hospital last week, Senator Hutchins.

Senator Hutchins—How long did you have to queue up for?

Senator EGGLESTON—Not too long, I must say, and that means that our hospital system is working very well. We as Australians should be very proud of our hospital system because it is a very good one. There has been, it is true, a small reduction in bulk-billing by GPs around this country; nevertheless, something like 70 per cent of all GP services are bulk-billed. That is a pretty high percentage. I find it very hard to take very seriously the claims by the opposition that the small reduction in the number of bulk-billed services or the small percentage drop in the level of bulk-billing of GP services means that the end of the world is nigh in the effectiveness of our health service, because that simply is not the case. It is the case that 80 per cent of services provided to pensioners are bulk-billed. That means that most doctors in this country are ensuring that the most needy and perhaps underprivileged in our community, the elderly who are on pensions, receive free treatment from their general practitioner. It may be that there are doctors in an area who have ceased bulk-billing, but a pensioner or anybody else who shops around I am sure will find other doctors in other clinics who are prepared to bulk-bill them for their general practitioner services.

Let us move on and look at bulk-billing in other medical specialities, such as pathology. There has certainly been no change that I have heard of in bulk-billing for pathology. Pathology is a very expensive kind of medicine, and almost all pathology services these days are bulk-billed. The Labor Party seems not to want to mention that. There has been no change that I have heard of in other areas, such as in radiology, or in the levels of bulk-billing by various specialists. Admittedly, some specialists bulk-bill more than others: surgeons tend not to bulk-bill many patients and people like psychiatrists and physicians bulk-bill more. In fact, we have not heard anything about any changes in the levels of bulk-billing for specialist services. So, if we take a broader view than the one the opposition seems to be peddling about bulk-billing, the reality is that there has been very little

change and that there is no threat or danger to the effectiveness of the Australian health system.

Since the coalition has been in office, we have seen Medicare rebates increase by something like 23 per cent for long consultations. In the era of the Labor government, they increased by only five per cent. The Howard government has spent some \$640 million on special programs to encourage more doctors to practise in rural and outer metropolitan areas and generally has strengthened our health service. The ALP's only answer to the problems as they see them at the moment, as expressed by Simon Crean on 3 March in Canberra, is that they would increase the Medicare levy. *(Time expired)*

Senator MACKAY (Tasmania) (3.26 p.m.)—I think what we saw in the Minister for Health and Ageing today, other than a fairly extraordinary obsession with Mr Stephen Smith, is a minister who is not prepared to confront the critical issues that the opposition is raising. The issues that we raised today were in relation to the future of Medicare, the decline in bulk-billing under this government and what is happening in relation to directors' fees in terms of private health insurance. Speaking on the last issue first, the minister completely ignored the fact that Medibank Private is owned by the government, owned by the people of Australia, and that the government is the shareholder. My understanding in respect of Medibank Private is that the minister is required to approve directors' fees. It is not good enough for the minister to come in here and say, 'This is something that is beyond our purview or outside our bailiwick.' As I understand it, she has the delegation to approve or not approve increases in directors' fees for Medibank Private. She did not say anything about that, so we had a complete obfuscation.

The second issue is the future of Medicare under this government. The Prime Minister himself, as pointed out by Labor Party senators today, has said that, in his view, bulk-billing should be available only for pensioners and for people deemed to be disadvantaged. What does that mean? We all know that means that Medicare goes back to what

this government likes to call the 'needy poor'—a Dickensian concept—moving away from universality. That is what the Prime Minister is saying. I wish this government would get its lines straight about that. The Treasurer himself said this morning that Medicare was never intended to be a universal health system. Well, excuse me! The Labor Party introduced Medicare and, yes, it was intended to be a universal health system. So let us not allow the Treasurer and the Prime Minister to skate around and use weasel words about one of the major icons that the Australian Labor Party stands for, one that we will not tamper with, and that is the universality of Medicare.

Everybody knows we have a budget coming up. Was the Treasurer foreshadowing a change to Medicare? We know from statements made in the 1980s by the now Prime Minister that his intention right from the word go was to dismantle Medicare. He said that when the Liberal Party made it clear that was their view when Medicare was introduced, and in the 1980s, along with his other fairly outrageous conservative views, he indicated that it was his aspiration that Medicare be dismantled. Is the Treasurer foreshadowing an announcement about Medicare? You have to ask that question. We will put it together: first of all, we have the Prime Minister talking about Medicare never being intended to be universal and that it was always about helping people who are disadvantaged—the Dickensian notion of the needy poor—and, then, we have the Treasurer reaffirming that and indicating perhaps that in the budget they will be moving to an income based Medicare system rather than a universal Medicare system.

Bear in mind that Medicare is very popular, as previous Liberal Party oppositions have found out to their detriment when they have tried to make an issue of this. This time the government has not made an issue of it; it is trying to sneak it through and undermine by stealth the fundamental principle of the universality of Medicare. We will not be fooled. The people of Australia will not be fooled. We know what the government's intention is with respect to Medicare. We know the Prime Minister has not changed his views

one iota since the 1980s when he said that Medicare should be scrapped and bulk-billing should go. That is the bottom line, that is what the minister has got to face up to, and it is about time she came in here with better briefs and more information with respect to our questions.

Question agreed to.

Medicare: Bulk-Billing

Senator ALLISON (Victoria) (3.31 p.m.)—I move:

That the Senate take note of the answer given by the Minister for Health and Ageing (Senator Patterson) to a question without notice asked by Senator Allison today relating to Medicare and the decline in the rate of bulk-billing.

I also take note of the statements made by the Prime Minister in recent days about bulk-billing. I point to what I think most people regard as not even the thin edge of the wedge but the thickish edge of the wedge in universal health care in this country. We have seen a major decline in bulk-billing and the government has shown very little in the way of interest in seeing that we have more access to free health care by GPs. The fact came to light a couple of weeks ago that the Association of General Practitioners, which is primarily funded by the federal government, had conducted workshops—and is no doubt still doing so—for doctors in how to get out of bulk-billing. It has not been made clear to doctors or the general public that this government does support bulk-billing and does support that universal health care which we all thought we had signed on to. So, far from wishing to allow doctors to exit from bulk-billing, we should be looking for ways to encourage them to continue to bulk-bill.

One of the major problems for the Democrats in all of this is that, whilst the minister says that seven out of 10 doctors bulk-bill, we now know that the vast majority of those doctors only offer bulk-billing to a very narrow sector within their communities—those people who are on pensions or benefits. We also now know that very often a doctor will not even indicate to patients that this is an option for them if they are on those low incomes. So for us that is problematic.

It is clear as well that people in country areas are having more and more limits placed on them in their ability to access bulk-billing. In fact, in many cities—Wagga Wagga is one that comes to mind, as is Bendigo—there is now no longer any practitioner at all who offers bulk-billing and therefore fees are charged which are well over the medical benefits scheme level, and the government has shown no interest in limiting that or capping it in some way. I would argue that a family which is on a low income—say, \$30,000 a year—and which may well have children or other members of the family who have chronic illness to not have access to bulk-billing would be a huge burden and a huge cost to the expenditure of that family, to the point where they might not be able to afford to access GPs for health reasons.

We do not know the extent to which people are not going to their GPs and getting advice about their health because they cannot access bulk-billing. We understand that there are some people who have been denied services by GPs because they could not pay their bill. This is now a terribly worrying situation. It is disappointing that the minister is not focusing on getting some of those stats. Instead, she says that seven out of 10 doctors bulk-bill and that therefore gives us nothing to worry about. That is not the case. The number of people who have access to bulk-billing is probably very low and is diminishing. The Senate ought to be interested in this.

I think it is not too long a bow to draw to ask what this government's intentions are with regard to our public hospital system. We have seen a breakdown in the relationship between the federal and state governments, the minister did not turn up to the—(*Time expired*)

Question agreed to.

NOTICES

Presentation

Senator Ian Campbell to move on the next day of sitting:

That consideration of the business before the Senate on Tuesday, 18 March 2003 be interrupted at approximately 5 pm, but not so as to interrupt a

senator speaking, to enable Senator Humphries to make his first speech without any question before the chair.

Senator Heffernan to move on the next day of sitting:

That the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee be authorised to hold a public meeting during the sitting of the Senate on Thursday, 6 March 2003, from 4 pm, to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into the provisions of the Wheat Marketing Amendment Bill 2002.

Senator Ridgeway to move on the next day of sitting:

That the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee be authorised to hold a public meeting during the sitting of the Senate on Wednesday, 5 March 2003, from 6.30 pm, to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into forestry plantations.

Senator Allison to move on the next day of sitting:

That there be laid on the table, no later than 4 pm on Thursday, 6 March 2003, the written advice provided by the Department of Defence to the Department of Education, Science and Training concerning the defence-related issues in connection with the National Radioactive Waste Repository in South Australia.

Senator McLucas and **Senator Bartlett** to move on the next day of sitting:

That the following bill be introduced: A Bill for an Act to amend the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975 to provide for an extension of the boundaries of the Great Barrier Reef Region. Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (Protecting the Great Barrier Reef from Oil Drilling and Exploration) Amendment Bill 2003 [No. 2].

Senator Greig to move on the next day of sitting:

That the Senate—

(a) notes:

- (i) the commitment by the Prime Minister (Mr Howard) that the Government would look after the loved ones and families of Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel in or heading to the Gulf and into a potential war with Iraq,
- (ii) that this undertaking includes grief counselling, death benefits compensation and surviving spouses'

pensions, in the event that ADF personnel are killed or injured,

- (iii) that this social, more and financial support only applies to heterosexual, married, and de facto partners in the ADF, and does not apply to the loved ones and families of same-sex partners in the ADF, and
- (iv) that this discrimination against gay and lesbian service personnel is inconsistent with the 1992 lifting of the ban on homosexual people serving in the military and inconsistent with the ADF's equity program aimed at redressing discrimination in the forces; and

- (b) calls on the Government to end this unacceptable discrimination against gay and lesbian service personnel and their partners to ensure that all personnel and their partners, both heterosexual and homosexual, receive equal treatment, including access to grief counselling, death benefits compensation and surviving spouses' pensions, in recognition of the fact that all ADF personnel are asked to put their lives on the line for their country.

Senator Cook to move on the next day of sitting:

That the Senate notes that:

- (a) 5 March 2003 is the 20th anniversary of the election of the Hawke Labor Government;
- (b) Bob Hawke served the nation as Prime Minister from March 1983 to December 1991 and is the second longest serving Prime Minister since Federation;
- (c) the Australian Labor Party under Bob Hawke's leadership won elections in 1983, 1984, 1987 and 1990;
- (d) the Hawke era saw the restructuring of the Australian economy with the floating of the dollar, the opening of the banking and financial sector, across the board cuts in tariffs and protection, the decentralisation of the wage fixing system, the introduction of superannuation for all workers, the reform of the public service, and formation of the Australian-led Cairns Group of free trading agricultural nations;
- (e) significant social reforms during this period included the introduction of

Medicare, reform of the social welfare system, establishment of the Office of the Status of Women, and commencement of Aboriginal reconciliation;

- (f) major environmental achievements of the Hawke Government were the establishment of the national Landcare program, the formation of the Murray-Darling Ministerial Council, and World Heritage listings in Tasmania and Kakadu;
- (g) in foreign relations, the Hawke Government forged closer ties between Australia, Asia and the Pacific, and led the formation of APEC; and
- (h) many of these achievements have survived the change of government and are indicative of the Hawke Government's vision and relevance to the future of Australia.

Withdrawal

Senator TCHEH (Victoria) (3.36 p.m.)—Pursuant to notice given at the last day of sitting on behalf of the Regulations and Ordinances Committee, I now withdraw business of the Senate notice of motion No. 1 standing in my name for 12 sitting days after today.

Presentation

Senator Brown to move on the next day of sitting:

That the Senate—

- (a) notes the extraordinary meeting of the World Heritage Committee of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to be held in Paris from 17 to 22 March 2003 to consider proposed changes to the operational guidelines of the World Heritage Convention;
- (b) reaffirms its support for the World Heritage Convention, in particular:
 - (i) the power of the World Heritage Committee to inscribe a property on the World Heritage List in Danger without the consent of the state party,
 - (ii) the power of the World Heritage Committee to remove a property from the World Heritage List without the consent of the state party,
 - (iii) the current interpretation of the Convention, which recognises that

sites have integrity and the management of World Heritage sites be directed at safeguarding both the World Heritage values and the property as a whole, and

- (iv) the role of the advisory bodies to the Convention in making representations directly to the World Heritage Committee in relation to any World Heritage property; and
- (c) condemns the Government for its efforts to undermine the integrity of the Convention by supporting changes to the operational guidelines which would undermine all the above mentioned powers, interpretations and responsibilities.

Senator Nettle to move on the next day of sitting:

That the Senate—

- (a) notes the comments of the British Prime Minister (Mr Blair) regarding the detention of British nationals in Camp X-Ray, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, that, 'it is an irregular situation and certainly we would want to try to bring it to an end as swiftly as possible';
- (b) notes that Australian citizens Mr David Hicks and Mr Mamdouh Habib remain incarcerated in Camp X-Ray without having been charged or brought before the courts for trial;
- (c) expresses ongoing concern at the shameful lack of action from the Government regarding this situation; and
- (d) reiterates its call on the Australian Government as a matter of urgency to take whatever steps are required to return both Mr Hicks and Mr Habib to Australia to determine whether they should be freed or face trial, as is their right.

Senator Nettle to move on the next day of sitting:

That the Senate—

- (a) notes the remarks of the Prime Minister (Mr Howard) that bulk-billing was never intended to be a universal scheme and that the Government could not afford to provide universal free coverage for all Australians;
- (b) condemns the Prime Minister for seeking to return Australia to an age of charity for the 'less fortunate', in place of

guaranteeing good quality health care for all Australians irrespective of their ability to pay; and

- (c) calls on the Government to examine ways to fund a universal scheme, starting with abolishing the private health insurance rebate.

Postponement

Items of business were postponed as follows:

Business of the Senate notice of motion no. 2 standing in the name of Senator Brown for today, relating to the reference of matters to the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee, postponed till 5 March 2003.

Government business notice of motion no. 1 standing in the name of the Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer (Senator Ian Campbell) for today, relating to a proposal for capital works in the parliamentary zone, postponed till 6 March 2003.

General business notice of motion no. 53 standing in the name of Senator Greig for today, relating to the introduction of the Sexuality Anti-Vilification Bill 2002, postponed till 26 March 2003.

General business notice of motion no. 342 standing in the name of Senator Cherry for today, relating to the Government's response to a report of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee, postponed till 5 March 2003.

General business notice of motion no. 355 standing in the name of Senator Allison for today, relating to cancer deaths attributed to nuclear testing, postponed till 5 March 2003.

General business notice of motion no. 356 standing in the name of Senator Allison for today, relating to Eileen Kampakuta Brown and opposition to the construction of a national repository in South Australia, postponed till 5 March 2003.

General business notice of motion no. 359 standing in the name of Senator Brown for today, relating to the protection of forest areas in north east New South Wales, postponed till 5 March 2003.

General business notice of motion no. 361 standing in the name of Senator Brown for today, relating to a West Papua conference and concert held in Melbourne, postponed till 5 March 2003.

Withdrawal

Senator ALLISON (Victoria) (3.40 p.m.)—I withdraw general business notice of motion No. 348 standing in the name of Senator Stott Despoja for today relating to Flinders University health and counselling services.

COMMITTEES

Community Affairs References Committee Reference

Senator MURRAY (Western Australia) (3.40 p.m.)—I move:

- (1) That the following matters be referred to the Community Affairs References Committee for inquiry and report by 3 December 2003:
 - (a) in relation to any government or non-government institutions, and fostering practices, established or licensed under relevant legislation to provide care and/or education for children:
 - (i) whether any unsafe, improper or unlawful care or treatment of children occurred in these institutions or places;
 - (ii) whether any serious breach of any relevant statutory obligation occurred at any time when children were in care or under protection, and
 - (iii) an estimate of the scale of any unsafe, improper or unlawful care or treatment of children in such institutions or places;
 - (b) the extent and impact of the long-term social and economic consequences of child abuse and neglect on individuals, families and Australian society as a whole, and the adequacy of existing remedies and support mechanisms;
 - (c) the nature and cause of major changes to professional practices employed in the administration and delivery of care compared with past practice;
 - (d) whether there is a need for a formal acknowledgment by Australian governments of the human anguish arising from any abuse and neglect suffered by children while in care;
 - (e) in cases where unsafe, improper or unlawful care or treatment of children

has occurred, what measures of reparation are required;

(f) whether statutory or administrative limitations or barriers adversely affect those who wish to pursue claims against perpetrators of abuse previously involved in the care of children; and

(g) the need for public, social and legal policy to be reviewed to ensure an effective and responsive framework to deal with child abuse matters in relation to:

- (i) any systemic factors contributing to the occurrences of abuse and/or neglect,
- (ii) any failure to detect or prevent these occurrences in government and non-government institutions and fostering practices, and
- (iii) any necessary changes required in current policies, practices and reporting mechanisms.

(2) In undertaking this reference, the committee is to direct its inquiries primarily to those affected children who were not covered by the 2001 report *Lost Innocents: Righting the Record*, inquiring into child migrants, and the 1997 report, *Bringing them Home*, inquiring into Aboriginal children.

(3) In undertaking this reference, the committee is not to consider particular cases under the current adjudication of a court, tribunal or administrative body.

(4) In undertaking this reference, the committee is to make witnesses and those who provide submissions aware of the scope of the inquiry, namely:

- (a) explain the respective responsibilities of the Commonwealth and the states and territories in relation to child protection matters; and
- (b) explain the scope of the committee's powers to make recommendations binding upon other jurisdictions in relation to the matters contained in these terms of reference.

Question agreed to.

Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee

Extension of Time

Senator ALLISON (Victoria) (3.41 p.m.)—I move:

That the time for the presentation of reports of the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee be extended as follows:

- (a) environmental performance at the Ranger, Jabiluka, Beverley and Honeymoon uranium operations—to 9 April 2003; and
- (b) the role of libraries as providers of public information in the online environment—to 24 June 2003.

Question agreed to.

FUEL: ETHANOL

Senator O'BRIEN (Tasmania) (3.41 p.m.)—I move:

That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) on 16 October 2002 it agreed to an order for the production of documents relating to the government's consideration of an ethanol excise and production subsidy,
 - (ii) on 21 October 2002 the Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer (Senator Ian Campbell) advised the Senate that 'the government intends to comply with the order as soon as possible and fully expects to be in a position to do so shortly',
 - (iii) on 12 December 2002 Senator Ian Campbell advised the Senate that, 'consideration of the documents is close to conclusion' and committed to tabling the requested documents out of session by 17 December 2002,
 - (iv) on 5 February 2003 Senator Ian Campbell advised the Senate that, 'the government is seeking to conclude its consideration of these documents and its compliance—albeit very late—with the order of the Senate', and
 - (v) more than 130 days have passed since Senator Ian Campbell gave the Senate a commitment that the Government would 'shortly' comply with the Senate order; and

(b) calls on the government to comply with the order of the Senate no later than 5pm on 6 March 2003.

Question agreed to.

COMMITTEES

Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services

Meeting

Senator CHAPMAN (South Australia) (3.42 p.m.)—I move:

That the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services be authorised to hold a public meeting during the sitting of the Senate on Wednesday, 5 March 2003, from 4.30 p.m., to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into the disclosure of commissions on risk products.

Question agreed to.

Superannuation Committee

Meeting

Senator EGGLESTON (Western Australia) (3.42 p.m.)—At the request of Senator Watson, I move:

That the Select Committee on Superannuation be authorised to hold a public meeting during the sitting of the Senate on Wednesday, 5 March 2003, from 6 p.m. till 8.30 p.m., to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into the Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Amendment Bill 2002 and the Superannuation (Financial Assistance Funding) Levy Amendment Bill 2002.

Question agreed to.

Economics Legislation Committee

Meeting

Senator EGGLESTON (Western Australia) (3.43 p.m.)—At the request of Senator Brandis, I move:

That the Economics Legislation Committee be authorised to hold a public meeting during the sitting of the Senate on Thursday, 6 March 2003, from 4 p.m., to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into the Corporations Amendment (Repayment of Directors' Bonuses) Bill 2002.

Question agreed to.

IMMIGRATION: DETENTION CENTRES

Senator NETTLE (New South Wales) (3.43 p.m.)—by leave—I move the motion as amended:

That the Senate—

(a) condemns the fires and destruction of property which occurred over December 2002 and January 2003 and put lives of asylum seekers and staff at risk at five Australian immigration detention centres and the ongoing consequences in terms of the impact for asylum seekers;

(b) condemns the Acting Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (Mr Williams) for the imputations in his media statements accusing refugee advocates for inciting arson; and

(c) calls on the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (Mr Ruddock) and the Department for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs to ensure that asylum seekers not involved in the fires at these detention centres are not arbitrarily detained or punished.

Question agreed to.

HUMAN RIGHTS: CHINA AND TIBET

Senator BROWN (Tasmania) (3.44 p.m.)—by leave—I move the motion as amended:

That the Senate—

(a) expresses its concern over the execution of Buddhist monk Lobsang Dhondup in Tibet in January 2003; and

(b) calls on the Minister for Foreign Affairs to seek an explanation for his death from the People's Republic of China.

Question agreed to.

BUDGET

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

Additional Information

Senator EGGLESTON (Western Australia) (3.46 p.m.)—On behalf of the Chair of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee, Senator Heffernan, I present additional information received by the committee relating to hearings on the supplementary budget estimates for 2002-03. There are two volumes.

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional Information

Senator EGGLESTON (Western Australia) (3.46 p.m.)—On behalf of the Chair of

the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee, Senator Sandy Macdonald, I present additional information received by the committee and transcripts of evidence relating to hearings on the budget estimates for 2002-03. There are three volumes and two transcripts.

ASSENT

Messages from His Excellency the Governor-General were reported, informing the Senate that he had assented to the following laws:

Australian Capital Territory Legislation Amendment Act 2003 (Act No. 1, 2003)
 Commonwealth Volunteers Protection Act 2003 (Act No. 2, 2003)
 Migration Legislation Amendment (Migration Advice Industry) Act 2003 (Act No. 3, 2003)
 Broadcasting Legislation Amendment Act (No. 1) 2003 (Act No. 4, 2003).

DOCUMENTS

National Security: Information Kits

Senator NETTLE (New South Wales) (3.48 p.m.)—I seek leave to table documents. They include an important message from the Prime Minister, as previously circulated in the chamber, and messages for the Prime Minister from the Australian people.

Leave not granted.

Senator IAN CAMPBELL (Western Australia—Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer) (3.48 p.m.)—I seek leave to make a short statement.

Leave granted.

Senator IAN CAMPBELL—I thank colleagues for granting me leave. Senator Nettle has done me the courtesy, which I appreciate, of seeking agreement for, and giving me forewarning of, what she wanted to do with the tabling of a number of copies of the document distributed by the government in relation to the increased threat of terrorism within Australia and how the public should respond to it. I have indicated to Senator Nettle that I will not agree to the tabling of all of the return mail. Senator Ellison, the Minister for Justice and Customs, made an appropriate response to some questions about that in question time today. He has raised serious concerns about a number

of security threats that have been made in relation to some of those documents.

I am aware that in Perth in Western Australia Greens state MPs have been running a campaign, as part of their anti-war campaign, to have these information packs returned unopened to the Greens offices or, as I recall, one day they were encouraging them to be returned to the Attorney-General's office. I went on the radio and made the point that the government is trying to do the responsible thing by providing information to the community about what they can reasonably do to be aware of increased threats to personal safety, and I said I thought that was the responsible thing to do. I also made the point during the interview on Paul Murray's 6PR talk show that I would be happy if in a few months time the government was lampooned for overreacting. I think it would be a great achievement if the world got through this current threat unscathed and the government was told that it had been overreacting. I certainly hope that the government is not accused of underreacting to the current threats.

The main objection that I have to the tabling of these documents is that it is, without any doubt in my mind, a stunt. The tabling of documents is done within the parliament to ensure that a document that is not available is made widely available. Tabling a document ensures that the tabled document may be circulated to any senator and, I think, made available to any member of the public. Clearly, this document has been made available to all members of the public. It is widely available. So to table the documents in the Senate is a waste of time and energy.

Senator Nettle also wants to ensure that messages for John Howard from the Australian people—which are in her writing in the document that I have in front of me and were quoted from the returned terrorism packages—get through. She lists a number of pages summarising those messages. It is entirely appropriate that the Prime Minister and the government be made aware of people's feelings about the international security situation. To show my bona fides, I am happy to have this document tabled, because it serves the purpose of informing the parliament of the views of all of those people

who have taken the time to communicate them. That is what a parliament should be about. It should be about informing the parliament, informing the government, of the plurality of views within this great democracy. It should not be demeaned by the pulling of mindless and childlike stunts. I am happy to make an offer to the Greens if they would like to table this document which summarises the views of all of those good Australians. I will pass it to the Opposition Whip so she too may make a judgment. In fact, I think she is getting one from the Greens. I now make the offer to give leave to have this document tabled so that all senators and members and the Prime Minister may receive a copy of the views of these good citizens, but I will not give leave to table a document that has already been distributed, at taxpayers' expense, to every household in Australia.

Senator NETTLE (New South Wales) (3.54 p.m.)—I seek leave to table the document summarising the messages to Prime Minister Howard that were written on returned antiterrorism kits and which have been circulated in the chamber.

Leave granted.

**NATIONAL HEALTH AMENDMENT
(PHARMACEUTICAL BENEFITS—
BUDGET MEASURES) BILL 2002
[No. 2]**

Second Reading

Debate resumed from 3 March, on motion by **Senator Ian Campbell**:

That this bill be now read a second time.

Senator HUTCHINS (New South Wales) (3.54 p.m.)—I only had a few minutes last night to make my contribution and I welcome this opportunity now to continue my remarks. As we have been advised, the **National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits—Budget Measures) Bill 2002 [No. 2]** is one of the bills that the government is making a determined stand on—and so are we. Last night I said that it was revealed in the Senate estimates that the government planned to spend \$49.6 million on an advertising campaign 'to inform the community of the high-quality medicines system funded by taxpayers'. I would suggest that, in light of

the supposed budgetary necessity of cutting the PBS, proposing to spend \$49.6 million on advertising a system which has been destroyed by this government is verging on deception. As far as I am concerned, this is a slap in the face to hardworking Australians. It is entirely unacceptable that the government would cut \$1.1 billion from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme and then spend almost \$50 million of taxpayers' money to make it seem rosy. It is an abuse of government and a failure to recognise the needs of Australians.

The proposed cuts to the PBS are just one element of the government's oversight of the destruction of the health care system. The coalition government has seen a slow erosion of the bulk-billing system. The most recent figures show that only 69.6 per cent of visits to GPs are bulk-billed, which is a drop from a high of 80.6 per cent just after the 1996 election. In fact, the percentage of doctors visits which are bulk-billed has decreased every year since the coalition was elected. Under Labor, it increased every year. That is because Labor has a commitment to accessible health care. Because of that commitment, we have rejected this bill before and we will do it again.

The New South Wales Department of Health recently conducted a statewide survey of GPs, asking them to indicate whether they would provide full bulk-billing services in six months time. In six months time, it is expected that only 28 per cent of GPs on the Central Coast will provide full bulk-billing services. The Central Coast is an area which has a high proportion of retirees and young families, yet the government, and in particular the members for Dobell and Robertson, has done nothing to ensure the healthy future of the people of the Central Coast. People on the Central Coast have not been adequately represented by their coalition members, Mr Ticehurst and Mr Lloyd. Central Coast residents have seen a drop of 15 per cent in the number of bulk-billed visits to general practitioners. Now the government is, for the second time, attempting to increase the copayment for essential medicines. The members for Dobell and Robertson have a duty to represent the best interests of their

constituents, but have instead supported a government which has allowed bulk-billing to erode. Mr Ticehurst and Mr Lloyd had both supported increasing the cost of essential medicines, not once but twice. They will be reminded of it and so will the people of the Central Coast.

All government members when they vote for this bill should bear in mind the serious impact it will have on Australian families. An additional cost of \$190 per year on a family can mean the difference between getting by and doing it tough. For pensioners, an additional cost of \$52 per year is a very serious increase. Many pensioners have trouble making ends meet as it is. An extra \$52 could put them over the line.

Fortunately, the Australian Labor Party and the minor parties rejected this measure the last time it came before the Senate. If we had not, Australian families would have been slugged with an increase of 30 per cent for each prescription. Evidence provided in Senate estimates suggests that pensioners would go without five million prescriptions and families would go without half a million prescriptions if this bill were passed. It is entirely unacceptable that the Treasurer's cost-cutting exercise should stop Australians from accessing essential medicines.

The final budget outcome has shown that there is no budgetary justification for the proposed increase in the PBS copayment. The final budget outcome showed that the government's expenditure on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme was \$224 million less than had been estimated in last year's budget, the figures of which were the basis for the current bill. The annual increase in expenditure on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme was lower than the average of the past decade rather than the 20 per cent increase the government expected. If this legislation is simply a reaction to expenditure rather than an ideological move against public subsidisation of medicines then the government should not have reintroduced the legislation once the final budget outcomes were known.

The moderate increase in the cost of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme for the 2001-02 financial year should dictate the

maintenance of the PBS subsidy at its current level. The government should not punish Australian families for its mistakes in the 2000-01 financial year and the resulting blow-out in expenditure for the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.

I wholeheartedly oppose this bill. The result of the bill being passed would be a less accessible and less fair PBS system. The Australian Labor Party supports the right of Australians to have access to affordable medicines. Health care is something which should not be determined by the ability of individuals to pay, because it is essential that all Australians live healthy and comfortable lives. The Labor Party has a strong and lasting commitment to the public provision of health care, most clearly manifested by Prime Minister Whitlam's introduction of Medibank and Prime Minister Hawke's introduction of Medicare. Continuing Labor's tradition of ensuring the accessibility of the health care system, the Labor caucus will again vote against this bill. I opposed this bill in the first instance and when it comes before us to vote on, whether today or later this week, I will vote against it again.

Senator BUCKLAND (South Australia) (4.02 p.m.)—I too rise today to speak on the **National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits—Budget Measures) Bill 2002 [No. 2]**. This is the second time the Senate has debated the measures in this bill, and it is the second time I have risen to speak on the issue. It is becoming a hallmark of this government to regurgitate the same bill over and over again. But interestingly the government only regurgitates and persists with those bills that affect those members of our community who will suffer and be hurt the most.

Like the previous bill, the purpose of this bill is to introduce into the Health and Ageing portfolio budget measures, outcome 2, a specified increase in the patient copayments for the purchase of drugs subsidised under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. When the government originally introduced this bill last year, it had the outcome of increasing patient copayments by 28 per cent from \$22.40 to \$28.60 per prescription and safety net threshold payments from \$686.40 to \$874.90. That was to be effective from Janu-

ary 2003. This translates to an extra \$190-odd per year for the cost of essential medicines and an extra \$6.20 per script for each of the 300,000 Australians who reach the general safety net.

In the same manner, this bill seeks to increase concessional copayments by 28 per cent from \$3.60 to \$4.60 and safety net threshold payments from \$187.20 to \$239.20, also to be effective from January 2003. We need to ask ourselves how many pensioners and concessional card holders can afford to fork out an extra \$1 for each prescription. I would suggest that very, very few could afford to pay. The government calculations attained through Senate estimates proved that the consequences of a proposed increase in the concessional copayment from \$3.60 to \$4.60 affecting Australian pensioners and concession card holders would result in almost five million prescriptions for essential medicines remaining unfilled. The same calculations showed that Australian families under financial pressure will go without almost half a million prescriptions as a result of the proposed increase in the general copayment from \$22.40 to \$28.60.

In total, the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme calculated by the government will result in families, pensioners and concession card holders going without almost five and a half million prescriptions simply because they cannot afford the increase. And this is from a Prime Minister who fantasises that Australians are relaxed and comfortable. That might be the case for the top end of town, but it is not the case for the average Australian.

Labor rejected this bill the first time, and today we are rejecting it again. The only thing this bill will achieve is to once again leave all Australians, in particular the sickest and poorest Australians, under the peril of not being able to afford the essential medicines they need. Commonsense tells us that essential medicines will keep people healthier longer. The reality is, if prescriptions go unfilled because Australians are unable to afford them, their health will suffer. As a consequence this will lead to greater expenses for medical assistance down the track.

Labor agree that it is essential to deliberate on the value of growth in the PBS, but only through sensible policy. Last year in the budget there were a number of measures that Labor supported and felt were sensible policy. These included increasing the use of generic drugs where appropriate, stopping pharmaceutical fraud both on and by pharmacists and improving the listing procedures for new medicines. Other measures included providing better information to consumers and doctors and increasing the focus on evidence based medicine.

Instead, we are witnessing the consequences of bad decisions made by this government. It is now trying to recoup losses caused by its bad decisions, through false economy, by looking for consumers to pay a larger proportion of the cost of drugs they legitimately need. For the most part, it is looking to concessional patients. This government is banking on 2.8 per cent of pensioner and concession scripts and 1.4 per cent of general scripts going unfilled because people are not able to afford them. Fifty per cent of the \$1.1 billion the government wants to save from this copayment increase over four years will come from pensioners.

The true foundation of this bill is to restore the budget bottom line without any consideration or fairness to those most in need. How does the Howard government justify this after making such detrimental mistakes with the PBS in the past, bad mistakes made contrary to wise counsel? I am referring to the blow-out costs created in June 2001 when former Minister Wooldridge listed Celebrex against the recommendations of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee and did nothing to control the huge costs. The committee recommended that Celebrex be priced at \$1 a day. The government failed to follow through on a contract negotiated with pharmaceutical manufacturer Pfizer that would have resulted in the price being halved once a certain number of scripts had been issued. Instead, what resulted was a \$140 million blow-out in the first nine months of listing, up from an estimated \$40 million. That is \$100 million more than was estimated. Celebrex was not the only bad decision made by the govern-

ment. The antinicotine drug Zyban was also listed by the government against expert advice on cost control mechanisms.

Another perspective the government has had on the PBS was highlighted in November last year when Labor asked Foreign Minister Downer whether he would rule out putting on the agenda for a free trade agreement with the United States the abolition of Australia's PBS. Mr Downer refused to rule out abolishing the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme as part of a free trade agreement.

The Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme has been in operation for 50 years. It is one of the cornerstones of Medicare and a guarantee for every Australian that essential medicines will be available and affordable. This government is clearly willing to place the health of Australians at risk because of pressure from the United States for Australia to abandon the PBS as a condition of entering into a free trade agreement. We can see that the pharmaceutical industry is again seeking to have the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme put on the table so far as free trade negotiations are concerned. The government should rule out changes to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme as part of those free trade agreement negotiations. The scheme has served this country well.

In summary, on the seventh anniversary of John Howard's election, we have seen bulk-billing go from 80 per cent to 69.6 per cent over a seven-year period. That is an 11 per cent decline in bulk-billing, and over half of that has come in the last 12 months. Now the Minister for Health and Ageing, Senator Patterson, is saying that if this legislation is not passed then more money will be spent on the Pharmaceuticals Benefits Scheme and there will be less money for other areas. Yet if we allow logic to prevail in this scenario what we are likely to see is a shifted burden of cost onto other areas of Commonwealth and state expenditure, most likely through greater hospitalisation for those people unable to afford their prescriptions. Inevitably, other repercussions will include people with untreated infections and sicknesses spreading those infections and sicknesses around schoolyards, offices and workplaces, adding more financial strain when an adult is at

home sick and not out working or when a child is out of school and not getting the benefit of education.

What does the government have to say about the consequences for employers when workers are off work? The government is so adamantly pushing the point that the employer needs to be protected and not disadvantaged in the Workplace Relations Amendment (Fair Dismissal) Bill 2002 [No.2]—which was again rejected yesterday—that I guess the government response would simply be: 'Sack them. You're protected.' Labor ardently opposes this bill and sees the time, effort and expense of debating this issue once again in the Senate as the government's political swindle to get, yet again, an opportunity for a double dissolution trigger.

Senator WEBBER (Western Australia) (4.15 p.m.)—As I am sure most senators in this chamber—if not the Australian public—will recall, the Australian people were on a promise. Of course we have come to understand that some promises are core and some are non-core, but at the time this promise was made in 1996 there was no such distinction. The current Prime Minister told the Australian people that he wanted them to be 'relaxed and comfortable'. Here we are seven years on and we find this government taking steps to renege on that promise. How is it that an Australian can feel comfortable and relaxed about the state of health care in this country when costs just keep going up and up? New technologies and procedures mean that we should all feel more comfortable and relaxed about health care today than we did seven years ago. It is one of those things that Australians have come to prize over the years. New cures for diseases, new equipment to treat patients and new hospitals are an ingrained expectation for many of us. Over the course of the last century, we have seen diseases such as polio wiped out through new advancements. New equipment to screen for disease and early identification to increase survivability have been taken for granted.

Health care is one of the most important things to nearly every Australian. If you are sick or a member of your family is sick, you

want the best services and facilities that are available. You want to know that Mr Howard's promise, his vision of relaxation and comfort, will be a reality in 2003, especially in the key area of health care. But what we have is one failure after another. Less relaxed but more anxious and less comfortable and greater discomfort is what we have. The coalition government would have us believe that we need to change the way the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme operates by increasing copayments or else the whole system will collapse. We are told constantly that the **National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits—Budget Measures) Bill 2002 [No. 2]** amends the scheme to increase the copayment for general and concessional patients to cover the higher cost of drugs. We are told over and over again that health costs are increasing all the time, and the only policy response from this government is to charge us all more. There is no response that looks at efficiencies within health care, at ways to reduce costs or even to increase funding.

Over the last seven years, we have had to take out private health insurance before we turn 30 or run the risk of higher premiums later in life. At the time we were told that this approach would relieve pressure on the public hospital system and keep premiums down. Those opposite claim that more people in private health insurance means fewer people in the public hospital system. That was the logic behind the policy, we were told. To do this, we have had to fund the rebates on private health insurance to the sum of billions of dollars each year. This amount increases with each year, but do the premiums stay the same? Of course they do not. The fact that the government's policy forced many Australians to take out health insurance when they did not need or want it was irrelevant. Ideology wanted it and ideology got it. Of course, everyone is shocked and amazed that, when someone has to pay for something they do not really need or want, they demand some form of value for money—they want some kind of return. This meant that people put in claims—lots of claims; more claims than anyone expected or the health funds had budgeted for. This must mean that it worked. However, more claims

meant more costs in processing them and more payouts—payouts for all sorts of wonderful things like relaxation music and golf clubs.

Instead of premiums becoming cheaper, the funds put their prices up and this government let them. In fact, the Prime Minister's private health insurance rebate costs Australian taxpayers over \$2 billion a year and people are still not getting value for money. The Prime Minister has frightened people into taking out private health insurance by making cover two per cent more expensive for each and every year after a person turns 30, if they had not joined prior to turning 30. His policy increased the profit, though, of private health funds fivefold from \$176 million in financial year 1998-99 to \$852 million in financial year 2000-01, but people are still not getting value for their money.

In his efforts to frighten people into private health insurance Mr Howard has broken two promises, and people are still not getting value for money. In the lead-up to the last federal election, the Prime Minister said that his policies would make private health insurance more affordable. Mr Howard said that his policies would reduce premiums. Since the federal election, we have seen an 18 per cent increase in premiums for HBF and a 66 per cent increase for excess. Again, in the lead-up to the last election, the Prime Minister said, in what he called an 'absolute guarantee' as opposed to a core and non-core promise, that any future increases in private health insurance premiums would require his personal approval. Since the federal election, Mr Howard has wiped his hands of his guarantee and broken his promise. On 11 September last year—perhaps when he thought no-one would notice—the Prime Minister announced that he would allow private health funds to increase their premiums each and every year without any explanation. This broken promise will cost the average Australian family with private health insurance an additional \$50 to \$100 each and every year. It would seem that must have been another non-core promise. I am sure that all Australians are feeling more comfortable and relaxed about these cost increases!

Medicare bulk-billing is collapsing. If it continues at the same rate, within 10 years it will not be available for any Australian. Medicare—an approach that most Australians felt very comfortable and relaxed about prior to 1996—is now something that they feel quite betrayed about. I am sure it is easy to be comfortable and relaxed when it costs you more and you then have to undertake additional effort to get some of the money back through being privately insured! Prior to 1996, you went to the doctor, they swiped your Medicare card, you signed a form and that was that. In retrospect, we now realise that that must have been more difficult, stressful and inconvenient than what we are forced to do today! That must be why presentations at hospital emergency rooms are increasing at an astronomical rate.

At the Armadale Kelmscott Memorial Hospital in the eastern suburbs of Perth, the rate of presentations at the emergency rooms increased by 2,700 in the year 2001-02. This is in no way linked to the decline in bulk-billing. We know that because the minister tells us that, so it must be true. People must prefer going to emergency rooms to scheduling a visit to their local doctor. People must prefer sitting in waiting rooms for hours on end to see a doctor in a public hospital to making an appointment at the local practice. This novel approach must mean that people presenting at emergency rooms are more comfortable and relaxed about going there than to their local doctor. The time wasted and the inconvenience are obviously all part of some government relaxation plan that the rest of us are not yet privy to.

Now we have the attack on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. Since the Howard government has come to power, over 60 medicines have been removed from the PBS, but the cost of medicines has increased. The Howard government spent all of last year, and now it has spent some of this year, trying to push through legislation to raise the cost of PBS medicines by 30 per cent. This was necessary, the Prime Minister claimed, because PBS costs were spiralling out of control. This was a lie. Government figures released on 30 September last year showed that the Howard government spent \$224 million

less on the PBS than its estimate for that item in last year's budget. Despite the government's underspend of that \$224 million on the PBS, the Prime Minister is still trying to slug the sickest and poorest Australians with a 30 per cent increase in the cost of essential medicines.

At the time that this legislation was first introduced, the Labor Party suggested a course of action to the government as a means of saving money without having to increase the copayment. But that suggestion was ignored. The government's option is the only one to be considered. Their approach is to increase the copayment, and that is that. Perhaps there are other approaches. Should we not be looking to see whether there are alternative sources of pharmaceuticals? Should we not be negotiating with drug companies to see what can be done to keep costs down? Why should we simply go along with the prevailing trend in health care, which is that we allow drug companies to set high prices for newer procedures and treatments?

The minister has told us in the past that medicines are expensive, the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme is extremely generous and there are some courses of drugs that cost thousands of dollars. My question to the drug companies is: why are they so expensive? Of course, I will be told that years and years of research, the cost of getting patents and copyrights, and market developments mean that the drug companies have to charge high prices to get a reasonable return. My concern is what independent analysis of these claims is ever undertaken. Are we being ripped off by drug companies? It is a question that caused no end of discussion in South Africa about certain medication for treating HIV-AIDS. South African authorities sourced cheaper generic medications and then were in legal dispute with the big drug companies. How many other examples of that problem exist? Do we know and, more importantly, do we care? Have we allowed a situation to develop where the health needs of our fellow Australians are being mortgaged to the financial needs of drug companies?

One area that needs to be investigated is how we can source pharmaceuticals on a

more cost-effective basis rather than simply paying increasing amounts of money to drug companies. None of the alternative responses are seriously considered by the government as a means of overcoming the problems of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. Instead, we get the simplistic approach of simply jacking up the price. Why should any of us be surprised that they take this approach? We see it as yet another example of their basic philosophical premise: they are all about comforting the comfortable and afflicting the afflicted. Whilst this government and this Minister for Health and Ageing are in power, there is no capacity for Australians to be comfortable and relaxed about the state of their health care.

Senator NETTLE (New South Wales) (4.27 p.m.)—The *National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits—Budget Measures) Bill 2002 [No. 2]* is the second attempt by the coalition government within the past 12 months to undermine one of the most important components of Australia's public health system, the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. This bill would increase the copayment or the proportion of the cost of prescription medicines that a patient pays by 28 per cent. The government likes to remind us that this amount is as little as an additional \$1 per script for concession card holders and \$6.20 for everyone else. These proposed increases would take the cost of a script to \$4.60 for concession card holders and \$28.60 for general patients. We know that around 80 per cent of people who use the PBS are concession card holders. Those who are ineligible for a health care card but who are on low to middle incomes will pay the higher increase proposed in this bill. Modelling by the National Centre for Social and Economic Modelling a few years ago showed that a flat 25 per cent increase in the copayment—that is less than the percentage rise proposed in this bill—would place a burden on the lowest income earners among general patients, taking their expenditure on pharmaceuticals to an average 8.6 per cent of disposable income. To claim that increasing the copayment by 28 per cent is of little consequence to these people further demonstrates how out of touch this government is

with the way many Australians struggle to make ends meet.

The Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, or PBS, is a vital component of our public health system. Its goal is to make necessary medicines available to all Australians. The Treasurer announced the rise in the copayment in the 2002-03 budget. The government asserts that the rise is essential if the PBS is to be placed on a sustainable footing. Without the increase, the government claims, the very future of the PBS is at stake and the listings of new medicines threatened. This claim is ludicrous, as the government knows. What is driving this increase is an ideological obsession with a budget surplus.

The Australian Consumers Association has calculated that by 2006 the copayment rise will pay 12.4 days of the government's share of PBS costs, or 3.5 per cent of the estimated total. The Australian Consumers Association further calculated that the copayment would need to rise between 10 and 20 per cent every year to maintain its relative share of the total cost of the PBS. This is unacceptable. The copayment has already almost doubled through CPI indexing since the Howard government came to office in 1996. Targeting those on low incomes, the sick and those with chronic conditions to pay substantially more through a direct payment is unsupportable. As the Australian Consumers Association has noted, increasing the copayment does not affect the total amount that the community spends on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme; it merely shifts the financial burden and does nothing to improve value for money. Nor will it improve the health of Australians.

Department of health figures show that a significant proportion of the \$1.1 billion that the government anticipates saving over four years will come from a fall in demand for medicines, or five million scripts not being filled. The government either believes there is a dreadful amount of unnecessary prescribing going on—and that increasing the cost of drugs will not address this issue—or is prepared to sacrifice the long-term health of people to improve its budget outcome. Even then the department's figures show that reduced demand caused by the copayment

increase will cease by the fourth year. This is not a formula for long-term sustainability. It ignores the benefits to the Commonwealth budget and to the health of the nation in ensuring that people can afford necessary medicines, and it ignores the cost of more serious illness and disability if people cannot afford to take essential medicines. This obsession with the short-term budget position does not even make good economic sense. It fails to appreciate the principle of value for money. Even if the PBS continues to take a growing share of the health budget, this does not automatically mean that it is money poorly spent. On the contrary, a well managed PBS has the potential to save the public money, not to mention the benefits to individual wellbeing.

The Commonwealth spent \$4.8 billion on the PBS in 2001-02, a rise of around 13.6 per cent on the previous year. This is in line with the average annual expenditure growth rate for the past decade. The proportion of funding that Australia allocates to pharmaceutical subsidies is lower than that of other OECD nations. However, the rate of growth in the proportion of funding that Australia allocates to the scheme is greater than that of other OECD nations. There are cost pressures on the PBS. These include expensive new medicines and a community expectation to have access to these drugs. They include drug manufacturers spending a large amount of money to promote their products in ways that are not necessarily beneficial to the Australian public. Drugs are not always prescribed for the conditions for which they were listed, thereby undermining the cost benefits of the particular drug in terms of health outcomes. There are also government-induced pressures, such as the decision to grant access to health care cards which provide the PBS listed drugs at the concessionary rate to as many as 50,000 self-funded retirees in 2001. Pharmaceutical companies have also refused to pass on to the government GST savings, through abolition of the wholesale sales tax, of around \$250 million.

It is clear that many facets of the PBS need addressing to ensure it remains a viable scheme. The government has addressed some of these aspects, but spending millions

of dollars to tell the public the full cost of PBS listed medicines is of little merit. The government's approach is piecemeal. Several changes were announced in the budget, others have been announced since then and, for all we know, still further measures are in the pipeline following the interdepartmental committee process that has been occurring beyond public scrutiny. The public has been told little about the committee process. The committee was tasked with examining the overall effectiveness of the PBS. The precise terms of reference are cabinet-in-confidence. We do not know why they are such a mystery. The Australian Greens consider it unacceptable to conduct this process in private. This secret review has the potential to lead to changes that affect every Australian. The government continues to insist that the Senate must pass the copayment increase, yet it refuses to tell the public what else it is considering. The fact that the review was conducted while this bill was before the parliament simply strengthens our suspicions that the copayment rise has nothing at all to do with ensuring the viability of the PBS and finding the best means of getting maximum value for money for the public.

Amid the government's alarmist claims that the PBS is unsustainable, we have seen some troubling proposals emerge from the Australian pharmaceutical industry's lobby group, Medicines Australia. In its submission to the interdepartmental committee, Medicines Australia, among its key messages, stated:

Policy reform needs to transition from the current system to the long-term new world view where those who can afford will assume greater responsibility for their health care and medicine needs.

It suggested different copayment rates based on categories of medicine and excluding high-income earners from the scheme, but allowing them to buy private health insurance to cover their drug costs. This proposal comes from an industry that spends an estimated \$750 million each year in Australia to market, promote or advertise to doctors the benefits of the newest and most expensive drugs. The sorts of changes that the industry suggests are at odds with the core qualities of the scheme—that is, being comprehensive,

universal and affordable. It concerns us that not once during the debate on the future of the PBS and on this bill in particular has the minister committed the government to maintaining the PBS as a comprehensive and universal scheme.

There are other ways to approach the matter of the cost of the PBS, such as reconfiguring the financial arrangements that deliver a good return for the Australian public and a fair return for manufacturers. One alternative has been developed by Ian McCauley, a lecturer in public sector finance at the University of Canberra. Under this model, the Australian government would pay a flat licence fee to the manufacturer if it decided to list an item on the PBS. This fee would be designed to cover the largest component of costs to the manufacturer—that is, research and development. A further small payment would be made for the drugs to more accurately reflect the cost of production. These are the sorts of innovative approaches that we need to be examining.

It should come as no surprise that this government considers it acceptable to shift \$300 million more of the financial burden of essential medicines to the sick and those on low incomes. The government's record on health is a poor one. It shows little concern for the falling rates of bulk-billing for Medicare services, which cause hardship for millions of Australians and place an intolerable burden on our public hospitals.

After years of neglecting Medicare, the Prime Minister has finally revealed the government's real agenda. He told parliament yesterday that bulk-billing, a critical feature of Medicare, was never intended to be universal. He is trying to rewrite history to justify his plan to turn Medicare into a safety net for the less fortunate. He wants Australia to have a two-tiered health system: charity for the poor, and everyone else gets the health care that they can afford. This is poor social and economic policy. All Australians contribute to the cost of Medicare through the levy and general taxation. We all have a stake in keeping it strong and able to provide good quality health care to all on the basis of need and not income.

Promoting a system that will leave many people unable to afford primary health care will lead to complications, more serious illness and increased personal and public costs. The Prime Minister said Australia could not afford a universal health care scheme, but the government pours billions of dollars of public money each year into subsidising private health insurance. The Australia Institute has calculated that around half of the private health insurance rebate goes to the top 20 per cent of taxpayers and nearly three-quarters goes to the top 40 per cent. This money—some \$2.3 billion a year, and rising—has not delivered a single additional hospital bed or theatre or paid for employing health professionals in the public system, the one on which most Australians rely. It pays for insurance, marketing, promotion and, as a report in the *Australian Financial Review* earlier this year revealed, for large fees for directors of health funds.

In a report released last month, one of the architects of the universal health care system, Professor John Deeble, concluded that, if the money had been spent instead on public hospitals, the same services that were purchased in private hospitals would have been purchased for far less cost. That is because 12 per cent of money paid to private hospital services goes to administration and only 40 per cent is spent directly on health and medical services.

The rebate has failed the government's own tests. It has done nothing to alleviate pressures on public hospitals; in-patient numbers have fallen a fraction of one per cent in 2000-01. It has not kept young people in private cover, even with the financial penalties imposed under the lifetime cover policy, nor has it kept down premiums. The cost of private insurance continues to rise and the proportion of the population with private hospital cover has fallen during the past two years. The government finally appears to have acknowledged the runaway cost of this rebate and it now plans to introduce legislation in this sitting to contain excessive premium rises. It would be better placed, and all Australians would benefit, if it redirected the money to the public system which provides services to all Australians.

We should never forget that the provision of health and medical services is a public good that benefits us all, collectively and individually. None of us will go through life without drawing on these services. Some of us will need them more than others. It is in the interests of all Australians that our public health system is not only on a strong financial footing but that it can deliver essential services to all who need them.

Private profit has a place in aspects of health and medicine, but profit should not be made at the expense of need and fairness. We must withstand any attempt to undermine the PBS by stealth through, for example, trade negotiations. The long-term sustainability of the PBS lies in a thorough review of all aspects of the scheme, not in a budgetary context and with disregard for other constituent elements of our public health system.

The Australian Greens are proposing a Senate inquiry to undertake a comprehensive review of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme to examine the government's assumptions of cost and sustainability, and to consider a range of possible changes to the scheme, including how we fund it. All parties and some Independents have expressed a desire to safeguard the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. Our proposed inquiry will contribute to that end and I look forward to the Senate's support for the proposal when it is moved later this week.

Senator FORSHAW (New South Wales) (4.45 p.m.)—I recently saw a movie called *John Q.* I had to watch it on video as I was not able to see it when it was released in the cinema.

Senator McGauran—Tell us about it!

Senator FORSHAW—Obviously Senator McGauran has not seen it. I invite him to get the video or DVD out and watch it. I am not sure if he has a plasma TV but, in any event, it would be very instructive for Senator McGauran. The movie tells the story of a father in America, fighting for his son to have access to the American health system. The father, played by Denzel Washington, has just found out that his working hours have been cut back in the factory where he works. He is now essentially working casual

hours. Obviously his income has been reduced and he has had his car and some possessions repossessed because of his increasingly difficult financial circumstances. Then his son is suddenly diagnosed with a severe heart condition and needs a heart transplant. When the father goes to the hospital to find out about getting this transplant done, he believes he is covered by the relevant health insurance policy that he has been paying into, through his workplace, for years. Then he finds out that the company, unbeknown to him, has downgraded his level of health cover and his son will no longer be able to access the treatment he requires unless the family can come up with a substantial amount of money.

I will not go further other than to say that, in desperation, the father takes dramatic action, which one would hope never to see, where he takes hostages in the hospital, demanding that his son be given the medical treatment he needs. I am pleased to say that the movie has a happy ending, but it is illustrative of a situation that we know exists in other parts of the world, and particularly in the United States health system: that is, if you find yourself in financial difficulties and in need of health care, and you do not have access either to insurance or to a universal health system—such as we have here with Medicare—then you are in serious trouble.

What is happening to health care in this country is that we are heading down the road to that sort of situation. I am going to come to the particular measures contained in the **National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits—Budget Measures) Bill 2002 [No. 2]** in a moment. First, let us place this bill in context. This bill seeks to amend the National Health Act to allow the government to increase prices for pensioners and concession card holders accessing the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. This is another of those bills that the government has brought in this week that have been rejected by this parliament previously. Only yesterday we dealt with the **Workplace Relations Amendment (Fair Dismissal) Bill 2002 [No. 2]**. That bill also targeted the most needy, or those least able to cope in this country. It attacked employees in small businesses by seeking to

deny them the right to take action under the industrial relations legislation in the event that they were dismissed from employment. In a sector of the work force where you find people on the lowest rates of pay, on minimum award rates, who have difficulty getting permanent full-time employment and where there is a high incidence of casual and part-time work, this government is targeting those very workers by removing rights which are enjoyed by all other employees in the country.

In this bill, people who need to access the health system more regularly than others and who need to obtain prescriptions through the PBS are being hit hardest—particularly pensioners and concession card holders. We are also aware, as we discussed only a couple of hours ago in question time and as was discussed yesterday, that what is happening with bulk-billing in this country is the destruction of Medicare through the continuing decline in the level of bulk-billing. The government is now trying to dig up some quotes from previous Labor ministers to say that Medicare and bulk-billing were only ever intended for the needy, for the less fortunate. Everybody knows that is absolute nonsense. Bulk-billing under Labor governments reached 85 per cent. Bulk-billing operated in virtually the entire field of general practice. Now you can visit country towns in New South Wales, as I pointed out, where you will not find a single doctor bulk-billing in areas where the population comprises retirees, veterans, people on welfare and so on. So even under the government's own changed criteria, bulk-billing is not available for those most in need.

We can see in another area that the changes this government has proposed in the so-called welfare reform agenda are taking away the rights of people with disabilities—and others—to access social welfare and are requiring them to do more in order to access the benefits that they so desperately need. That has been the agenda of this government since it came to office. I can recall, not long after the government got in in 1996, debating proposals by this government to change the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme by removing a range of prescription drugs from that

list. What did the government choose? It chose drugs that would be prescribed for treating blood pressure, cholesterol and diabetes, and drugs that would be prescribed for people who needed to take antidepressants. They were areas where large numbers of prescriptions were written, as we know. People, particularly those with some form of mental illness or depression, were suddenly being told that there was a limit on the number of prescriptions that they could have per year and that there was going to be a reduction in the availability of drugs that they could be prescribed that were subsidised through the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. It was one of the most disgraceful proposals ever to come from a health minister—to target people suffering from depression. Fortunately, the government saw the error of its ways and, after a campaign, changed its proposal and exempted those particular drugs from being removed from the list.

There is a history of this government targeting those who are least able to afford it. When the government gets into economic difficulty, when it has to try to keep the budget in surplus or to pay for some of the other programs that have run over budget or for commitments that it has made, such as the potential war in Iraq, the government looks around and says, 'Where can we raise the money quickly and with the least fight-back?'—to pick a word that has gone down in the lexicon of the Liberal Party. It picks on the weakest, those on the lowest incomes, those finding it hard to keep work or to obtain employment, those who are on welfare and those who may be age pensioners and so on. If you pick out the areas—unfair dismissal, disabilities, reform to social welfare and now the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme—the pattern is all the same. Why does the government do that? It does it because it knows no other way. It does it because it is the easy way out. It thinks: 'We need a few more million to keep the budget bottom line up, so what will we do? We will go and hit people who are accessing the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme and those who are doing it tough—more so than the general community—such as pensioners and concession card holders.'

What does this bill do? It directly attacks Australian families and pensioners who need access to vital medicines. It is clear that it will make some medicines simply unaffordable. It will dramatically increase the financial pressure on Australian families. The proposal in this bill is to increase Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme copayments by almost 30 per cent.

Senator McGauran—It is still the best system in the world.

Senator FORSHAW—It still is the best system in the world, Senator McGauran! Senator McGauran is actually saying that no matter how hard the government tries to make it the worst system in the world, it still manages to be the best system in the world. Senator McGauran, I hope that you do not win the fight here. I hope that you do not actually succeed in making it the worst system in the world. I will accept that there are countries throughout the world that have far worse health systems than this country, even under your stewardship. But that should not be the benchmark. The benchmark should be what we have always had in this country and how we can make it better, not how we can reduce it to some lowest common denominator that you may have in mind, Senator McGauran. Through you, Mr Acting Deputy President Chapman, the way that your government is going about it, Senator McGauran, you may actually achieve your objective of making it the worst system in the world. But I hope you do not, and we are here to make sure you do not.

The Australian people will not let this government do that. This is a real issue out there in the community. People may have their minds focused at the moment, obviously, on the serious international issues that are occurring at the moment, but they have not forgotten about the problems here in Australia in health, education, employment, aged care and so on. They will hold this government accountable when the time comes. This bill will increase the copayments by 30 per cent. It will bring in an extra \$1.2 billion over the next four-year period. That is \$1.2 billion sucked out of the pockets of those least able to afford it. Almost five million prescriptions, it is estimated, for essential

medicines will not be able to be funded under the proposed changes to the scheme. It is clear, if you read the evidence that came out in the Senate estimates hearings, that this increase in the concessional copayment will result in many Australian pensioners and concession card holders being much worse off. That is this government's prescription—if I can use a bad pun—for the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.

We understand that the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme is one of the great hallmarks of the Australian health system. It is a pillar upon which our health system—which has been regarded internationally as the best in the world—stands. Along with Medicare and the public hospital system, working with the private hospital system, the PBS is an integral part of the fabric of the Australian health system. It is something that Labor governments and the Labor Party have always supported and will always fight to maintain. We introduced Medibank. The Liberal coalition government got rid of it. We introduced Medicare, and the current Prime Minister, when he was in opposition, promised to destroy it. On each occasion, the Australian public have given the coalition parties the message that they will not accept any downgrading of our health system—Medicare, the PBS or other components of it. And they will not accept it on this occasion. We will oppose this legislation. It will go down. If the government has any sense, it will put it in the dustbin along with its inequitable proposals on unfair dismissal laws and start focusing on the real issues—that is, how to assist Australian families to ensure that we maintain the health system that they deserve.

Senator McLUCAS (Queensland) (5.03 p.m.)—At the outset, I must say that it is disappointing, but not unpredictable, to see the *National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits—Budget Measures) Bill 2002* [No. 2] back in the Senate. In the context of its reintroduction, it is important to remember that this is not a bill about improving health outcomes; it is a bill designed to generate misinformation and fear about the sustainability of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. It is also a bill about a

government shifting the pain for its own mismanagement of the PBS to its people, its health consumers.

The PBS is largely a preventative health strategy. Medications provided through the scheme keep people healthy, keep them out of hospital and keep them engaged in the community. For over 50 years, we have had a PBS that is the envy of the world. It is a scheme that many countries would like to emulate. It is recognised internationally as an effective health measure that is affordable both to the individual patient and to the community through their government. And it is designed to encourage a viable pharmaceutical research and manufacturing industry here in Australia.

For over 50 years, the PBS has delivered on those objectives successfully. But this government is intent on deconstructing our Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme—the scheme that has received such international acclaim. By increasing costs to the patient, through increasing the copayment and the safety net threshold, which this legislation provides for, the bill undermines the PBS by undermining the principles that underpin it. The principles of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme are, firstly, universal access—that is, it is only fair that every Australian should have access to essential medication. Secondly, the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme is designed to be comprehensive—that is, access to a wide range of medications should be provided to meet the variety of needs in the community. Thirdly, the PBS is designed to deliver responsible costs to the community—that is, a drug is not listed unless its benefits outweigh the cost to the community.

The government, through this legislation, is attacking the PBS on two fronts. Firstly, it has attacked the independence of the listing process in a range of ways. The Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee, representing independent expertise, has traditionally assessed drugs prior to their listing and placing on the PBS to ensure that they meet the community benefit criteria. Under the former health minister Dr Wooldridge, as we all know, we saw the independence of the PBAC undermined by the appointment of a

pharmaceutical lobbyist to the committee, which led to the subsequent resignation of a number of long-serving committee members. This was an inappropriate action by the former minister that I am sad to say has not been overturned.

The government has allowed interference in what should be a robust process, at arms length from the political process. The blow-out in the cost of some pharmaceuticals—notably, Celebrex and, to a lesser extent, Zyban—because of the manner in which they were listed resulted in increased costs to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. Traditionally, price volume agreements have been used to manage costs, in which an increase in volume is offset by a reduction in price paid to the manufacturer. However, this sensible practice was not adopted by the government in the case of Celebrex, for one, with significant impacts on the PBS budget.

More recently, we have seen the Prime Minister responding to a campaign run by Mr Alan Jones on his radio program about Glivec, a drug for sufferers of chronic myeloid leukemia, and it being listed outside the policy framework soon after. Let us remember that the health minister said on ABC radio on 5 September 2002:

When a company wants to have a drug put on the PBS, it applies to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee. They then advise the Government as to its cost effectiveness. If it's over \$10 M I have to take the recommendation to cabinet ...

and she went on—

At the moment I don't have any recommendations before cabinet.

On 10 September, five days later, on the Alan Jones program, the Prime Minister, Mr Howard, said:

I am very pleased to tell you that later this morning Kay Patterson, the Health Minister, will be putting out a statement indicating that the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Council has recommended the listing of Glivec for the early stage of treatment, and the recommendation has been accepted by the Government.

The cost of Glivec in a full year is more than \$10 million and under the government's policy it should have gone to cabinet for approval. But it did not. It is clear to me and to

the pharmaceutical industry and to health professionals that due process in that case was not followed and that the Prime Minister intervened in the proper process as a direct result of Mr Jones's interest in Glivec. The process of the listing of most drugs takes many months from start to finish, but we were in the middle of an election, weren't we?

All of us here in this place get correspondence both from constituents and from the pharmaceutical industry advocating the listing of certain drugs on the PBS. Our answer to those requests should be that due and proper process of analysis of the costs and benefits should be followed and that interference in that process is inappropriate. But it is increasingly harder to defend the process when it is evident to all that there has been from time to time political intervention in that process.

The government is attacking the affordability of the PBS, not to the government itself but to average Australians. This government, the highest taxing government in our history, says we cannot afford the PBS, a centrepiece of Australia's health care system. The government says that it can no longer afford the costs of the PBS and so its policy response is to make it unaffordable to the average Australian. We need to remember that the argument the government is proffering to support its position is the discredited Intergenerational Report delivered as part of the last budget. The Intergenerational Report is not based on sound Department of Health and Ageing planning advice but ostensibly on advice from Treasury. It is regarded widely as a political document, not a planning document. The assumptions underpinning the modelling on the PBS in the Intergenerational Report are widely understood as a joke. What is so sad is that the government is trying to make the public believe that Australia cannot afford the PBS because of the long predicted changes in the age of the population when it is in fact its own mismanagement of the listing processes that has caused much of the blowout.

A simulation by NATSEM, the National Centre for Social and Economic Modelling, of PBS expenditure in the year 2020 found

that price increases would have a much more significant impact on the PBS growth in expenditure than an ageing population. In fact, management of the spiralling costs of new technology is a far more significant issue in ensuring sustainability of the PBS than an ageing population. Sure, there is an increasing array of more expensive drugs to be considered for listing, but what you will not hear those in government talking about is the cost-benefit analysis of a drug's listing and the importance of mechanisms like price volume agreements to manage leakage. When a drug is listed a cost-benefit analysis is undertaken on new medications. This is because the PBS is a preventative health initiative as it keeps people out of more expensive care like hospitals and aged care facilities. So when a drug is being considered for listing an estimation of the cost of the drug and the likely benefits in terms of savings to the health care system in total are made. Drugs are not listed without a positive cost-benefit analysis.

The second stage is to ensure that the cost assumptions are met, that there will not be blow-outs in the cost of the medication to the PBS. When a drug is listed there is an argument with the manufacturer that a price will be paid for an initial quantity that is expected to produce maximum benefits to the broader population in Australia. When prescribing goes beyond the estimated usage of the medication then leakage starts to occur. In many cases the drug is being prescribed for those for whom it was not listed.

It has been estimated that leakage—that is, the prescribing of new and expensive medicines to patients with conditions not subsidised under the PBS restrictions for those drugs—costs the government up to \$1 billion every year. One mechanism to prevent this happening is what is called a price volume agreement. When a drug's use starts to blow out the manufacturer receives less money for those additional sales. This takes away the incentive to promote the drug to users outside the target population. The government's move away from price volume agreements, and its general failure to look at savings for the PBS at the manufacturing and prescribing end of the supply chain, are the

main reasons we are here today having this debate. The problem with the PBS is not, as the Intergenerational Report would have us believe, that the population is ageing, but far more due to this government's mismanagement of the scheme. But what it wants to do to solve those problems is to hit up Australian families. The minister says she wants to save the PBS by making it too expensive for the average Australian. Where is the logic in that?

Increasing copayments undermines the integrity of the PBS because it makes it increasingly difficult for Australian families to access affordable medications. Families are struggling already. Many cannot afford to see a doctor because of the bulk-billing rates. In the electorate of Herbert in North Queensland, the bulk-billing rates sit at 54.7 per cent for the September quarter. It is one of the worst rates in Queensland. It has plummeted 11 per cent in the last two years. For a visit to a general practitioner, the out-of-pocket expense of the copayment has increased 23.8 per cent in the last two years. The average out-of-pocket expense for a GP visit at the moment is \$15.98. There is a similar situation in the electorate of Dawson, also in North Queensland, where the bulk-billing rates sit at 65.7 per cent and the out-of-pocket expense to see a GP is \$15.13.

Those statistics paint a very sad and sorry picture for the people of North Queensland. It is becoming increasingly difficult to see a doctor and, when you get a consultation, it is becoming more and more expensive. And now the government wants to hit families further for their medication. This legislation will increase the PBS copayments by 28 per cent to \$28.60 for general patients and to \$4.60 for concessional patients. The safety nets will also increase to \$874.90 for general patients and to \$239.20 for concessional patients. If you add these increases together with the cost of this government's 1996 increases, you have a 70 per cent increase in the cost of essential medicines for families and pensioners. Under these PBS price increases, we risk people self-prescribing. Anyone with children knows that children often get sick at the same time. A working family with, say, three children with ordinary

common illnesses, such as a cold or the flu, is now going to pay up to \$85.80 to get the appropriate medication to assist those children. That is a lot of money in one hit from the ordinary family budget.

We need to understand that the PBS is designed as a preventative health measure. Commonsense tells us that those on low incomes will be the most disadvantaged by the government's copayment increases as they will add to these out-of-pocket expenses. But we do not simply have to rely on commonsense. Published research supports what commonsense tells us. The Monash University study that I discussed earlier found that, where high copayments must be incurred to access services, those on low incomes will tend to underutilise needed care, both reducing their health status and potentially creating more costly needs downstream. There are both efficiency and equity implications of the policy to increase copayments.

A 1998 study by NATSEM found that those on low incomes were the most disadvantaged when they modelled a 25 per cent increase in the PBS copayment and safety net. NATSEM found that general patients—that is, those who are not on health care cards—would spend 8.6 per cent of their disposable income on essential medicines. Given that the government is seeking a 30 per cent increase, we could expect prescribed drugs to be costing this group up to 10 per cent of their disposable income. These people, general patients, are the people who have been described as Howard's battlers. These are the working poor with children at home. No wonder they are battling when they are spending almost \$30 a week on essential medicines.

This legislation clearly undermines the universality principle of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. Under this legislation, not everyone will have access to affordable medication. This policy is not cost effective and it is not healthy. A Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme that is administered effectively and efficiently—operating under the guiding principles that I outlined earlier—is not a burden to the community. In fact, as we know, it produces benefits for the community and that is why we are increasingly living

longer and healthier lives. The Australian government, with an ageing population and a declining birth rate, should be doing all it can to keep people healthy and actively making a productive contribution to society for as long as they can.

Sustaining the PBS is essential to ensuring a secure future for all Australians. However, this legislation attacks the universality of the PBS by making medicines too expensive for many in the community, and it hits the consumer for the failure of the Howard government to effectively administer the cost-effectiveness of the PBS. This will effectively undermine the comprehensiveness of the system. We have a government attacking every principle that underpins the PBS. Australians value the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme just as they value Medicare. If the Howard government wants a double dissolution election on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, I say bring it on.

Senator LEES (South Australia) (5.20 p.m.)—In debating this legislation—the **Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits—Budget Measures) Bill 2002 [No. 2]**, which is designed to increase the cost of medications for Australians—I would like to make four points: firstly, to look at the history of the PBS and why it was originally put in place; secondly, to look at the pressures on it; thirdly, to look at what the government is already doing; and, finally, to look at some issues surrounding the government’s attempts to increase copayments at this point in time.

Firstly, let us look at the history of the PBS. The PBS has been in operation in Australia now for over 50 years, and it is a scheme that is envied by many other countries around the world as they struggle with some of the pressures that we are facing due to the increasing cost of medications. It was originally set up to provide equitable access to necessary medication. Up until 1950, there had been some medications made available free of charge to pensioners and war veterans. From that, changes were made to provide a list of 139 ‘lifesaving and disease preventing drugs’. These were made available free of charge to the whole community. I do not think there are many of us here today that

could think back to when drugs were actually free of charge.

The idea of a copayment was adopted 10 years later in 1960. It was five shillings for general patients and hardly supposed to be a major source of funding for the scheme. More likely, from what I have read, it was to flag to patients that there was a cost for the medications they were using and therefore they should be used wisely. Most importantly, back in those days there was no copayment for pensioners. This lasted until the Hawke-Keating government introduced one in 1990 at a cost of \$2.50 a script. Between 1983 and 1996 the Labor government was responsible for lifting PBS contributions for general patients by 320 per cent. This certainly has created problems for those families who just miss out on health care cards or who have family members with episodic or continuing illnesses. The government’s web site says:

The Commonwealth Government’s Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) helps improve the health of all Australian residents by ensuring they have access to necessary and lifesaving medicines at an affordable price.

That is the issue at the heart of the debate that we are having today. I argue strongly that medications are moving out of that affordable range for many low-income families, particularly those families who just miss out on health care cards. Basically, the scheme was set up to make sure we could all get the medications we need and that not only the wealthy could get the latest medication.

When we debated this bill last time I noted some of the specific pressures that had led this government to try to put up charges in the last budget. I lamented the way Treasury seems to deal with the health budget, looking at the PBS as a silo, seeing a large amount of money being used and thinking, ‘Don’t worry about that, we will just take a few million dollars here and another couple of hundred million dollars there.’ But some of the pressures are long-term pressures, not just ones that are spotted during a budget process, and they go beyond specific ones relating to those two drugs that drove the

very rapid and sharp blip on the screen at the time of the last budget.

One of the key pressures is the new and more expensive drugs. Some drugs are meant only to target a very small and precise group within the population, so their cost is not a big issue; but for those drugs that are more generally and widely available, such as those for arthritis, that can mean tens of millions of dollars being added to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. I stress here that any drug has to be proven to be cost effective before it can be listed. It does not just have to do what the manufacturers claim by way of treating or curing the illness. It has to be cost effective. The government has already moved in and is specifically targeting the cost blow-out.

The next obvious reason for pressure is that the population is ageing. The population is a lot more fussy about quality of life issues as it ages. Modern medicine has taken us down the road of more very expensive but successful drugs that have replaced other procedures, particularly surgery. The final reason for pressure is that more people have access to health care cards. This was a specific issue that the government did not budget for when they made the decision to extend health care cards to self-funded retirees—a move that I do not question at all—but they should have budgeted for it and made allowances for the fact that these people, being elderly retirees, were going to be fairly heavy users of the PBS. Therefore, the government should not have been as fussed as they were about the part of the increase that was attributed to more people having access to the PBS.

Those are the only problems I will deal with today. I will move on and look at what the government is already doing. I congratulate this government—indeed, I congratulate the former government and the former Minister for Health and Aged Care, Dr Wooldridge—for starting and continuing with better prescribing campaigns and other measures. The swiping of Medicare cards was introduced to make sure that those accessing medication were Australians who were entitled to access medication. I know the government now gets a lot more infor-

mation, and some of that information will enable them to more tightly target medications to those Australians who need it, to limit excessive use and to further restrict wastage.

The price-volume agreements have already been discussed in this chamber. Some would argue that the process is now getting a little too tight. Price-volume agreements are a process by which a government tries to limit the cost of medication by driving down the price it is prepared to pay the drug companies for their new drugs. This was the problem with those two specific drugs that were discussed today and the last time we dealt with this legislation. I can say, from looking through some of the recent rulings and measures that are now being taken, that it certainly now is a very tight process. The impact of all of that has yet to wash through the system.

The government has done a number of other things—a crackdown on pharmacy fraud, wider use and availability of generic medication, restrictions on doctor shopping and tighter restrictions on prescribing. These restrictions upset some doctors, and I can understand their frustration in constantly having to seek approval for the use of some medications, but this is aimed at targeting medication specifically at those who can most benefit from them. Then there has been the introduction of the lifestyle scripts, something I have been working on in this chamber for eight or nine years. The system is not fully under way, but it is well on the way. I look forward to being able to assess the results of the system of lifestyle scripts as doctors are able to use them to support what they tell patients by writing down on a script, similar to the script given for medication, some lifestyle suggestions relating to diet or exercise, giving up smoking or reducing alcohol consumption. It is up to the doctor to reinforce what they are telling their patients by putting it in writing. We note that, since the last budget and since the cries of the Treasurer that the PBS was out of control, expenditure has fallen in some months. For example, expenditure in March last year was about 7½ per cent down on March of the year before—and so it jumps around. We

will not really know exactly what impact all these measures have until they are given the chance to work.

I will finally look at some issues surrounding the government's proposal to increase copayments. Copayments already go up every year—they go up with inflation, something this chamber decided to do several years ago. We need to look at the impact of a large increase, which is certainly what the government is talking about. The government itself admits that people are going to think twice before they go to the doctor. Indeed, it is one of the reasons for putting up the prices. If they decide that they really have to go to the doctor, despite the fact that the doctor is not bulk-billing anymore, and they get perhaps two or three scripts, they then have to ask the question, especially if they do not have a health care card: 'Can I actually pay for two or three scripts in one hit?' Pharmacists are being asked by people: 'Which script is the one I have to have tonight? I can come back on Thursday when I get paid and fix you up for the other two.' In some cases I find pharmacists are running up debt because patients are not able to find the money immediately out of their pocket, particularly if they have already had to put \$35, \$40 or \$45 on the table in order to see the GP and then get the paperwork to claim some of that back from Medicare.

Research by the Health Economics Unit at Monash University has shown that some pensioners are already paying up to 12 per cent of their income on medical copayments. This is a mixture of costs—some of it because of reduced bulk-billing and some of it because of the pharmacy bills they already have to pay—and there is a range of other health costs, such as pain killers, which are not on the PBS. So many elderly patients are already finding a large slice of their income is going on health costs. The federal Department of Health and Ageing estimates that pensioners and other concession card holders will avoid filling about five million scripts if these changes are introduced. I am sure some of that is fair enough. There are people who probably should not have even bothered to go to the doctor, who have spent a day or so in bed and taken some time to get over what-

ever the illness was. But I am sure just as many, if not more, would genuinely have needed that medication. What will happen, as sometimes does now, is that they end up in the queues in our public hospitals.

If fewer scripts are filled, obviously the PBS silo is going to show at least some stabilisation or a decrease, but this will not be saving any money from the health system as a whole. Many people will end up needing more urgent treatment and far more expensive treatment. The government claims to put so much emphasis on primary care, and we can see some very good examples, such as the immunisation programs, continued funding of antismoking campaigns et cetera. But I do not understand why a government that has done some positive work in the preventative area now wants to turn around and undermine a lot of that by planning these changes. Indeed, I would argue that, if this were to go ahead, it would largely be a cost shift over to the states because it would be in our public hospitals that the bulk of this would be picked up.

In closing, I say, with all the changes and positive measures the government has put in place to assist doctors with better prescribing practices, to target medications to those Australians who need them and will benefit from them and to reduce wastage and fraud, let us give them some time to work. If we then have a situation where the increase in the PBS is considerably more than inflation—I think we have to allow for inflation, but if it is still considerably more—then let us look at other ways of funding this. Let us look at a fairer way of funding this than targeting those most in need, who are the sickest and poorest members of our community.

Senator PATTERSON (Victoria—Minister for Health and Ageing) (5.33 p.m.)—in reply—I almost feel that it is not really worth while standing up, because I am not going to convince anybody to change their mind, but I really need to put on the public record—

The ACTING DEPUTY PRESIDENT (Senator Bolkus)—Sit down then, if you like.

Senator PATTERSON—I do not need your advice from the chair, thank you. I will

just reiterate, to remind people, that the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme has grown by around 14 per cent every year for the past 10 years, from just over \$1 billion in 1990 to \$4.5 billion or \$4.6 billion in 2002, and it is still growing. I think it is actually the fastest growing part of the health budget, one of the things that drives up the cost of health care more than almost anything else because of its rate of growth, which has been well in advance of major health programs such as Medicare and public hospitals. In 2001-02 it grew by around 10 per cent. People have acknowledged here some of the things that have been brought in to try and rein that in—for example, swiping the Medicare card. However lacking in absolute integrity the card is, at least that began to get some measure of whether people actually had a card. By 1 May this year we will have a year's worth of data that we can investigate. I will be very interested if there are some people who have had sufficient Celebrex for five years in one year. I think most people would agree that that would be like being in receipt of an overpayment in social security.

I think most Australians would agree that, if a drug is one that a person takes on a regular basis, we should subsidise enough for a 12-month period but not enough for five people to have taken in a year. So we will be looking at that data for ways to ensure that people get the medicine they require, but not more than they require because they are hoarding it or because they are just losing track of what medicine they have got, especially when they get it after the safety net and have got it for nothing. It may sometimes not have the same value then, and they pop it away and think: 'I will just start again next year because it's too hard,' or 'I think things have changed,' or 'I don't know how to use it.' We have to educate people that hoarding medication is putting enormous pressure on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, that giving it to someone else who is not on a health care card is also unfair, and that sending it to a relative somewhere overseas is inappropriate. Those sorts of measures will actually help to maintain that growth.

The National Prescribing Service has been running a number of campaigns on the better use of medicines. One of them is 'Common colds need commonsense'. That is being run to try and reduce the overuse or inappropriate use of antibiotics. About a third of upper respiratory episodes or infections are viral and do not respond to antibiotics; therefore, antibiotics are inappropriate. We have to educate the public not to expect that when they go to visit a doctor they will always get antibiotics. One GP, for example, has been using a technique of providing people with a script, especially if it is near a weekend, and advising them that it really is not necessary for them to take antibiotics. She gives them all the things they should do for a cold—rest, lots of fluid et cetera—and then says, 'If these symptoms occur you might have this script filled.' The use of antibiotics amongst her patients has been reduced. That was an interesting little study I read last year.

So individual doctors are attempting to do things that will reduce the use of antibiotics. That not only saves on the PBS, which is a factor, but also reduces the likelihood that we are going to have more and more bacteria that are resistant to antibiotics. That is very undesirable and also very concerning as our population ages and we find that we have antibiotics which are ineffective in dealing with resistant bacterial infection.

The PBS grew around 10 per cent, but it still remains very high. It is more than three times higher than inflation. While the government welcomes the moderation in the growth, which vindicates, as I have said, the measures we have put in place, it would be foolish to believe that it lessens the need to take further action to make the PBS sustainable. A short, blinkered view, such as the view that we have seen displayed here this afternoon and yesterday by the Labor Party, by the Democrats, by the Greens and by the Independents, ignores the reality that if spending continues to increase at the current rate the cost of the PBS will nearly double to about \$9 billion by 2007. Currently the Commonwealth spends \$31 billion on health. By 2007 we will be spending \$9 billion on pharmaceutical benefits alone. We cannot let this continue if we are going to continue to

provide every Australian with the latest medicines when they become available at affordable prices.

In 2002 medicines worth around \$100 million were added to the PBS, many for common, painful, debilitating and life-threatening conditions. I must add here that I found Senator McLucas's comments about Glivec totally unacceptable when she said it did not go through due process. It went absolutely right through the due process. The Prime Minister has every right, once it has been recommended by PBAC and I bring him the PBAC recommendation, to make a decision, not cabinet. Senator McLucas implied that there was something done that was inappropriate. I wanted to make sure that Glivec was on by October, the date when the new schedule comes out—I cannot remember the date exactly—so people in the early stages of chronic myeloid leukaemia could get access to Glivec before Christmas. That is why I did it. Senator McLucas said that we were in the middle of an election. I do not know what she was talking about. I thought it was a humane and caring thing to do to have the Prime Minister make the decision, which he has every right to do, in lieu of cabinet to ensure that we got it onto the schedule so that people who had failed to respond to first-line treatment could have access. It has been demonstrated that for people in the early stages of chronic myeloid leukaemia this medication is efficacious. I do not usually find Senator McLucas unfair and unreasonable, but I thought that those comments were totally inappropriate and ill-informed.

Glivec costs \$6,600 a month per script. People on a health care card did get it for \$3.60; it is now \$3.70 because of the increase in the CPI. Non-concessional card holders get it for \$23.10. It is almost the only country in the world where people get access to that sort of medication for that cost. If they are on a health care card, once they have had 50 scripts they receive that medication for free. There are many other medications lining up for approval on the PBS. It is going to put a greater and greater strain on the PBS. In the not too distant future it is quite possible that one single medicine for

the treatment of a common condition, such as arthritis or diabetes, might cost taxpayers \$1 billion in a single year. That is the sort of demand that is going to be placed on the PBS. I can assure senators that the Howard government is absolutely committed to sustaining the PBS, but it is ridiculous for anyone to argue that 10 per cent growth represents a sustainable situation when it is going to cost \$9 billion in 2007.

When this measure was introduced in the budget, I did lots of talkback and I found people were not angry. Some of them said, 'I think we should contribute more.' Last year when I first became Minister for Health and Ageing and I saw these figures I asked for some research to be done. We asked people how much they thought an expensive drug was and how much they thought they contributed. I cannot remember the exact questions, but that is the essence of them. People on a health care card thought an expensive medication was \$20 and it was being subsidised. People not on a health care card thought that they were paying for the drug and cross-subsidising people on a health care card. They had no idea that the most commonly prescribed medication on the PBS costs \$80 per person per month. The health care card holder now gets it for \$3.70 until they have 50 scripts and then they and their family get it for free. The non-health care card holder, a general concession, pays \$23.10, and once they have got to about 31 scripts they get it for free. I am talking about the most commonly prescribed medication—a statin—costing \$80 per person per month. We have to somehow get a grip on reality: there are going to be more and more of those medications.

Labor can sit over there piously giving us a lecture on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, but they went out in their last year in government and borrowed \$10 billion. The year before that they borrowed billions, and the year before that they borrowed billions. They were borrowing money from overseas to pay for things like the PBS. To pay for us to have medication they were borrowing from the next generation. We cannot afford to do that. At some stage we have to all understand that we have to pay our own

way and not leave the next generation with a debt. They borrowed \$10 billion in the last year. We could have played merry hell paying that back. We have paid back \$60 billion and I think: what could I have done with that \$60 billion and with the interest on the loan? I ask Senator Lees, since we both have an interest, what could have been done in health prevention. But, no, the profligate Labor Party was spending the next generation's money.

I came into this place to give kids the sort of opportunity I had when I grew up, when this country was not in debt and the world was my oyster. That is why I came in here. It was not to spend the next generation's money. That is what you people are doing right now, by the decision that you are making. It is even worse, because we introduced a measure that meant that the pension and benefits would go up in relation to average weekly earnings, which is greater than the CPI. The PBS goes up by the CPI. So every time the PBS and the pension go up, they go up at differential rates. I am sure there will be people out there listening; I do not know whether the people here will get the drift of what I am saying. At the beginning, the proportion of my pension that I pay on pharmaceuticals is a constant figure. Every time the pension goes up by MTAWE and the PBS goes up by the CPI, the next group of people, or the next cohort or even the same people, pay a smaller—

Senator Crossin interjecting—

Senator PATTERSON—I suggest that you listen to this because it is quite complex and I hope you get it.

Senator Crossin interjecting—

Senator PATTERSON—People pay a smaller proportion of their pension each time they get an increase—

Senator Crossin interjecting—

Senator PATTERSON—Senator Crossin, I know that you do not want to hear this, because it hurts.

The ACTING DEPUTY PRESIDENT (Senator Bolokus)—Order, Senator Crossin! Please direct your comments through the chair, Minister.

Senator PATTERSON—In four or five years time—and if we cannot get this through we will keep putting it up—people will pay a smaller part of their pension and a smaller part of their income on their pharmaceuticals. At some point in time, the chickens will come home to roost and light will dawn on the other side, and they will have to increase the PBS copayment. Those people will then be paying a much bigger contribution than they will need to as part of their pension.

As I was trying to explain in question time the other day, if I have a family with small children the highest use of the PBS is in the first four or five years. So I am in the period where my income or my welfare benefit is going up by MTAWE and the PBS is going up by the CPI. When the chickens come home to roost, the copayment has to go up significantly and the next generation of people with children aged one to five—they are in the same real generation; it is an intragenerational unfairness—will pay a significantly higher proportion of their income, welfare payment or family benefit on pharmaceutical benefits. That, to me, is unfair.

What motivates me in this place is trying to make sure that people have the same sorts of opportunities that I had when I was growing up—which is fair—and the same relative cost in terms of their income, as best we can do that across and within generations. Tonight you are not doing justice to people who at some stage will have to pay that increased copayment. It is unsustainable that we do not have a moderate increase to allow us to put on the PBS medications that are coming up for arthritis, and the Glivec medication, which costs \$6,600 per person per month. I want to be able to do that, but I also want to make it fair for people across generations and, as I said, within generations. But maybe that argument is too hard for some people. I have been through it with Senator Allison and I have been through it with Senator Lees. Senator Allison has the view that we should not do it, but it seems fair to me that we make a decision, for example, that a percentage of the pension—it might be one per cent or 0.98 per cent—is contributed. Now it fluctuates. It goes down

and then it goes up again when there is an increase in the copayment, and it is not fair across and within small cohorts of a generation.

We heard all this pious nonsense from the other side of the chamber. I need to get the facts on the table. Under Labor, from 1983 to 1996 the general PBS patient copayment increased by 420 per cent—from \$4 to \$16.80. In 1986, Labor imposed a one-off increase in the general copayment of \$5; in 1990, they imposed another one-off increase of \$4. The average annual increase was 17.75 per cent. Do you know what? The coalition supported that because we try to behave in a fiscally responsible way. We most probably got up and complained about it, said how terrible it was and said that the then government could not organise themselves out of a paper bag, but then we agreed to it because we were fiscally responsible.

When there comes a time that we have a problem putting medications on the PBS because they blow it out, I will sit back and say, 'Thank you, Labor Party; thank you, Senator Lees; thank you, Senator Allison and the Democrats; and thank you, Greens and Independents. Thank you for being so absolutely irresponsible.' We are asking for a modest increase of a dollar for concession card holders and a 50-script limit for a family safety net. We are asking people to pay an extra \$50 over a year when they have a MTAWE increase in their allowances or pensions. We hope to have it in by July so that those people who are very sick will be in the safety net, will be getting their medications for free and would have had five to six months warning before the increase. I had thought that through.

I hope that Senator Allison is squirming and I hope that Senator Lees is squirming. I do not think the Labor Party have the conscience to squirm. They increased the PBS copayment, and they sit on the other side and go on with a whole lot of pious nonsense that would make you think that they had never introduced the copayment and they had never actually increased it. But no, they used to borrow to pay for their excesses. We believe that the Australian public and the gov-

ernment have to face the fact that we need to pay our own way in each generation.

The Intergenerational Report always comes up in these sorts of debates. We are accused of having introduced it just because of the PBS. That is not the case. It was introduced under the Charter of Budget Honesty, and every government will have to give an account of itself every five years about the levers. I tell you what: I will remind everyone, every time they look at an intergenerational report, that one of the reasons that we have a problem with the PBS is that people on the other side of the chamber failed to do something that was a little difficult but right and absolutely fair—and fair to those people who will come on and need to use the PBS in the future. I commend the bill to the Senate.

Question put:

That this bill be now read a second time.

The Senate divided. [5.57 p.m.]

(The President—Senator the Hon. Paul Calvert)

Ayes.....	31
Noes.....	<u>36</u>
Majority.....	5

AYES

Abetz, E.	Barnett, G.
Boswell, R.L.D.	Brandis, G.H.
Calvert, P.H.	Campbell, I.G.
Chapman, H.G.P.	Colbeck, R.
Coonan, H.L.	Eggleston, A. *
Ellison, C.M.	Ferguson, A.B.
Ferris, J.M.	Heffernan, W.
Hill, R.M.	Humphries, G.
Johnston, D.	Lightfoot, P.R.
Macdonald, J.A.L.	Mason, B.J.
McGauran, J.J.J.	Minchin, N.H.
Patterson, K.C.	Payne, M.A.
Santoro, S.	Scullion, N.G.
Tchen, T.	Tierney, J.W.
Troeth, J.M.	Vanstone, A.E.
Watson, J.O.W.	

NOES

Allison, L.F.	Bartlett, A.J.J.
Bishop, T.M.	Bolkus, N.
Brown, B.J.	Buckland, G.
Campbell, G.	Carr, K.J.
Cherry, J.C.	Collins, J.M.A.

Conroy, S.M.	Crossin, P.M. *
Denman, K.J.	Evans, C.V.
Forshaw, M.G.	Greig, B.
Harradine, B.	Hogg, J.J.
Hutchins, S.P.	Kirk, L.
Lees, M.H.	Ludwig, J.W.
Mackay, S.M.	Marshall, G.
McLucas, J.E.	Moore, C.
Murphy, S.M.	Murray, A.J.M.
Nettle, K.	O'Brien, K.W.K.
Ray, R.F.	Ridgeway, A.D.
Stephens, U.	Stott Despoja, N.
Webber, R.	Wong, P.

PAIRS

Alston, R.K.R.	Cook, P.F.S.
Kemp, C.R.	Lundy, K.A.
Knowles, S.C.	Faulkner, J.P.
Macdonald, I.	Sherry, N.J.

* denotes teller

Question negatived.

**TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT BILL
(NO. 6) 2002**

Second Reading

Debate resumed from 5 February, on motion by Senator Ellison:

That this bill be now read a second time.

Senator CONROY (Victoria) (6.01 p.m.)—The **Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 6) 2002** is a seemingly innocuous bill. However, it does have an interesting history. This bill was introduced into the House of Representatives last year and was amended by the government 24 hours prior to being debated. In spite of the late notice of the amendments, Labor did not oppose this bill in the other place. The bill relates to four distinct issues. It proposes changes to the operation of the transitional rules applying to compulsory third party, or CPT, insurance; it provides an exemption for interest withholding tax, IWT, in relation to certain international transactions; it exempts from capital gains tax compensation payments in relation to the German Forced Labour Compensation Program; and it enables products issued by friendly societies to have the same tax treatment as similar products issued by other bodies. Today I will focus on the IWT exemptions.

The bill makes a number of exemptions in relation to interest withholding tax. The bill,

in its original form, proposed an exemption for the interest paid on nostro accounts held by authorised deposit-taking institutions. Nostro accounts are foreign currency accounts maintained by certain financial institutions with foreign banks for the purpose of settling foreign currency transactions. The government amendments extended the original exemption to nostro accounts held by financial institutions which are not ADIs but which conduct banking business with the public. The amendment to exempt nostro accounts from interest withholding tax aims to reduce the compliance burden on financial institutions and facilitate business conducted by financial institutions. The explanatory memorandum says:

The compliance costs imposed on financial institutions in meeting the IWT obligation are very high relative to the amount of tax collected. Exempting interest paid on nostro accounts from IWT will eliminate the compliance costs imposed in meeting the current IWT obligation associated with these accounts.

Labor support the principle of reducing the compliance burden on business. However, we support this principle for small business too. The Howard government are only interested in reducing the compliance burden on big business. They consistently ignore the burden on small business. Last week the Yellow Pages Business Index—Small and Medium Enterprises found that one of the most significant criticisms by small business of the federal government is that there is too much paperwork due to the GST. The same study also found that small business' most significant criticism of federal government policies was that the federal government were only concerned with big business. It is not just the Labor Party saying that the Howard government's main priority is big business: the Yellow Pages survey shows that it is everyday small business people who can see that the government's mates at the big end of town get the priority whenever they make a call. They can see that the government has a two-tiered approach to Australian business. Big business gets all the breaks and even gets legislative help to reduce the compliance burden, but no such luck for small business. The Howard government are saying to small businesses who are struggling

under a mountain of paperwork, 'You're on your own.' The Howard government's main priority is big business. It always has been and always will be.

According to the second reading speech, the changes to IWT are aimed at enhancing Australia's development as a centre for financial services in the Asia-Pacific region. To enhance Australia's role in the Asia-Pacific region we need to be doing much more than offering tax concessions to financial institutions. Australia's presence in the Asia-Pacific region has reached an all-time low. Australia has failed to secure a place at regional economic forums. We failed to attain a place at ASEAN plus 3. How can Australia position itself as a 'financial services platform for ASIA' if we are not even part of the regional economic forums? If we cannot get the fundamentals right, why are we bothering to tinker around the edges with tax concessions?

The groundwork done by Paul Keating in the 1980s and early 1990s to promote Australia's role as an equal partner in the Asia-Pacific region has been squandered by the Howard government. The Howard government is short-sighted. For John Howard, Asia holds little appeal. There are no votes in engaging Asia—as Paul Keating found out—but it is about more than just winning votes. It is about engaging our Asian neighbours. It is about becoming a part of the region. It is about the future of the region and Australia's role in it. I see Australia's future as mortgaged to Asia. If we fail to engage the region, if we cannot work with our neighbours, if we are suspicious of them and if we unduly criticise them, our future is compromised.

We should be working with our South-East Asian neighbours to assist the creation of sound financial infrastructure throughout the region, not as an imperialist act but as a way to create a vibrant economic region which attracts global capital flows and investment. We should also be working with China and Japan to foster economic growth in the region. Economic growth is not an end in itself. It provides the means by which to create jobs, prosperity and stability in the region. Economic growth, whilst providing

these benefits, is not the only reason for strong regional cooperation. It is also important in these uncertain times, when the threat of terrorism is a daily event, to ensure that there is an open and friendly dialogue between Australian and our regional neighbours. We need to strengthen those ties now and in the future. Clearly, we have a lot of catching up to do. Labor will not oppose this bill and will assist its speedy passage.

Senator MURRAY (Western Australia) (6.07 p.m.)—I rise to speak on the **Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 6) 2002**. This bill would ordinarily be treated as noncontroversial by the Senate. However, I note that Labor was frustrated by some late changes to the bill in the House of Representatives and has decided that it should not be given noncontroversial status. That is not a decision with which I disagree since it gives all parties concerned the opportunity to express opinions which otherwise they might not have had the opportunity to express.

I will deal with the various aspects of the bill briefly. Firstly, the amendments to the interest withholding tax exemption for specific corporate debenture issues will reduce some of the technical anomalies that the current law has produced. The Democrats understand that Australian companies are competing for debt funding in a global environment and that the tax laws should not act as an undue restriction. Secondly, the bill deals with the capital gains tax exemption for compensation payments received by Australian residents under the German Forced Labour Compensation Program. When I read that I found it difficult to believe that Australia's tax laws would treat a compensation payment for an injustice that occurred 60 years ago as a capital gain. However, if there is even a remote possibility that our highly complex tax laws could or would operate in this way, we should attend to it. It seems that our tax laws have always had a capacity to be an ass at times. The Democrats fully support an amendment that clarifies that tax should not be paid in these circumstances.

Thirdly, the bill deals with the taxation treatment of friendly society products, such as income bonds, funeral bonds and scholarship plans. I understand that the treatment of

these products is similar to that of life insurance products and that the amendments again clarify the technical position of the various transactions involved, ensuring that there is no double taxation. Finally, the bill amends the GST transition act with respect to compulsory third party insurance premiums. This minor amendment ensures that the 30 June 2003 transition date will not cause unreasonable compliance difficulties for the various state authorities and private insurers providing compulsory third party insurance, or a green slip as it is sometimes known.

However, these amendments represent more bandaids for our complex tax system. These bandaids are required, but they are bandaids that should be put into context. They should be put into the context of the principles of good tax policy. The three principles of good tax policy are really easy to say—equity, simplicity and efficiency—but they are frighteningly difficult to achieve. Tax is about money—getting it and spending it for the good of society. The greatest problem facing the Australian government is that it is short of money to meet the needs of government and the needs of society. The government has made decisions that mean it does not have enough money—decisions on going to war, for instance. The need for additional revenue is strong. Fortunately, finding that additional revenue is possible if the government will address at least two of the principles of taxation—namely, equity and efficiency.

We know that the upcoming budget will not provide the resources that are needed to ensure the adequate health, education and social security of all Australians. We know that the government has committed Australian troops to a United States led war on Iraq, but that Mr Costello and Senator Hill have no idea of the anticipated cost of that policy and of that war. They expect it will be several hundred million dollars, but it seems that the defence department has effectively been given a blank cheque, so perhaps hundreds, based on precedent, could turn into billions.

Where will the money come from? Mr Costello has held down expenditure in health, education and other important areas of government. The pressure is building up

and the government simply cannot put off spending more in these areas without risking the wrath of the Australian people. So where will the money come from? Despite the claims of some, Australia's tax take is amongst the lowest in the OECD, yet a major campaign for income tax cuts is again under way. Economic rationalists say reducing government expenditure on goods and services should pay for them. Can tax cuts be paid for by more major cuts in government expenditure? The answer is no. This is a democracy. The electorate calls the shots and the vast majority of voters are rightly demanding the government spend more, not less, on legitimate unsatisfied needs.

There is a great cry from most Australians for more government spending on creating jobs, on the environment, on defence and internal security, on industry programs, health and education services, and drought relief. More expenditure to be America's deputy sheriff or for health and education services means raising more revenue. Instead of simply increasing tax rates, an alternative is to reduce other income tax concessions and the hidden subsidies that the government has used in recent years to provide high-income earners with de facto tax cuts.

Let me provide some examples of how Mr Costello can increase his revenue flow without further destroying essential government services. Firstly, the government's private health insurance rebate should be means tested. The cost of the program will soon reach \$3 billion per year. Based on tax statistics, nearly 75 per cent of the money goes to the top 40 per cent of income earners. Why is the government cutting back on health spending for ordinary Australians but providing a 30 per cent subsidy for very wealthy individuals to stay in five-star hospitals and to have access to state-of-the-art gymnasiums? A reasonable capping and means testing of this rebate, without getting rid of it, could deliver savings of at least \$1 billion. There would be minimal, if any, impact on the health system as the Medicare levy surcharge and a stressed public system ensure that the rich and well off would never give up their private health insurance. So \$1 billion or one-third of that private health in-

surance rebate could be saved by setting the appropriate means testing mechanism.

Secondly, the government has announced that it will back down on the equitable taxation of family trusts. This will cost it at least \$450 million a year. The Ralph Review of Business Taxation recommended that the taxation of companies and trusts be aligned. That is a matter of equity as well as greater efficiency and greater revenue generation. This would have improved the simplicity of the tax system and would have reduced the use of trusts as a tax avoidance vehicle. The government has decided that that is too hard. They do not want to take on the tax cheats who use family trusts to hide and inappropriately distribute their income.

Thirdly, the concessional treatment of company cars used for salary packaging could be reviewed. Fringe benefits tax treatment of company cars not only provides the incentive to salary package motor vehicles, it also provides an incentive to drive them as much as possible. The more you drive the car, the less tax you pay. The deadline each year is the end of March. Throughout this month we will hear of people who know they must drive their cars to reach the relevant minimum number of kilometres for the year, whether 25,000 or 15,000. These people will deliberately use their cars as much as possible to reach the minimum number of kilometres. Driving the cars as much as possible reduces their employer's tax bill and, therefore, in a salary sacrifice context, increases the employee's income. It is environmentally stupid, it costs the Australian taxpayer \$900 million a year—which is the government's own figure—and it is not equitable. The Ralph Review of Business Taxation estimated that even modest reforms to the taxation treatment of company cars could save \$200 million per year. Again the government has not accepted this challenge.

Additionally, up to \$600 million could be raised by reforming employee share schemes that benefit some employees and not others. Restoring the indexation of the petrol excise would also provide hundreds of millions of dollars and hopefully help encourage more environmentally sustainable fuels and methods of transport. The overall value of work

related deductions is about \$7 billion. Up to \$500 million could be raised by rationalising and capping work related deductions. Reviewing negative gearing is a real possibility. The majority of overseas countries, including the United States, the United Kingdom and Canada, either do not allow or severely restrict negative gearing. It costs Australia well over \$2 billion a year, perhaps approaching \$3 billion, and tax reform could save at least \$700 million, or one third of that. Removing the mutuality provision tax exemption from the large big business clubs and others that operate on a commercial basis and rort the intention of that mutuality provision would save \$200 million a year. We could reduce funding to wealthy private schools by \$150 million. Other revenue creating possibilities include reviewing the \$12 billion of concessions for superannuation and the capital gains discounts for individuals and institutional investors.

I could go on with the list but, for the Democrats, eliminating tax rorts and cutting wasteful tax expenditure will always be attractive options. Now is the time, when the government is short of money, to take the hard decisions and address these areas—then you will get our support. Corporate welfare and welfare for the well-off will always be good targets for us to improve the budget bottom line. So the government should not consider that they can cut back on essential services simply because they have spent too much on favourite programs or on a blank cheque war. Reducing unwarranted tax expenditures and concessions is a possibility. Tax expenditure, as the tax statistics show, is over \$30 billion and, as I have shown, the Democrats believe a \$7 billion to \$10 billion reduction may be feasible. As a nation, we need to agree on how much we want to reform income taxation and how much more we need to spend on essential needs. We need to add the two together and work out how to pay for it and what the trade-offs are. That is the challenge in the upcoming budget. The tax expenditure policies, budgetary cost, distributional implications, efficiencies and imperfections have not been systematically studied, but they should be. If they were, reform would release many billions of dollars for the government's needs.

Another area that desperately needs reform is the interaction of the tax and welfare systems. Low income Australians moving between welfare and work can be hit with effective tax rates of up to 87c in the dollar. As they enter work they lose 70c in welfare benefits and have to pay 17c in tax. The consequence is that the gross income they achieve by either a salary increase or by going to work is massively eroded so that their disposable income increase is minor. The unemployed are in the unfortunate position of knowing that if they get a job they may be only 13c in the dollar better off for their efforts. After taking into account their transport costs, clothing, additional food expenditure and other on-costs, they may not be better off at all.

I see that the Commonwealth Ombudsman noted last week that the family tax payment system is causing families unavoidable debt. Almost 50,000 families have racked up more than \$400 million in debt at an average of \$801 for each family. In question time yesterday, Senator Vanstone boasted that a single income family on \$30,000 per annum with two kids would get \$9,442 tax free. This is a significant amount and there is no wonder that these payments can create large family tax payment debts and high effective tax rates when there is an income movement. Analysis by the National Centre for Social and Economic Modelling shows that 22 per cent of the poorer half of the nation face effective marginal tax rates of more than 60 per cent. So the problem for us in equity terms is much more at the lower end than at the upper end. At the upper end, corporate welfare and the benefits that go to the wealthy mean that the effective tax rates are lower. At the lower end, the nature of the welfare system and the tax system means that effective tax rates are high.

Those statistics do not include the high number of people who are discouraged from entering the work force by these poverty traps. The most promising area of reform is the concept of the tax credit. Tax credits are designed to soften the impact of high effective tax rates. Such proposals may have a cost, but I outlined earlier the many areas in which the government can reduce the exist-

ing tax concessions for the wealthy, including means testing private health insurance to save \$1 billion a year, taxing trusts properly to save \$450 million per year, or removing tax concessions on salary packaged cars to save \$200 million a year. It is not the right area to want to spend that money in, but it would also pay for a lot of war. If you want to wage war, you need money. There are plenty of savings that can be made. These could be redirected into a tax credit system to reduce the high effective tax rates faced by persons moving from welfare to employed work. We cannot attack the welfare system—it is bedded in the modern economy's view of how to deliver equity. What you have to ensure is that maximum equity is delivered with the least effect on the efficiency of the country. I think it was Bismarck who first began the modern welfare system over 150 years ago by introducing pension systems.

The welfare system is not a slug or a brake on the community. It is actually a great aid to civil society and to the way in which our society works. The most disadvantaged in our society have a right to be given income support and to be treated with respect. Most of all, they have the right to the same opportunities that many in this chamber have had—that is, to emerge from a lower income situation and to aspire to a higher one where they can get better education and better pay. Shouldn't our tax and welfare systems interact in a way that encourages rather than penalises an individual's effort to escape that poverty trap? Surely any measure that can reduce unemployment, thereby increasing economic activity, should be carefully considered. The Democrats encourage the government to consider a tax credit system and to consult on a multiparty basis in that area.

So far, the government have focused in law on trying to restrict the living wage. The problem with the living wage is the increases. Living wage increases increase gross wages and add-on costs like superannuation, so they deliver a high cost to the employer and a low benefit to the employee because of the consequences of the high effective tax rates. The disposable income of the employee only results in a low net increase. It would be far better to look at how

the tax and welfare systems interact than to try to artificially restrain the negotiating and the institutionalised process by which people seek to keep the low-wage members of our society at least in some competitive situation. In my view, it is more important for the government to pursue the issue of tax and welfare offsets than to pursue the living wage legislation which they are looking at currently. I find it interesting that Minister Abbott is running both agendas. He is running the industrial relations agenda of trying to restrain the abilities of people to put the living wage case, but, on the other hand, he is also running hard up against the Treasurer and the Prime Minister by saying, 'Let's look at the tax and wage intersection.' I find it hard to believe that the Prime Minister appears to have ruled out the sensible idea of examining the tax credit system thoroughly and in concert with others.

There is an urgent and great need for a system that delivers significant real disposable income increases for the lower paid, to encourage a move from welfare to work, to deliver social equity and to give working people a chance to get off the floor and to aspire to upward mobility for their families. I note that the Commonwealth Ombudsman said that under the family tax system large numbers of people are experiencing very high debts. That plainly is an unattractive situation as well and needs to be urgently corrected by the government. I should indicate in closing that the Democrats will support this bill without amendment.

Senator COONAN (New South Wales—Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer) (6.25 p.m.)—I am grateful to my colleagues Senator Murray and Senator Conroy for their support for the **Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 6) 2002**. Their comments have ranged very widely across the taxation landscape. The bill contains a number of very important measures which I will return to in a moment. I should say that it is not my intention to canvass in detail each point that has been made by Senators Conroy and Murray. However, there are a couple of issues that I want to make a few comments on.

Firstly, I welcome the fact that Senator Conroy supports interest withholding tax. I certainly hope that his commitment to developing Australia as a regional centre for financial services will also be as forthcoming when the foreign expatriates tax reforms are before this place. That is an equally important issue. Senator Conroy also mentioned—at least, I think this is what he was saying—that if we do not get into Asian economic forums, there is no point in providing tax concessions. But in the real world we all know that these concessions can make a real difference—indeed, the difference—to business decisions that will enhance the role of Australian business in the Asian region. The concessions are a very positive move that will make a great difference to business and will no doubt be enhanced by the review of international tax.

Senator Conroy also spoke briefly about what is becoming a very familiar topic—at least advanced by the Labor Party—and that is the government's support for the big end of town, supposedly at the expense of the small end of town, in particular in relation to the compliance burden that all businesses have in managing in the tax system. I want to refute that because there is no doubt that this government has not only addressed but is concerned on an ongoing basis—and I can say this because it concerns me greatly—about business concerns about compliance, particularly with the change to the new tax system. The government recognised business concerns about the compliance burden of the GST and following extensive consultations—which are now the hallmark of this government, particularly in relation to tax laws—made significant changes to streamline the GST payment and reporting arrangements for small business. It has borne fruit, because the December 2001 Dun and Bradstreet National Business Expectations Survey revealed that 76 per cent of respondents found it easier to complete the new, simplified BAS form.

There are a range of views on the issue. Notwithstanding perhaps some recent claims, most professional bodies have reported within the last couple of months that complaints about BAS lodgment have dropped

off significantly. Other evidence also suggests that compliance costs have eased as businesses have become more familiar with the new tax system, as indeed the government expected. This was reflected in the survey results of the Yellow Pages Business Index—Small and Medium Enterprises. In the May survey of last year, only six per cent of respondents cited the GST as a concern. Over the financial year, the Australian Taxation Office has also noticed a continuing downward trend in the time taken to prepare and complete business activity statements.

So the compliance cost implications of the GST must be viewed in the light of the entire tax reform package. Incorporated businesses are benefiting from cuts in company tax from 36 per cent to 30 per cent. Businesses are also benefiting from the removal of the old wholesale sales tax and other embedded taxes. In September last year, in fulfilment of its election commitment to Australian taxpayers, the government introduced legislation into the parliament to establish a statutory office of the Inspector-General of Taxation. It is a great pity that the Labor Party and the Democrats have, thus far, not seen fit to pass the bill to set up the office of the inspector-general, which, as a taxpayers' advocate, would provide significant assistance to small business in the whole area of compliance. The Senate will soon be asked to reconsider the bill, and it is important that the legislation be passed as a matter of urgency so that the inspector-general can start on the important task of improving tax administration for the benefit of all Australians and that, of course, includes ordinary taxpayers and small business. It is a much-needed office to bridge the gap in the current administration of the tax office and it should be passed forthwith.

Senator Murray, in his usual exhaustive and careful way, has outlined what one might regard as a wish list or certainly a list of areas to which he would like to see some attention given in relation to rearranging the tax landscape. In particular, while not replying in detail to every point raised by Senator Murray, I would like to point out that tax cheats are suffering under this government, and will continue to suffer further. I am sure

that is something that most Australians—those who pay their fair share of tax—would welcome because we do want a fair system where everyone pays their fair share of tax. In this year's budget, in which we were able to increase the tax office's resources, an initiative taken by the tax office to do with tracking down tax cheats is expected to yield additional tax revenue of about \$1,500 million over the forward estimates.

Recently, the tax commissioner released an outline of the tax office compliance program for 2002-03. I commend it to Senators Conroy and Murray, if they have not had a chance to have a look at it already, because the compliance program identifies possible risks to the revenue and strategies that the tax office has under way to manage these across the range of taxpayer segments. The tax office continues to provide a high level of help and education to assist the vast majority of people who do do the right thing. However, its focus has shifted to more active compliance, including verification activities, field visits and other audits. A key priority, contrary to what Senator Conroy might say, remains targeting big business and high-wealth individuals. In the past five years, the tax office's extensive audit program at the so-called 'big end of town' has netted an extra \$2.64 billion for the community. This year, one in 10 businesses will be subject to some form of audit, and more than 135,000 people will be required to confirm their tax deductions. The tax office will boost its GST compliance staff by around 350 and its serious noncompliance investigations group to 300. Some other high-profile risks which are receiving close scrutiny from the tax office in 2002-03 are aggressive tax planning, the cash economy, work related and rental property expenses, the correct reporting of capital gains and losses, and illegal tobacco and fuel substitution.

I want to spend another moment or two on the taxation of discretionary trusts. The government has said that it will legislate, with effect from the handing down of the Board of Taxation's report on discretionary trusts, to introduce new provisions in place of section 109UB of the Income Tax Assessment Act dealing with distributions from trusts. The

board has recommended these measures, and the government has accepted that they are required to improve the effectiveness of the deemed dividend rules so as to more actively prevent beneficiaries accessing trust income that has borne tax only at the company tax rate, and to remove the unfairness in the operation of section 109UB that is currently inducing some small and medium sized business operators to establish arrangements that enable them to avoid the operation of the section completely. In addition, the board has recommended that the ATO clarify and publish its views on interest deductibility for borrowings used to finance non-assessable distributions to beneficiaries of discretionary trusts. The government has requested clarification and will, if the rulings are unable to deal with the matter, also consider a legislative solution.

The report notes the success of previous government measures in the following areas: use of non-resident trusts to transfer funds offshore, inappropriate utilisation of losses, circulating distributions and tracing distributions through to the ultimate beneficiaries, personal service income rules and revised social security means test treatment of private trusts and private companies. The report recommends that the government should retain the current flowthrough treatment of distributions of non-assessable amounts by discretionary trusts rather than a company type taxation model. So tax cheats have been suffering under this government, and they will suffer more. This is clearly identified in the compliance schedule.

Having made those remarks, I do not want to take up too much time on the bill which, as I have said, is supported and contains some very important measures. The bill demonstrates the government's clear commitment to a better tax system. It contains four measures, all of which will be of value to taxpayers. Firstly, it will enhance Australia's development as a centre for financial services in the Asia-Pacific region. Secondly, the bill exempts payments made to Australian residents, and their heirs, who suffered injustices and loss during the Nationalist Socialist period. Thirdly, the bill reduces compliance cost for compulsory third party in-

surers at the time when the transitional rules are ending and they are implementing a new compliance system. Lastly, friendly societies will be allowed a deduction for investment income paid to recipients of income from special purpose investment products, thereby preventing double taxation that may have arisen in some circumstances. Finally, I repeat that I am pleased that my colleagues support this bill and the very sensible measures, the necessary measures, contained in it to ensure the ongoing program of having a fair tax system. I commend this bill to the Senate.

Question agreed to.

Bill read a second time.

Third Reading

Bill passed through its remaining stages without amendment or debate.

MIGRATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (CONTRIBUTORY PARENTS MIGRATION SCHEME) BILL 2002

MIGRATION (VISA APPLICATION) CHARGE AMENDMENT BILL 2002

Second Reading

Debate resumed from 3 March, on motion by Senator Ian Campbell:

That these bills be now read a second time.

Senator SHERRY (Tasmania) (6.39 p.m.)—We are dealing with two bills cognately. In addressing the *Migration Legislation Amendment (Contributory Parents Migration Scheme) Bill 2002* and the *Migration (Visa Application) Charge Amendment Bill 2002*, I think it is important to start with an acknowledgment of what migrants have contributed to Australia. Migrants have built this nation. The Australian story is in many ways a migrant story. Apart from our Indigenous peoples, we are a nation of migrants. People have come from all around the world, some under the great post-war immigration program, which was aimed at strengthening and populating the nation. Others have come to Australia as the result of war and conflict in their home countries. People have come to Australia under the skilled program and as members of families. Many have come as refugees, having fled their homelands seek-

ing safety and peace for themselves and their families. I am pleased to say that many refugees have found that safety and peace in this country and have been able to rebuild lives and make major contributions to our nation.

No matter how people have come, it is an understandable desire for migrants to seek to have their family join them. For many people the family is the foundation stone for their lives. I know that the family is the centre of many people's lives particularly their parents' lives. In fact this government would have us believe that they are the only ones in this place concerned about families. But this concern for family life does not seem to extend to migrant families and their overseas parents. It is also important for children to have access to their grandparents. This is particularly important for migrant families. Grandparents are an important source of their language, culture and history.

Necessarily, parents tend to be older migrants, and research on the economics of migration has consistently shown that age plays a critical role. Younger migrants prove to be a net economic positive, with skilled younger migrants making the greatest economic contribution. Older migrants tend to be a net economic negative, with a cost of support in terms of health and welfare payments outweighing their economic contribution to the nation. Some interesting research recently published in the United States attempted to put a dollar figure on the differences. A highly educated migrant arriving at age 21 was calculated at having a net present value to the economy of \$332,000 over their lifetime. For a poorly educated migrant age 21, the net present value was \$9,000. For a highly educated 70-year-old migrant, the net present value drops to minus \$148,000. For a poorly educated 70-year-old migrant, the net present value drops to minus \$166,000.

Australian research by Dr Birrell and Dr James Jupp shows that welfare dependence by immigrants increases with the age of arrival. Understanding this, but also understanding the importance to families of having their parents with them particularly as parents age, the Labor government sought to strike an equitable balance between the costs of the migration of parents that should be

borne by the Australian community and the costs that should be borne privately by sponsoring individuals.

A little bit of history: obviously there have to be some limits on parent migration and in 1998 the then Labor government sought to reduce parent migration by introducing the balance of family test. This means that the number of adult children, Australian citizens or permanent residents living in Australia is equal to, or greater than, the number of children living outside Australia. This helped to ensure that the migration program was focused on those parents who needed to be united with their families in order to achieve adequate personal, social and economic support.

Further changes were made in 1991 when the then Labor government introduced the assurance of support bond at \$3,500 for each principal applicant and \$1,500 for each additional applicant. Under the scheme the sponsor of the parent migrant paid the bond to the Commonwealth government. The bond was used to fund any welfare payments claimed by the migrant. At the end of two years unused funds were repaid with interest. Welfare payments that exceeded the value of the bond were recoverable from the assurer as a debt to the Commonwealth government. In addition, the then Labor government introduced a migrant health service charge. Under this scheme a non-refundable levy of \$822 had to be paid by the sponsor of each parent migrant.

The aim of these changes was to strike an equitable balance between the health and welfare costs of parent migration that the taxpayer, the Australian community, should bear and the health and welfare costs of parent migration that the sponsoring family should bear. It is important to note that Labor structured these changes so that those seeking to sponsor did not face hardship and those seeking to have their parents migrate faced the same barriers not different barriers. Under these proposed changes the situation will be very different. The bottom line of these changes, introduced by the Liberal government and supported by the Australian Democrats—much to our surprise—is that if you have money your parents can come; if

not, you wait in a queue. That queue is now so long, with waiting times well over 10 years, that many parents will die in the queue.

Labor's understanding of the need for parent migration meant that in the last intake of 1995-96, under a Labor government, the number of parent visas issued was 8,900. On coming to office, the Howard Liberal government immediately took an aggressive approach to limiting parent migration. In addition to announcing a review of the whole system, the Howard Liberal government did the following. Firstly, it introduced measures to tighten the balance of family test. This tightening would have required more than 50 per cent of a parent's children to reside in Australia. In the case of parents with two children, a fairly standard case, this measure would have required both to be living in Australia. The Senate disallowed this change. Secondly, almost as soon as coming to office, the Howard Liberal government successfully introduced a two-year waiting period for social security benefits. Thirdly, the Howard Liberal government introduced a cap on parent visas of \$7,600 in 1996-97, which was then slashed to \$1,000 in 1997-98.

As a result of this review, the Howard Liberal government amended the relevant regulation in 1998 to introduce new parent visa classes with an assurance of support of \$4,000 for principal applicants, \$2,000 for additional applicants and a migrant health service charge of \$5,000. Under this regulatory regime, 2,800 places would have been made available for parent visas under transitional arrangements for applicants under the old visa classes—that is, the queue with the usual assurance of support and the migrant health service charge. An uncapped number of visas would have been available for those seeking parent visas in the newly created and more expensive queue. With the support of the Democrats, Labor disallowed these regulations in the Senate on the basis they would have imposed hardship on families seeking to have their parents migrate. In response, Minister Ruddock reduced the number of places available for parent visas to a cap of 500, and the cap still remains in

place—that is, 500 visas annually around the globe.

In 2000, the Howard Liberal government introduced the Migration Legislation Amendment (Parents and Other Measures) Bill 2000. Part of this bill provided for a new parent visa class with an assurance of support of \$10,000 for principal applicants, \$4,000 for additional applicants and a migrant health services charge of \$25,000 or proof of satisfactory private health insurance cover. The Liberal government was proposing that 4,000 places be allocated to the new and more expensive visa classes. Labor and the Democrats defeated that part of the bill dealing with parent visas. Once again, Labor took the view that the proposal would have created hardship and inequity in creating two queues: one for those with financial resources and one for those without. At that time, the Democrats, particularly Senator Bartlett, agreed with the Labor Party. Senator Bartlett said:

... regulation, particularly on the grounds that it provided a mechanism which meant that basically people who have significant amounts of wealth would get an advantage over those who do not.

He went on to say:

... the Democrats certainly believe that wealth or otherwise of parents should not be a determining factor in whether or not people can get into the country ...

It seems that, in supporting these new measures, the Democrats have now decided that wealth should be a determining factor for parents migration. In 2002-03, the parent visa class remains capped at 500 places. The conditions applying to the visas are the need for an assurance of support of \$3,500 for principal applicants and a migrant health services charge of \$1,050. Save for the indexing of the migrant health services charge, these visas have the same conditions as imposed by Labor in 1991. Obviously, 500 places per year are nowhere near sufficient to meet demand. If we contrast that cap of 500 places with the 8,900 places available in the last year of Labor government or even the 7,600 places available in the first year of the Howard government, 500 places stand out starkly as a very draconian cap. In implementing and maintaining this cap, the How-

ard Liberal government has deliberately created a crisis in parent migration.

There are currently 22,400 applications in the pipeline with 14,800 fully processed and with queue dates. Given the age of many of the persons seeking entry, they will die before they ever reach the front of the queue. This means that families with parents in the queue are desperate. The situation is now so hopeless for them that they will pay any price and do anything that is necessary to get their parents here.

Debate interrupted.

DOCUMENTS

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

Senator BARTLETT (Queensland—Leader of the Australian Democrats) (6.54 p.m.)—I move:

That the Senate take note of the document.

It is appropriate to draw the amendments to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora to the attention of the Senate and of the general public. It is one of the major global mechanisms for trying to protect and preserve endangered wildlife that is subject to international trade. These amendments, made at the last convention of the parties in November 2002, highlight the extreme environmental impact that can occur from trading in wildlife of all sorts. It is one of the reasons the Democrats believe all trade agreements should be cognisant of potential environmental impacts, rather than having separate treaties completely disconnected from trade agreements—for example, the free trade agreement with Singapore—and to have trade agreements implicitly recognise the need to ensure that there are not significant environmental impacts as a direct consequence of the trade.

These amendments and the reasons for the proposed treaty action detailed in here quite clearly indicate that trade in wildlife can have a direct negative consequence on the very survival of particular species. There are 12 species, different taxa, that were either listed or moved into appendix 1 of the convention—and appendix 1 is basically those

species where international commercial trade is prohibited. All are significantly endangered as a direct consequence of trade in those species, and that is why they are listed here. For example, a chameleon from Madagascar that is significantly endangered is listed as a direct consequence of a high demand in trade for pets. We have many people here in Australia who advocate that we should be trying to build an international pet trade in Australian wildlife. Indeed, there is expanding trade in the United States in some Australian wildlife. I think that is a dangerous practice to promote willy-nilly without a clear examination of the potential environmental impacts on each particular species as well as there being significant animal welfare issues that can apply when Australian native animals are exported into foreign environments and kept as pets. It is no coincidence that many of these species that have been transferred onto appendix 1 are the subject of interested trade from collectors, pet traders and the like. In addition to the chameleon, many different species of birds—six different subspecies of parrot and macaw—as well as different types of turtles have been put into the convention for the first time.

Plants are also an important part of the convention. In recent times we have seen a little bit of publicity about Australian business people who have been involved in illegal trade in exotic plants. That is a dangerous approach from an environmental point of view, not just because it may make plants extinct but also because it can, and has, led to plants escaping into the wild in foreign environments and becoming exotic weeds and pests. A number of different plant species—orchids, cactus and various types of palm trees—have been listed because they have become endangered due to trade.

It is worth noting a couple of sharks as well: the whale shark and the basking shark are species that are under threat. They are common in Australian waters, but obviously not common enough or they would not be listed in this trade in endangered species convention. It is an important convention, and this is one area where the Australian government have a fairly good record. I sup-

port them and encourage the Minister for the Environment and Heritage to keep up those efforts because it is important. *(Time expired)*

The ACTING DEPUTY PRESIDENT (Senator Chapman)—Do you care to seek leave to continue your remarks?

Senator BARTLETT—I seek leave to continue my remarks later.

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-Fouling Systems on Ships

Senator BARTLETT (Queensland—Leader of the Australian Democrats) (6.59 p.m.)—I move:

That the Senate take note of the document.

The International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-Fouling Systems on Ships, as with all those I speak to tonight, will be examined by the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties. Whilst I am in the rare circumstance of saying nice things about the government, I should also note that one of their good initiatives was the establishment of that committee, which enables better examination of these sorts of important documents. Highlighting them here now shows how significant these conventions are.

This is a very important convention that has been put together. Without saying that it is watertight, it is a significant advance in trying to get controls on the use of antifouling systems on ships. In particular, it aims to ban the use of organotin compounds which act as biocides in antifouling paints, specifically tributyl tin—or TBT—based antifouling paints. These paints act as a biocide to prevent the growth of algae, barnacles and other organisms on ships hulls, which might sound like a good idea, but they do pose a significant toxic risk and have significant impacts on species, habitats and ecosystems. Basically, TBT is a toxic poison and its widespread use is leading to significant poisoning of our marine ecosystems. So the fact that this convention has been put together to seek to phase out or eliminate the use of TBT as an antifouling device is very welcome and is a significant advance.

One point I would like to emphasise is that there are still TBT based antifouling

paints available for use in Australia as well as elsewhere. There are many, particularly small level, operations that still use these sorts of antifoulants on ships, in ship repairs and ship maintenance in Australian waters, marinas and shipyards. I urge the government, as part of the implementation of this convention, to work as quickly as possible to eliminate the use or the production of TBT based antifouling paints in Australia or, indeed, the import of those paints. There are already alternatives non-TBT based anti-fouling paints available domestically and overseas. That being the case, the Democrats urge the government to move very quickly to eliminate the production, sale and import of all TBT based paints in Australian. It is not just a matter of the TBT paints being used on large vessels sailing the oceans; they are being used regularly on small vessels in Australian waters, creeks, rivers and bays. We need to try and ensure that that form of pollution and poisoning of the marine and water environments is eliminated as soon as possible.

The Democrats believe the implementation of this convention is a significant advance, but there is still action that needs to be taken at government level. We urge that that action be taken as quickly as possible. I seek leave to continue my remarks later.

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

Tasmanian Regional Forest Agreement

Senator MURPHY (Tasmania) (7.03 p.m.)—I move:

That the Senate take note of the documents.

I am speaking to two documents from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry on the implementation of the Tasmanian Regional Forest Agreement, but in particular on the final recommendations and report of the department's Resource Planning and Development Commission inquiry into progress with the implementation of that agreement. I do not have that report with me, but I am aware of the content of that report and, unfortunately, it does not reflect accurately what is occurring with the implementation of the regional forest agreement. Unfortunately—and I raised this as an issue at the outset—I believe that one of the people

involved with conducting this review had formerly worked for the Forest Industries Association of Tasmania and was not in a position to make a value judgment about the progress of implementation of the Tasmanian Regional Forest Agreement. I think that probably allowed bias to be incorporated in the judgments and recommendations of the report.

The sad situation is that the forests in Tasmania are still not being managed in a way that will deliver the best outcomes for the Tasmanian people, neither in an employment sense nor in an economic sense. I think that is unfortunate. It is also unfortunate that the Resource Planning and Development Commission did not recognise that. In large part we have a situation where land clearing within public native forests is occurring on a very significant scale that, in essence, is in breach of commitments given by the Tasmanian government that where native forests were being harvested—that is, clear-felling of native forests—those forests would be replaced with the same species as were harvested from them. That requires not just having a eucalypt plantation, a blue gum plantation or a nitans plantation put in place of, quite often, temperate rainforest species. It is unacceptable that that is allowed to continue. As we know—and this has been a source of debate for some time—there are less than adequate forest practices being applied. The forests practices code is being breached, on some occasions by the manager of the public forests in Tasmania. That really is not good enough.

The consultation process that occurred with the Resource Planning and Development Commission was inadequate. Although they did hold public hearings, it would seem that the report did not take a lot of notice of some of the issues that were raised by people who made submissions to the Resource Planning and Development Commission. As a result, we have what I believe is a totally inadequate and in many respects inaccurate report.

With regard to the implementation of the agreement by the Tasmanian government, no government in Tasmania has really sought to build up the economic development aspects

of forestry in Tasmania. We always hear the argument about jobs but, unfortunately, we continue to lose jobs in the industry. Until there is a significant change, that will continue to be the case. I just hope that at some time some government will stand up and do something for the further development of the industry in Tasmania and maximise the benefits and outcomes that can be realised from a well-managed forest resource in my state. I seek leave to continue my remarks later.

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

Consideration

The following government documents were considered:

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade—Advancing the national interest: Australia's foreign and trade policy white paper. Motion to take note of document moved by Senator Mackay. Debate adjourned till Thursday at general business, Senator Mackay in continuation.

Treaties—*Bilateral*—Text, together with national interest analysis and regulation impact statement—Singapore-Australia Free Trade Agreement, done at Singapore on 17 February 2003, and associated exchange of notes. Motion to take note of document moved by Senator Mackay. Debate adjourned till Thursday at general business, Senator Mackay in continuation.

Treaty—*Multilateral*—Text, together with national interest analysis and regulation impact statement—Annex IV: Regulations for the Prevention of Pollution by Sewage from Ships (revised) of the Protocol of 1978 Relating to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as Amended (MARPOL 73/78), done at London, 17 February 1978, revised text adopted at London, 13 March 2000. Motion to take note of document moved by Senator Mackay. Debate adjourned till Thursday at general business, Senator Mackay in continuation.

ADJOURNMENT

The ACTING DEPUTY PRESIDENT (Senator Bolkus)—Order! There being no further consideration of government documents, I propose the question:

That the Senate do now adjourn.

Women: Queensland Liberal Party

Senator SANTORO (Queensland) (7.08 p.m.)—There can be no doubt that the

Queensland Liberal Party is performing extremely well when it comes to women's representation in the traditionally male dominated world of politics. I could speak at great length about the great contribution that Queensland women political representatives have made to the political life and fabric of Brisbane, Queensland and Australia—and I could list many names and many achievements to illustrate the point—but I will leave this exercise for another time, for tonight I wish to recognise some of the unsung heroines that are part of all political organisations (Labor Party, National Party, Democrats and Liberal Party) and in particular tonight those who are in the Queensland Liberal Party.

As an introduction to my substantive remarks I will mention the names of my very distinguished Queensland women colleagues in this parliament, including Kay Elson, the member for Forde; Teresa Gambaro, the member for Petrie; and Margaret May, the member for McPherson. They are outstanding representatives for their electorates who bring into this parliament a unique and often inspired perspective and they represent their constituents and their party with great distinction.

At a state level, how could I go beyond Joan Sheldon, former parliamentary leader of the Queensland Liberal Party, former Deputy Premier and former Treasurer—in fact, the first woman leader of a major party in Queensland, the first woman Deputy Premier and the first woman Treasurer. I had the honour and the privilege of serving with Mrs Sheldon as her deputy for three years and subsequently as a minister of the Crown in the Borbidge-Sheldon government. I cannot speak more highly than I am doing tonight of her performance and of the way that as a parliamentary leader she conducted the affairs of the Liberal Party. And, of course, there is Sallyanne Atkinson, the first female Lord Mayor of Brisbane, who almost single-handedly transformed Brisbane into a modern 21st century forward-looking city—a mature city that today has the confidence to take on any other major city in Australia and indeed in the world. It has done so on many occasions. It has hosted many a significant national and international event, and again

that is the result of the efforts of former Lord Mayor Sallyanne Atkinson.

Clearly, the Queensland Liberal Party has facilitated the advancement of women to senior political ranks in a most exemplary and successful manner. Often, these women have started their distinguished political careers within the Women's Council section of the Liberal Party of Australia in Queensland. It is interesting to note at this point that the objectives of the Queensland Women's Council clearly state: to provide equal opportunity for women to make their own decisions, develop their own skills, interests and personalities, always having regard for equal rights of others; to play an active role in researching the specific needs of women in developing policies; to encourage women to realise their full potential; to assist women who wish to seek preselection in any one of the three tiers of government and to provide support and information to them as candidates. These objectives have been pursued by many fine Queensland Liberal women—women who have not only established a loyal and dedicated commitment to the Liberal Party but also gone out and put down roots in the broader community and therefore speak within the Liberal Party, on behalf of the Liberal Party and about the Liberal Party in Queensland with great credibility.

There are three distinguished women within the Queensland Liberal Party who have presided in more recent times as chairmen of the Women's State Council, namely Mrs Cassie Solomon, Mrs Elaine Bowers and current president, Mrs Rae Watkins. These women have sought, identified and provided encouragement and support for many fine women to run for positions within our state and federal parliaments, the Brisbane City Council and the Liberal Party organisation. In many instances, they have played a mentoring role for Liberal women. Through their roles as chairmen and now as President of the Women's State Council these women have also provided a valuable women's perspective to areas of campaigning and policy. Tonight, I pay tribute to them.

In particular, I pay a special tribute to Mrs Cassie Solomon, who for so many years played such a central and vital role in the

affairs of the Queensland Liberal Party's Women's Council. In the end, Cassie personified the Women's Council and represented it with grace and distinction in many Queensland and national forums where significant issues were discussed and debated. Cassie's health is currently failing her and we wish for her the very best for the future. I say a very hearty and sincere thank you for the great contribution that she has made to the welfare of not just the Women's Council in Queensland but the Queensland Liberal Party and, indeed, the national Liberal Party as a whole.

It would also be improper of me not to pay tribute to good Liberal women who have contributed enormously to advancing the cause of women, families and the community as a whole. For example, Mrs Ailsa Scurr has served as a delegate to the National Council of Women for many years and has been involved in that great drug organisation Drug Arm. Mrs Audrey Dickie has made a valuable contribution through her involvement in the Australian Family Association, as has Mrs Faye Shadlow in the area of family planning.

As honourable senators would appreciate, Queensland is a big state and much good work is done by Liberal women in rural and isolated communities. For example, Mrs Rhonda Hermann has worked with and supported women and their families in more difficult and remote areas within the federal electorate of Blair. A few years ago, Mrs Hermann and her Blair Women's Council group ran a successful forum dealing with many issues affecting local communities, particularly isolated communities.

And, of course, Mr President, we cannot forget the wives in what are still male-inhabited state and federal parliaments. These unsung heroines contribute enormously to the ability of their husbands to do their jobs in places such as this—by looking after our children and our homes, often supplementing the family income, and on many occasions representing their husbands at many an event both within the party and in the broader community.

I mention these fine women as excellent examples of women committed to advancing

the interests of the Liberal Party and worthwhile community causes. Undoubtedly, when one mentions a lot of individuals in a speech like this, one may forget some. If I have forgotten people who feel that they should have been mentioned because of their great contribution, I will make up for it at another time. But there have been and there still are many thousands in the Queensland Liberal Party, and indeed throughout the Australian Liberal Party, who work happily, quickly and efficiently for causes they genuinely believe in—in this particular case, from a Liberal perspective. Women like Heather Eveans, Trish Sargeant, Sue Boyce, Erna Lee, Lesley Goodwin, Shirley Bertoldo, Kylie Denman, Gladys Potter, Jeannie Fairlie, Joan Spelling, Lila Cameron—that stalwart, Lila Cameron—Shirley Lehmann, Greer Tucker, Sharon Thompson, Elaine O'Keefe, Astra Ciobo, Kerry Freeburn, Julie Wallerstein and Ella King are just some of the office-bearers of the Queensland Women's Council who I know and who work tirelessly for the causes of women in the Queensland Liberal Party and within the community.

It is important at this stage to go back to our roots. With what better quote could I conclude a speech like this than one from the founder of the Liberal Party, Sir Robert Menzies? At the closure of the Albury conference on 16 December 1944, when speaking about the role of the women's organisation in the Liberal Party, he said:

Women are unquestionably destined to exercise more and more influence upon practical politics in Australia. There was a time when they thought to stand aside, exercising only passive influence. That has gone.

In the educating of the electorate in liberal areas they have for many years been an effective force. Now we have an organisation in which all distinctions have gone, and with men and women working equally for the one body the resultant education value of our movement is going to be extremely increased ...

That is what our founder, Sir Robert Menzies, said about the role of the women's organisation within the Liberal Party—on that distant day, 16 December 1944. The sentiments that he expressed were very valid at that point in time. They are even more valid

today. Again, I pay tribute tonight to the role, the influence and the effectiveness of the women's contribution to the Liberal Party of Australia and, in particular, to the contribution of the Women's Council of the Liberal Party of Queensland.

Will Dyson

Senator FAULKNER (New South Wales—Leader of the Opposition in the Senate) (7.17 p.m.)—Eighteen months ago I informed the Senate that the London burial place of Will Dyson, a great Australian artist, and his wife, Ruby, also a talented artist, was unmarked and missing its headstone. I also expressed some dismay that no plans were in place to restore the headstone of the grave of this great Australian. I believed we had to ensure that this terrible wrong was put right. Fortunately, at around the same time I had the opportunity to speak at the inauguration of the C.E.W. Bean Foundation. In my speech, I alerted the foundation to the situation and urged them to consider assisting in the restoration of the Dysons' gravesite. I told the C.E.W. Bean Foundation of my hope that an appropriate headstone would be reinstated and that Will Dyson, who was a good friend of Charles Bean, would no longer lie in an unmarked grave.

Tonight, I am able to bring good news to the Senate. Work is well advanced on restoring Will Dyson's grave at London's Hendon Cemetery. Since 2001, an enthusiastic group of Londoners and Australian expatriates have been raising funds to assist with the restoration. I believe that this is a very important project. Those who are aware of Dyson's career, especially his role as the Australian Imperial Force's first official war artist, have been surprised to learn that he and his wife are buried in an unmarked grave.

Will Dyson, who grew up in Ballarat, was a remarkably gifted artist, political satirist and writer. In his early years he became friendly with Norman Lindsay and through this friendship met and later married Ruby Lindsay, Norman's sister. Ruby was also a talented artist and was praised for her black and white illustrations in both Australia and London. Will and Ruby had one child, Betty, who in her adult life was also a talented artist

designing sets and costumes for plays and ballets, notably for Sadler's Wells.

In 1910, Dyson and Ruby moved to London. By 1916, Dyson was famous for his artwork and had published a number of books, including *Kultur Cartoons*, which consisted of 20 large drawings with a foreword by H.G. Wells. It was a bestseller. Dyson's art and writings focused on issues such as inequality and suffering. His work stood for the underdog. Dyson's friend the writer Vance Palmer said:

The British workman had always been presented pathetically—a depressed figure in bowyangs, with his hand on the head of his starving child. Dyson made him young, militant, triumphant—an image of energy and hope, with an upraised fist.

But many best remember Will Dyson for his graphic depictions of war on the Western Front. Dyson—the first official Australian war artist, commissioned by the Commonwealth in 1916—lived with the soldiers on the Western Front for two years. He greatly admired them and felt that it was his task to interpret, for national preservation, the special Australian characteristics of the men from the Australian Imperial Force.

During Dyson's time on the Western Front, he was wounded twice. Despite this, he continued to work at the front, ensuring a comprehensive record was maintained of the soldiers: how they lived and how they fought. Not only did he produce an astonishing collection of artwork, he was also praised for his writing about the war. Dyson's inscriptions in his book *Australia at War* were described in the *Times* as 'profound in thought' and 'always vivid in description'. It was said that his writing was no less remarkable than his drawings.

It was during his time on the Western Front that Will Dyson met and became good friends with Charles Bean, who was Australia's official war correspondent. Charles Bean wrote of Will Dyson:

No official artist, British or Australian, in the Great War saw a tenth part as much of the real Western Front as did Will Dyson.

The Australian War Memorial received 270 of Dyson's drawings from World War I, and Bean even envisaged a special Dyson gallery at the memorial.

Tragedy struck Dyson in 1919. Ruby died suddenly, aged only 32, after she became the victim of the influenza epidemic. Dyson, like many of his generation, was changed forever by the war. He was shattered by the death of his wife. During the 1920s and 1930s Dyson continued to draw and write. But, after his experiences, Dyson had become disillusioned. He was never the same again. In 1938 he died suddenly from a heart attack. He was buried in England at London's Hendon Cemetery in the same grave as his wife Ruby.

In January this year, I was able to visit Will Dyson's unmarked gravesite at Hendon. The gravesite is located next to a well-maintained Commonwealth War Graves Commission grave. Robin Ollington, a design artist and the main organiser of the Will Dyson trust, was able to show me the precise location of Dyson's grave. Although there are no remnants of the original grave and headstone to be seen, it is still possible to be precise about its location through cemetery records and the well-maintained adjacent grave.

At the cemetery office I was able to examine the documents that explained why maintenance of Will Dyson's and Ruby Lindsay's grave ceased. After the death of Betty Dyson—Will and Ruby's only direct descendant—in 1956, responsibility for maintaining the gravesite passed to Betty's former husband Baron Yves Chanteau. After Baron Chanteau's death, the annual payments of £1 for the maintenance of the grave were not kept up. By the late 1960s the grave had fallen into disrepair. In 1969 the cemetery authorities dismantled the headstone because it had become a danger to public safety.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Chelsea Arts Club in London, of which Dyson was a former chairman, for allowing its facilities to be used for a lunch bringing together all those working on the Dyson grave project in England. At the lunch in January, I was able to thank the dedicated people who have contributed to the project: Robin Ollington and many others who have given much time and effort to this important cause. I indicated to all those present that

many Australians sincerely valued the work of Robin and his team of Australian expatriates and UK nationals. I also expressed my thanks to Dame Elisabeth Murdoch, whose generous donation has been crucial in ensuring that a marked grave for the Dysons will become a reality. I expressed my appreciation to the Australian High Commissioner, Mr Michael L'Estrange, and the Australian High Commission for their support of this important project.

The work of designing and making a new headstone is now well advanced. It will be essential that the refurbished grave continue to be maintained so that it does not deteriorate again. I understand the High Commissioner has discussed the ongoing maintenance of the new grave with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and has received a positive response. I intend to follow this up with the War Graves Commission. I believe this to be a very important project that will ensure that two great and talented Australians will no longer lie in an unmarked grave but will receive the recognition and respect they so greatly deserve. I want to take the opportunity tonight in this adjournment debate in the Australian Senate to sincerely thank the very many people both here in Australia and overseas in England who have involved themselves in what I believe is a very important project.

Exercise of Power

Senator MURRAY (Western Australia) (7.27 p.m.)—The ultimate exercise of power is to commit a nation to war. When that happens it exposes who has that power, what checks there are on its exercise, and whether the people as a whole have any countervailing power. With Australian troops pre-deployed for war, the powers of the Prime Minister and his executive have again been confirmed as nearly absolute. The Australian parliament has been exposed as having no power to oppose a war by cutting off the money for war, no power to prevent pre-deployment, no power to determine what policy applies to the processes that lead to war, and no power to authorise or prohibit a war.

The Governor-General is no help either. The Governor-General is the Prime Minister's to appoint and dismiss. His role has

been to support the Prime Minister. With the office of the head of state captured by the executive and the executive controlling the House of Representatives, there is no effective separation of powers, and executive power to make war is guaranteed. Being independent of the executive, the Australian Senate does exhibit characteristics of a separation of powers, but in respect of matters of war it can only take a view, not exercise authority.

The issue of the structure of executive power was at the core of the debate over the Australian republic. As one of the authors of the no case in the republic referendum, I argued long and hard that what Australia needed was a more accountable system of government that appropriately restrained the power of the executive. The Prime Minister's power to commit an unwilling public to a war in Iraq again highlights the importance of the issue.

In recent weeks I have been trying to have an op-ed piece on this issue published in newspapers around the country, including the *Australian*, the *Canberra Times*, the *Age*, the *Sydney Morning Herald*, the *Australian Financial Review* and the *West Australian*. I will be making similar points tonight to those made in my op-ed piece. I am aware that far fewer people are reached by an address in the Senate and by the recording of *Hansard* than in a newspaper. I do not read anything into the rejection of my article by the papers I have named, but I do believe it is an accurate reflection of the difficulties faced by direct election republicans with a reformist bent such as me in getting their views on the public agenda. Throughout the republic debate the media showed far more interest in the appointment model than in the more popular direct election model. As we continue to see examples of unchecked executive power, I hope that focus shifts.

If the republic referendum had been passed in 2000, would there have been more checks and balances on the Iraq question? The answer is no. If anything, that appointment model entrenched executive power even more, making the proposed Australian president—as in that famous quote—‘the Prime Minister's poodle’. It is a little ironic

that many of those opposing a war in Iraq outright or opposing the predeployment of Australian forces were great supporters of a constitutional model that reinforced the Prime Minister's authority to do just that without the approval of parliament. Other nations have sensibly used the presidential office as a check on prime ministerial power. For those who tried to con the people into believing that the republic was about having an Australian head of state and nothing more, the likely Iraq war is a reminder that the constitutional debate is really about who has power and how it is exercised.

One weakness of the current system of government is that power is centralised in the executive arm of government. The separation of powers is modest. Section 61 of the Constitution provides the main source of the Commonwealth's executive power. Executive power is exercisable by the prime ministerially appointed Governor-General, as the Queen's representative but on the instructions of the Prime Minister exercised through the Executive Council. The scope of section 61 empowers the executive government to make certain decisions with constitutional legitimacy, without the need for parliamentary or legislative sanction. The power to declare war and make decisions about the disposition and control of the armed forces is one such action. Many of those who argue for a directly elected president with limited and codified powers seek to constrain this power by requiring the president to approve a Prime Minister's commitment to war. Not everyone who argues for a directly elected president with codified powers seeks to give the president some control over a Prime Minister's decision to go to war. Some versions of this model would require a president to accept a Prime Minister's advice on that, as on other matters. I am not one of those.

A separate safeguard to be considered is whether parliament should have any power to approve of war action. If a president were given the power to confirm, or not, a Prime Minister's commitment to war, the present parliamentary relationships and powers could remain unchanged. Alternatively, the Constitution could be changed to give parliament—or the parliament could pass legis-

lation—the power to confirm or deny the propriety of any proposed war action.

A comparison of the United States presidential system versus the Australian prime ministerial system of government is interesting. It is true that the President of the United States is the head of the executive and is also commander-in-chief, but his power and authority to wage war are given to him by his parliament. The War Powers Act became law in the United States in October 1973 over President Nixon's veto. It was an attempt to reassert congressional control over war-making. It provides that in the absence of a declaration of war by Congress the President only retains the power to lawfully initiate hostilities under four limited conditions. Those four conditions are: to repel an attack on the United States, to protect American armed forces overseas, to protect the lives of Americans abroad or to fulfil the statutory military obligations of the United States. Some argue that the broad language of these exceptions prevents the act from being a strong check on the practice of presidential war-making. Nonetheless, it is a useful illustration of an alternative way to structure the war-making power.

The presidential system in the United States has accumulated enormous symbolic and real power status. As head of state and of government, President Bush does indeed wield tremendous power. Unlike Mr Howard, President Bush is, after all, acting under an authorising congressional resolution empowering him to take the kind of action against Iraq on which he has embarked. And it is not as if just his party or just the House of Representatives back him: he has the support of a majority of both houses, including many who are not of his party. American congressmen and senators have a free vote on these sorts of matters.

What I would argue for is an elected president with codified powers but with the additional safeguard, adapted from the United States system, of a requirement for parliamentary approval of warlike action. When war threatens, the last thing you want is absolute power without check. It is a compelling reason why a reformed Australian system, improved by a directly elected presi-

dent with specific limited and codified powers, would be better for Australia than the American model. It would certainly be better than the current Australian system.

HMAS *Yarra* Association

Senator TCHEHEN (Victoria) (7.36 p.m.)—On 4 March 1942, 61 years ago, as dawn broke over the Indian Ocean between Indonesia and Australia, a small convoy of two merchant ships and a minesweeper escorted by the sloop HMAS *Yarra*, with Lieutenant Commander Robert Rankin of Cobar, New South Wales in command, was intercepted by a Japanese force of three heavy cruisers and two destroyers. At 6.30 a.m., the *Yarra* made an enemy sighting report, ordered the convoy to disperse, moved to delay the enemy by laying down a smokescreen and advanced to attack in a bid to buy time for the other ships to escape. The sloop *Yarra* was the second ship in the Royal Australian Navy to bear that name. Built at Sydney's Cockatoo Dockyard, she was a Grimsby class lightly armed escort sloop with three four-inch guns and a top speed of 16.5 knots. Commissioned in 1936, she served in the Red Sea, the Persian Gulf and the Mediterranean before returning to convoy duties between Australia and Singapore after the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbour.

In her last action on 4 March 1942, the *Yarra* faced three Japanese cruisers, each armed with 10 eight-inch guns and with a top speed of over 30 knots—and that was not counting the two destroyers, each of which would be more than a match for the *Yarra*. She was outgunned, outnumbered and outsped. Nevertheless, the *Yarra* engaged the enemy for more than an hour. By 8 a.m. the ship was on fire and sinking. Commander Rankin ordered 'abandon ship' shortly before he was killed by a direct hit on the bridge. Leading Seaman Ronald Buck Taylor on 'B' gun continued to load and fire until he, too, was killed.

Of the *Yarra*'s crew of 151, only 13 survived. One hundred and thirty-eight, including all officers, were killed in action or died subsequently before being rescued. As no surviving officers were witnesses to the action, the epic and valiant efforts of the *Yarra* and her ship's company, individually and

collectively, never received official recognition—an injustice unrectified even today, except perhaps through the Navy. The name of the *Yarra* has been maintained in the Australian Navy, first by *Yarra III*, a post World War II River class destroyer which served in Malaysia during the Indonesian Confrontation, and more recently by *Yarra IV*, a mine-hunter ship built in Newcastle and commissioned in Sydney on 1 March 2003—last Saturday. The Navy has also commemorated the deeds of Robert Rankin by naming the sixth Collins class submarine HMAS *Rankin*. There has been no recognition of the valour of Leading Seaman Ronald Taylor to date.

In the manner that we have grown accustomed to for all things Australian, the memory of the *Yarra* and her crew was better maintained by voluntary efforts in the community. The HMAS *Yarra* Association was formed in 1950 by the former ship's company of *Yarra II*, including the survivors of her last action and all officers and men who served on her between 1936 and 1942. Membership is open to those who served in the later *Yarra III* and *Yarra IV*, the family members of the crew of *Yarra II*, and other interested people.

The association stands for loyalty to the reigning sovereign of Australia and the Commonwealth of Australia for the maintenance of the founding principles of the Constitution and for the development of a national spirit, while striving for peace, goodwill and friendship among the serving and ex-serving members of the allied navies of the world and the Royal Australian Navy. It seeks to perpetuate the memory and deeds of those who gave their lives in the naval forces of the Commonwealth and their allies.

Amongst the association's members are four surviving members of the crew of *Yarra II*, including Mr Frank Glover OAM JP, of New South Wales, the president of the association, and two survivors of the last battle: Mr Geoffrey Bromilow of Victoria and Mr Peter Manthey of Queensland. Mr R.G.A. Campbell of Queensland is the fourth of the quartet. I seek leave to incorporate the membership list of the HMAS *Yarra* Association in *Hansard*.

Leave granted.

The document read as follows—

The HMAS Yarra Association

Frank Glover (NSW) (Yarra II) (**President**)
 Geoffrey Bromilow (VIC) (Yarra II survivor)
 RGA Campbell (QLD) (Yarra II)
 Peter Manthey (QLD) (Yarra II survivor)
 Reg G Matthews (WA) (Yarra II)
 Anries Bruinhout (VIC) (K11)
 Pat Andersen (NSW) (Yarra III)
 John F Askham (USA) (Yarra III)
 Gary Balhause (NSW) (Yarra III)
 Nevell Bateman (NSW) (Yarra III)
 David Bates (NSW) (Yarra, III)
 Peter Battistello (VIC) (Yarra III)
 Alan Beaumont AC (ACT) (Yarra, III) (**Patron**)
 Wally Birch (Yarra. III)
 William Bird (NSW) (Yarra III)
 John A Blackmore (Yarra III)
 Peter Blundy (QLD) (Yarra III)
 Jeff Brennam (Yarra III)
 Mark Burton (PNG) (Yarra III)
 Dean Cagney (NSW) (Yarra III)
 Darren Carruthers (NSW) (Yarra III)
 Billy Chick (NSW) (Yarra III)
 John Cunningham (Yarra III)
 John Curley (SA) (Yarra III)
 Smokey Dawson (NSW) (Yarra. III)
 Robert Derbin (NSW) (Yarra III)
 David W Dixon (NSW) (Yarra III)
 Mick Edwards (NSW) (Yarra III)
 Allan Ellis (WA) (Yarra III)
 Terrance Fauchon (NSW) (Yarra III)
 Jack Fenton (NSW) (Yarra III)
 Jean-Pierre Gibard (SA) (Yarra III)
 Dean Goodman (Yarra III)
 Pat Gordon (NSW) (Yarra III)
 Ray Green (TAS) (Yarra III)
 Phil Hannan (Yarra, III)
 Brian Harper (Yarra III)
 Nick Helyer (NSW) (Yarra, III)
 Ian Hocking (Yarra III)
 Peter Holstein (NSW) (Yarra III)
 Guy Murray Hunter (Yarra III)
 Ian Irving (NSW) (Yarra III)
 W Jenkinson (QLD) (Yarra III)

Stephen Johns (Yarra III)	Graeme Daly Kelly (NSW) (Yarra IV)
Josh Van Kalken (QLD) (Yarra III)	Steven Kimsey (NSW) (Yarra IV)
Peter Kannengiesser (NSW) (Yarra III)	Peter Morris (NSW) (Yarra IV)
Simon Kelly (NSW) (Yarra III)	Elizabeth Archibald (QLD)
Kevin Kershaw (WA) (Yarra III)	Tom Bateman (VIC)
Ray Kershaw (WA) (Yarra III)	George Brooker (NSW)
Terry King (NSW) (Yarra III)	Keith Brooker (NSW)
Branko Klinsic (Yarra III)	Rev Ted Brooker (ACT) (Chaplain)
Paul Lamont (Yarra III)	Wayne Brooker (NSW)
Shane Loughrey (NSW) (Yarra III)	Alan R Buckley
Simon Luck (Yarra III)	Mrs Madge Buckley (VIC)
John C Macdonald (ACT) (Yarra III) (Patron)	J Edwards (VIC)
Peter McGurk (NSW) (Yarra III)	Garth Farrow (NSW)
Geoff Mallon (NSW) (Yarra III)	Ian Glover (NSW)
Darrell May (NSW) (Yarra, III)	Herbert S Graves (NSW)
Ken Mead (NSW) (Yarra, III)	Valmai Guller (VIC)
Chris Mills (NSW) (Yarra III)	Geoffrey Gutteridge (QLD)
Bill Middleton (NSW) (Yarra III)	David Hamilton (NSW)
Mark Mobley (NSW) (Yarra III)	Mark Harmey (NSW)
Eric Moffitt (NSW) (Yarra, III)	Margaret Hawke (SA)
Greg Moore (Yarra III)	Wayne Heaslip
Ron Nugent (Yarra III)	Bill Houssenloge (NSW)
Terry Pannell (Yarra III)	Pam Hudson (NSW)
Gervase Pearce (NSW) (Yarra III)	Stephen Ide (NSW)
Colin Phelps (NSW) (Yarra III)	William Lancaster (NSW)
Garry Pyke (VIC) (Yarra III)	Janet McFarlane (NSW)
Trevor Pike (NSW) (Yarra III)	Robert J McFarlane (NSW)
Buck Rogers (NSW) (Yarra III)	Mrs McFarlane (NSW)
Peter Schmidt (Yarra III)	Bill Mackay (NSW)
Doug Spence (NSW) (Yarra III)	Margaret Mackay (NSW)
Steve Spencer (NSW) (Yarra III)	Darrell May
Darren Stevenson (NSW) (Yarra III)	Mrs Miriam Middleton (TAS)
Ross Stevenson (NSW) (Yarra III)	William Moffitt (NSW)
Gary Storey (NSW) (Yarra III)	Beryl Morgan (NSW)
Ken Swain (NSW) (Yarra III)	Evan Morgan (NSW)
William Swanwick (VIC) (Yarra III)	Mrs Shirlie Neal JP (NSW)
Norm Sweeney (WA) (Yarra III)	Keith Plumridge (NSW)
Barrie Thompson (Yarra III)	Betty Sands (QLD)
Ray Vidler (NSW) (Yarra III) (Secretary/Treasurer)	Nancy Shanahan (NSW)
Wayne Williams (NSW) (Yarra III)	Reg Siemsen (VIC)
Alex J Hawes (NSW) (Yarra IV)	Chris Rotering (VIC)
S Elliott (Yarra IV)	Glenn Tankard (NSW)
Steve Fisher (Yarra IV)	Angus Walsh OAM (VIC) (Memorial Coordinator)
Kevin Patrick Hocking (NSW) (Yarra IV)	

Maureen Walsh (VIC) (Victorian Honorary Secretary)

Joan Witheriff (QLD)

Senator TCHEN—A fifth survivor, Mr Keith Buckley of Victoria, passed away in December 2002. Mr Buckley was one of the 13 rescued by the Dutch submarine *K11* in 1942. He went on to serve 11 more years in the Royal Australian Navy. As one of only three survivors of the 1942 action, Mr Buckley played a major role in the erection of the HMAS *Yarra* National Memorial in November 2000 in Newport on the foreshore of Port Phillip Bay. Mr Buckley is survived by his wife and son, both of whom are members of the HMAS *Yarra* Association. The erection of the HMAS *Yarra* National Memorial was achieved by the HMAS *Yarra* Association with the support of the City of Hobson Bay, the Australian Defence Force, the Rotary Club of Williamstown, and many others. A list of the sponsors of the memorial is available on the web site www.plaques.sat-link.com.au/list/Asian/Australia/hmas.htm.

Last Sunday, 2 March 2003, I was privileged to attend the 61st HMAS *Yarra* anniversary service conducted at the site of the memorial by Reverend Ted Brooker, the chaplain to the association and the son of a crew member of the *Yarra*. The service was attended by over 100 members and friends of the association, including Mr Rob Taylor, the nephew of Leading Seaman Ronald Taylor. I particularly thank Mr Angus Walsh OAM, the association's honorary memorial coordinator, for extending the invitation to me. I commend the association for maintaining the spirit and the vision of Australia, particularly at this time of difficulty and challenge. Australia again reluctantly faces the possibility of war to rid the world of evil we cannot be rid of otherwise. Yet we will face it squarely, taking on and discharging our responsibility to the civilised community. I commend the association for its effort to preserve that spirit and show us the way.

National Security: Information Kits

Senator MACKAY (Tasmania) (7.43 p.m.)—I take the opportunity tonight to lay down what has become a most perplexing and sad and sorry saga with respect to what

is happening with the returned antiterrorism kits, of which we suspect there are hundreds of thousands. I have just been informed about an Australia Post press release in which they have indicated that they do not feel it appropriate to disclose the number of returned kits to the Australian parliament because they are not in the habit of disclosing this information to third parties, despite having taken this question on notice at a Senate estimates hearing and indicating that they would. Once I get hold of the release, I will be taking this matter further in relation to a potential contempt of the Senate.

Many in this chamber—or a few, anyway—may be aware that on 10 February during Senate estimates I asked Australia Post to count the number of antiterrorism kits being returned and to report back to the Senate committee with this information. On 10 February at the hearing Australia Post informed me that it was a condition of the contract that they had entered into with the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet that the kits be set aside, not destroyed, which would be the normal process for returned mail. That is the first point: there was a contract with the government who had requested that they should be set aside. At that point, Australia Post advised the Senate committee, of which Senator Eggleston is a member, that they would provide details to the committee of the numbers of returned kits by, I think, around 25 February. We then made inquiries about that, which I will come to in a minute.

Around a week ago the date expired and Australia Post indicated that they would not be able to provide the information by the agreed due date, but in fact would rather take it on notice. Of course, as many senators know, this potentially means months of waiting. I made inquiries with the CPSU in New South Wales and found that many postal workers were completely unaware of the directive from the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet to Australia Post that the kits be set aside. Therefore, normal procedure was happening and the kits were being destroyed, which is what happens with returned mail. So Australia Post, in its contractual arrangements with the Department of

the Prime Minister and Cabinet had not in many states, we suspect, passed on this directive to set aside the return to sender mail and, in fact, they were being destroyed by the postal workers. That is stage one.

From the inquiries that I have made so far, I am satisfied that maybe hundreds of thousands of these kits have been destroyed in post offices, possibly right across Australia, and not kept as per the provisions of the contract with the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. That means that we will never know the true extent of the protest by all those Australian people who took the trouble to return the government's antiterrorism kit. We will only be able to guess at the extent of protest, be it a protest in relation to the expenditure of \$20 million, be it a protest in respect of Iraq—whatever the reason, it does not matter. It is a legitimate political action to take. Yesterday when I made this assertion, Senator Alston labelled it 'bizarre' and 'complete nonsense.' That was yesterday. How wrong he was. At approximately 10.30 last night, Daryl Williams, the Attorney-General, confirmed that in fact kits have been destroyed on his directive. Apparently the Attorney-General had forgotten to mention it to Senator Alston, the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts. Maybe he did mention it, I do not know; we will find out eventually in trying to get to the bottom of this. Who knows what the reason was, but we may speculate.

Today in question time I asked Senator Ellison, who was representing the Attorney-General, to explain why the Attorney-General had issued the instruction for these kits to be destroyed. At least they are coming clean and formally saying that they were being destroyed. One of the reasons for this that he gave today in question time was a lack of storage space in one location—Canberra. On that basis we can hypothesise that obviously a huge number of Canberra residents at least—the government is on the record in relation to this—have returned their kits to the extent that the post office has run out of room and has had to destroy them. Even more incredible was the other reason he gave, which was safety—he alleged—to

protect postal workers. There was an allegation that white powder was being placed in some of the kits that had been returned.

If the government was so concerned about the safety of postal workers, why had Australia Post or the government not told any of the workers of these threats? No postal worker in Australia had been advised of these threats, in terms of the potential occupational health and safety issues, by Australia Post. It is very strange, isn't it? They have not advised them and, clearly, the fact that postal workers are still clearing the post-boxes and sorting the mail as normal shows that the reason given by the government is either completely untrue or—and this the best complexion you could put on it—it has been negligent.

Let us take people through this. The government is saying that there have been threats in respect of the returned antiterrorism kits, to wit, white powder in some of the kits. Therefore, it says they have to be destroyed. Let us just assume that is the case. Australia Post workers have been handling these kits for weeks. That is the first thing. Why had nobody told them at the beginning that these were a potential issue? The second thing is: why does this become a potential occupational health and safety issue when they hit the post office? Is it not an issue for the postie when he or she picks up the mail from the postbox? Or do they not count? Why is it only an occupational health and safety issue or an issue in relation to a potential terrorist threat, or whatever, when it gets to the post office? The whole thing just does not make sense when you think about it logically. If there is a potential threat from the antiterrorism kits, Australia Post, firstly, should have told its workers, or the government should have told its employees. Secondly, they should not have been handled from five weeks ago, not from last night when Daryl Williams made an announcement on the run that the kits were being destroyed. I suspect the convenient excuse was used that there had been some emails in respect of this. I have to say, just as a fairly snide aside, that it would be the first time I have seen this government care two hoots

about Australia Post workers, but that is another issue.

This afternoon the New South Wales CPSU branch secretary, Jim Metcher, wrote to Australia Post to demand to know, if this safety threat was real, why postal workers had not been consulted or advised. We hope that this story has been concocted by the ministers otherwise you potentially have thousands of Australia Post workers who have been under threat for five to six weeks. So, we hope it is a cover-up by the government, otherwise they are totally negligent about the safety of these workers. What the union is saying is exactly that: if these returned kits are a threat, they are a threat from when they get picked up at the postbox. They do not just happen to turn into a threat when they go to the post office. If that is the case, the logical conclusion is: if you are really concerned about Australia Post workers, the posties should not be picking up the mail. That is the logical conclusion.

Let us assume that it is correct. If it is correct, this is a major, serious issue for Australia Post workers who have been kept in the dark by both Australia Post and the government. Let us assume it is a concocted excuse; let us assume that it is a cover-up. Let us assume that it is the government saying, 'We know there are hundreds of thousands of returned antiterrorism kits and we know we are getting a message from hundreds of thousands of Australians. We do not like the message, so we are going to destroy the message.' I think it is more like that. I hope it is more like that. Whatever, this has been a total debacle from go to whoa. From a simple question in estimates—which was: can you please tell us how many antiterrorism kits have been returned?—it has turned into a potential major industrial dispute on a national level.

Well done, Daryl Williams and Richard Alston, for creating this situation to attempt to cover up the democratic right of people to return these antiterrorism kits, and to cover up the fact that hundreds of thousands have been returned. This is still a democratic country. It has difficulties, but it is still a democratic country. If it is a cover-up, if this is basically an Orwellian conspiracy, this is

the kind of thing that would have made Joseph Goebbels blush. In fact, I think Joseph Goebbels probably would have done a better job in relation to this. In any respect, it is either a total foul-up by the government or it is a major issue for those Australia Post workers. The government cannot have it both ways. I will wait with interest to see what happens in New South Wales. I will wait with interest to see what happens on a national level in respect of the antiterrorism kits. I will wait with interest to see if the government, if it is true, stops the mail deliveries in Australia. *(Time expired)*

Human Rights: Vietnam

Senator GREIG (Western Australia) (7.53 p.m.)—On 21 February, just a few weeks ago, I was visited in my Perth electorate office by a delegation representing various elements of the Vietnamese community in my home state of Western Australia. They came to talk to me about some specific issues, and I was pleased to meet with them. As it happens, on 26 February this year we marked and acknowledged the 30th anniversary of Australia embracing and engaging in diplomatic relations with Vietnam. So I think it is timely to look at the issues that were raised with me by the delegation.

I was met by about seven or eight local leaders of the Vietnamese community who were keen for me to present to the parliament a petition outlining their concerns in relation to Vietnamese people under house arrest or otherwise being persecuted for peaceful expression in that country. I needed to politely explain to them that the form of the petition which they had presented to me did not give me the opportunity to formally lodge it. It is not structured in the required parliamentary format for lodging as a petition, but I was pleased to give them an undertaking that I would be happy to read it into the record on their behalf. The petition which they presented me with is addressed to Prime Minister John Howard and members of the Australian parliament. It reads as follows:

For the past 27 years, since the day the Vietnamese communists governed the whole of Vietnam with a stern discriminatory policy of differentiating classes within the Vietnamese society, the communist government of Vietnam has led the

country into the darkest period of Vietnam history and caused it to become one of the poorest and most backward countries in the world.

In considering religion as enemy, the Vietnamese Communist Party has implemented policies that are in nature destructive to religions, with administrative measures that aim at restricting and nullifying all religious activities: the communist government of Vietnam always interferes in the internal affairs of all religions with the specific purpose of politicising them all. For 27 years the communist government of Vietnam has confiscated many properties and establishments of various religious congregations, specifically Buddhist, Catholic, Protestant, Cao Dai and Hoa Hao. Many religious leaders have been imprisoned or put under house arrest. People who express their viewpoints different from those of the Vietnamese Communist Party have been subjected to constant surveillance, brutal detention or rude probation.

On the occasion of the International Day for Human Rights, December 10, we, organisations as well as individuals in the Vietnamese community in Western Australia, have organised at the Pho Quang Buddhist Monastery a prayer ceremony for religious freedom and human rights for Vietnam. We respectfully send this petition to you and urge you to use appropriate means and measures to ask the government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam

- 1) to abide by the clauses stipulated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in various international conventions with regard to political and civil rights, which the Socialist Republic of Vietnam has solemnly agreed to respect.
- 2) to immediately release Father Nguyen Van Ly, Lawyer Le Chi Quang, the journalist Nguyen Vu Binh, doctor Pham Hong Son, the war veteran Nguyen Khac Toan.
- 3) to end the house arrest of the Most Venerable Thich Huyen Quang, the Most Venerable Thich Quang Do, Father Nguyen Huu Giai, Father Phan Van Loi, the Most Respectable Le Quang Liem, spiritual leader of the Hoa Hao Faith, doctor Ha Si Phu (Nguyen Xuan Tu), the poet Bui Minh Quoc, the sociologist Tran Khue, doctor Nguyen Dan Que.

We strongly believe that with your great prestige within the international scene your request will be given due attention and favourably addressed by the government of Vietnam, which strives to co-exist harmoniously with all the free, democratic, and civilised countries of the world.

This testimonial was made at Pho Quang Buddhist Monastery on 8 December 2002.

There were 17 signatories to it, representing the following organisations and communities: the Vietnamese community of Western Australia; the Vietnamese Buddhist congregation in Western Australia; the Vietnamese Buddhist Association of Western Australia; the Vietnamese Catholic community of Western Australia; the Hoa Hao Buddhist Association in Western Australia; the Cao-dai Association of Western Australia; Quan The Am Buddhist Association Inc.; the Association of the Aged; the Vietnamese Professionals Society in Western Australia; the Veterans Federation of the Republic of Vietnam in Australia, Western Australia branch; the Vietnamese Women's Association in Western Australia; the Free Vietnam Alliance, Western Australia; the National United Front for the Liberation of Vietnam; the Vietnamese Culture Association; the Vietnamese Nationalist Party of Western Australia; the Religious Repression Suppressing Committee in Western Australia; and the Vietnamese Youth Association of Western Australia.

At the conclusion of asking me to present the petition, in my electorate office I was given a document entitled *Voices of conscience: biographies of Vietnamese in jail, under house arrest, or otherwise persecuted for their peaceful expression*, which contains a number of biographical details of people for whom these organisations have particular concerns. I was struck in particular by one biography and illustration—that relating to Nguyen Vu Binh, a journalist who, born in 1968, is two years my junior. He was a graduate of the school of economics at Hanoi University and for eight years worked as a correspondent on economic affairs for the *Journal of Communism*, the official ideological review of the Vietnamese Communist Party, until he became disillusioned with the Communist system. He is one of a number of young democracy activists in Vietnam today.

On 2 September 2000, Nguyen Vu Binh submitted a petition to the highest leaders of Vietnam to form an opposition political party. Along with that petition, he distributed an essay titled 'Vietnam and the road to national restoration', which analysed the impasses facing Vietnam and concluded that a

democratic system is the only way out. Authorities never formally responded to the petition, but began to follow and harass him. In September 2001, he publicly endorsed a petition to form a citizens watchdog group against corruption. Like other supporters of this petition, he was detained and repeatedly interrogated by authorities. Authorities disconnected the phone service at his home and banned media organisations from hiring him. And so it goes on. In July 2002, Human Rights Watch honoured him with the prestigious Hellman-Hammett Award, which recognises the courage of writers facing political persecution. After several months of being periodically detained and interrogated, Nguyen Vu Binh was arrested by authorities on 25 September 2002. His current whereabouts continue to be unknown.

There are opportunities for the Australian government and for the foreign minister to engage in greater human rights dialogue with Vietnam. I think on this, the occasion of our 30th anniversary of diplomatic relations, it is timely to do so. I am pleased to present this report, testimony and petition to the parliament on behalf of the Vietnamese communities that I have named. I look forward to better communications, more fruitful dialogue and better diplomatic relations with Vietnam, and I am sure the government does, too.

Environment: Murray River

Senator WONG (South Australia) (8.02 p.m.)—I rise tonight to speak on the issue of the River Murray. I do so as a representative of the people of South Australia, who are those in this country who probably stand to be most adversely affected by the continued degradation of the river and who, in many respects, have the least capacity to remedy the damage that has been done. I, along with a number of parliamentary colleagues, was among the many South Australian state and federal members who participated in a multipartisan forum on Tuesday, 26 February, which was held in the state parliament house in South Australia. At that meeting—which was attended by Senators Bolkus, Kirk, Lees, Chapman and Ferris, and also the member for Kingston and the member for Sturt—there was a declaration made on cross-party

lines as to our joint commitment to work towards a political solution for the River Murray. This was more than a talkfest, in my view. What was important about it was that we have South Australian members of parliament, both federal and state, who are prepared to work across our political divisions to come to an agreed set of principles surrounding what we intend to do to push this national issue in all the forums that we can. At the end of the day, this issue is a national problem; it is not an issue that can simply be handballed to any one state. It is an issue on which national leadership is required.

I probably do not need to remind the Senate that the state of the River Murray is appalling. Many scientists have been telling us this for a number of years. We have seen the Murray mouth close up for only the second time since recorded history. We know that water quality is poor. We know that we have lost a great number of native plants, animals, fish and wetlands and that there has been an increase in pests, such as carp. The reality is that the Murray is in decline, and not addressing this decline will mean our living standards—our wealth and our health—will decline as well. This is an issue not only for environmentalists but for those who wish to ensure that agriculture in the Murray-Darling Basin region is sustainable and continues to be productive. If the river continues to degrade, as it is now, we will have a problem not only in terms of our environment but also in terms of the profitability of those industries which rely on the waters of the River Murray.

We know, for example, that projected water quality issues in the state of South Australia indicate that, unless things improve in relation to the River Murray, water salinity levels in Adelaide will exceed World Health Organisation standards around 40 per cent of the time within 20 years. Without doubt, the most critical issue to reform of the Murray is environmental flows. People can talk long and hard about efficiencies measures and engineering solutions in the hope that technology will create the answer. These issues are important, but they will only serve to maximise the benefits of investment in environmental flows—they are not themselves

the solution. At the end of day, we need more water back in our river.

Scientific advice tells us that, at the very least, we need an additional average flow of 750 gigalitres just to provide a low to moderate likelihood of restoring the health of this river system. To give ourselves a moderate or positive chance of restoring the river, we need around 1,500 gigalitres, and I am very pleased that the Labor Party federally has committed to this amount. It is a significant step in the right direction. Of course, as I have outlined, there have been many reports in which scientists have identified the problems for us and have proposed courses of action to help save the Murray. We had a lot of press late last year from the Wentworth Group and we were privileged at the forum last week to have Professor Mike Young, a member of that group, address us on the issues that the Wentworth Group has gone through and give his views about the various different policy parameters that have to be addressed if we are to deal with this issue.

But at the end of the day this is not a scientific issue. The science is reasonably well established. What is required is political commitment and political leadership. I do commend the work that has already been done on the Murray-Darling Basin Ministerial Council. I also commend the past work of South Australian governments, both Liberal and Labor, that have moved to cap water extraction from the Murray as far back as the 1970s. Indeed, I commend the past Liberal government in South Australia for continuing to work not only on conserving water in South Australia but also on improving the efficiency of water use. I commend Minister Hill, the state Minister for the Environment in South Australia, for his continued work in this regard.

However, at the end of the day this issue cannot be solved in one state alone. There has to be a substantial transfer of rights in relation to the River Murray from consumptive users toward environmental users. There has to be an establishment of water trading arrangements for the allocation of access to the basin's scarce water resources. The Commonwealth role in this is critical. This is one of the most complex sets of problems

facing us and one of the most urgent environmental crises facing the nation, if not the most urgent. The Commonwealth government must take a leadership role in this regard. It must bring all stakeholders to the table and ensure an adequate solution including funding mechanisms.

I am most disappointed in the position which has been articulated by the Deputy Prime Minister regarding the issue of property rights and compensation. No-one who is genuine about reforming the water allocation rights would argue against the importance of compensating those people whose livelihoods would be affected. In fact I would also argue in favour of a system of property rights which are tradeable and clearly definable and which are properly priced as part of a market mechanism to assist with more sustainable water management. However, any such system of property rights has to be done in the context of proper environmental flows. You have to actually establish how much water you can sell and trade in and remain sustainable, rather than over-allocating and creating rights in respect of over-allocation and, frankly, duping people into believing that they actually have a long-term sustainable water allocation when they do not.

In my view the Commonwealth has to take far more leadership than it is currently taking. It is not sufficient for the Deputy Prime Minister to simply say that he thinks there should be property rights and adjustment assistance but that any costs of reduced water access to individuals is a state responsibility. That is not national leadership. The states do have to play their part but ultimately the Commonwealth has to ensure that we put more water back into the Murray. If there is a price associated with that—as there will be—they cannot simply handball this issue to the states. This is a national issue and it requires national leadership, and unfortunately that has not been provided to date. I look forward to future policy announcements by the government in this regard. More importantly, I look forward to continued cross-party work by the politicians, members of parliament from South Australia, on probably the most important issue to face our state in 20 years.

Workplace Relations: Industrial Action

Senator MARSHALL (Victoria) (8.10 p.m.)—I rise tonight to inform the Senate about a dispute that is currently taking place in Queensland in the construction industry. The reason I do so is that this particular dispute has the fingerprints of the dead hand of this government all over it. In the normal course of events, when parties seek to strike an enterprise agreement, the parties would meet, they would sit and they would exchange ideas. They would both put on the table the sorts of things each party would like to see included in an enterprise agreement. Those negotiations may go on for some considerable time. The majority of agreements are struck through that process.

The few enterprise agreements that are not struck then go to the next stage and the parties may seek some assistance from an independent body such as the Industrial Relations Commission to help to resolve those outstanding issues through conciliation. The vast majority of outstanding agreements that are not reached are then reached through that process of conciliation. In very few instances the parties are left with no alternative but to pursue their rights, which they have under the Workplace Relations Act, to take industrial action to try to resolve the dispute.

Employers often then move by managerial prerogative to lock out workers or to place restrictions on their access to overtime or they use other issues to pressure the employees into agreeing with their demands. Employees are faced with the possibility of industrial action, which is a significant decision for them because normally it involves significant hardship. At the end of the day both parties always have to weigh up what is necessary in terms of resolving the dispute.

The current dispute in Queensland has followed a path where the parties seem to be in a significant dispute, to the amazement of one of the parties, where the differences between the parties are matters which have been widely agreed to by many employers in Queensland and which are in fact common and normal practices in most other states. There is nothing cutting edge or new about the sorts of claims in dispute. I now draw to the attention of the Senate an article from the

Courier-Mail on 1 March 2003. Under the banner, ‘Strikebreakers Tipped for Stadium’, the article states:

Contract labourers could be used on the troubled Suncorp Stadium project in a bid to end a deadlock caused by a building union strike. The federal government’s building industry task force has offered “safe passage” to contract labourers in a provocative move.

The *Courier-Mail* goes on to say:

Yesterday the task force confirmed it was providing legal advice to employers caught up in industrial action.

It goes on:

Russell Thompson, Chief Executive for Suncorp’s electrical contractor, John Goss Projects, yesterday confirmed that the company had been taking advice from the task force. Mr Thompson said he had been assured, ‘If we wanted to play hard ball, we could. The task force would ensure that could happen.’ He said that included using workers if necessary.

This is interference by the building industry task force in an industrial dispute. Instead of allowing an industrial dispute to be resolved through the normal legal means provided for by the act, we have seen a provocative move by this government through its building industry task force to provoke a dispute where there ought not be one. In fact, the parties have been discouraged from reaching agreement. In the waterfront dispute, we saw this government encouraging the use of mercenaries and ex-service people to be trained overseas to come in and break strikes. What the building industry task force has been doing is worse. They have been going to group training companies that train apprentices and to other contract labour companies, encouraging them—in fact pressuring and intimidating them—to supply labour to break a strike. I find it absolutely unconscionable that an arm of this government would try to encourage young people who are doing apprenticeships to be involved in pursuing its own political ideological agenda of breaking unions. It is an outrageous situation.

We know that the building industry task force came out of the interim report of the royal commission into the building and construction industry—a royal commission that has spent \$60 million of taxpayers’ money

trying to achieve the political aims of this government's industrial relations agenda. Taxpayers are now also funding the building industry task force. The Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations has stated that the goal of the task force is to be a policeman to ensure that all parties in the industry obey the laws of the land. Clearly, we are not seeing the building industry task force ensuring that the laws of the land are being obeyed; we are seeing the task force intervening in disputes on behalf of employers and being a taxpayer funded union buster and a taxpayer funded legal adviser—not legal advice in the sense that a company might get independent legal advice in the best interests of the company but legal advice with the pure aim of busting unions. We have seen that the building industry task force has become a taxpayer funded industrial consultant—again, not a consultant that tries to reach agreement and conciliation between parties but one that tries to provoke disputes to pursue this government's industrial relations agenda.

I am not surprised that their first target for this sort of interference is, in fact, the building and construction industry. The government want to establish a case to justify the very predictable outcomes that will come from the royal commission report when it is released. The government want to set the scene and say: 'Look at what is happening in Queensland. This is a justification for the \$60 million of taxpayers' money in the royal commission and this is why we need to support the outcomes.' But it is pretence because they are driving the outcomes; they are the ones that are actually causing the industrial chaos and providing the instability. This is certainly an unacceptable and outrageous thing for the government to be doing.

The political agenda of this government is very clear and it is an un-Australian agenda. It is an agenda to smash unions. It is an agenda to drive down wages and conditions. It is an agenda to reduce safety standards. It is an agenda to increase the working hours of workers in this country. It is no wonder that the Senate regularly refuses to pass this government's industrial agenda because it is not in the interests of the working people of this

country. In conclusion, Australians do not want this sort agenda. They do not want confrontation where there ought not be any. They do not want the government interfering in industrial relations when, in the normal course of events, the current act allows for the vast majority of enterprise agreements to be negotiated without any industrial action. In the very few cases where there is industrial action, it is done lawfully and within the confines of the Workplace Relations Act. We do not need a government that provokes a situation where instability is created and the workplace is disrupted.

In Victoria during the last week of the recent state government election, we saw the Prime Minister, Mr Howard, and the Leader of the Opposition in Victoria, Mr Doyle, saying that industrial relations was the number one issue on the agenda for Victoria. Taking on unions was the No. 1 issue for Victorians. They ran full-page ads in all the daily newspapers. This was their issue. What happened? Victorian workers and the Victorian people smashed the Liberal Party. They are now mere rumps in the parliament. The Labor Party sits on both sides of the house in the Legislative Assembly. That is the message that Victorian workers sent this government. *(Time expired)*

Debate interrupted.

COMMITTEES

Native Title and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Fund Committee Meeting

Senator FERRIS (South Australia) (8.21 p.m.)—by leave—At the request of the Chair of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Native Title and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Fund, Senator Johnston, I move:

That the committee be authorised to hold a public meeting during the sitting of the Senate on Tuesday, 4 March 2003.

Question agreed to.

ADJOURNMENT

Debate resumed.

China: Australian Labor Party Delegation

Senator CARR (Victoria) (8.21 p.m.)—Tonight I wish to speak of a delegation of

Labor frontbenchers led by the Deputy Leader of the Australian Labor Party, Jenny Macklin, that spent last week in China at the invitation of the Communist Party of China. The delegation included Dr Craig Emerson, Mr Martin Ferguson, Mr Mark Latham, Senator Peter Cook and me. Also included were Mr Geoff Walsh, the National Secretary of the Australian Labor Party; Professor Peter Drysdale from the Australian National University; and Ms Carolyn Turnour from the office of the opposition deputy leader. This was the first in what will be a program of biennial exchanges between senior Australian Labor politicians and senior Chinese political leaders. The program provides opportunities to establish direct personal contact with senior members of the Chinese government and ruling party, as well as providing a valuable foundation for future relations between a Labor governed Australia and the People's Republic of China, one of our most important regional neighbours.

It is a disappointment to me to find that the Labor Party was not the first Australian political party to embark upon such a program. The fact is that the Liberal Party has that honour. Senator Cook, who I have no doubt will be on his way to the chamber shortly, will be able to go into the full detail of these exchanges. Senator Cook, being the Labor Party's international secretary, will also be able to explain how it is that the Chinese Communist Party were guests at the Liberal Party National Convention last year. He will also no doubt be able to explain how it is that the Liberal Party sent its warmest fraternal greetings to the Communist Party's most recent conference in Beijing. However, meaningful and productive relations must go beyond these mere formalities, and our brief visit helped to highlight the enormous, yet unfulfilled, potential of the bilateral relations between Australia and China.

Visits such as our delegation undertook provide an opportunity to broaden mutual understanding, to engage in a dialogue, to question, to probe and to exchange information about each other's countries, our political and economic systems and our aspirations. We had the opportunity to establish personal contacts which I sincerely hope will

be maintained and be of lasting benefit. Our delegation had access to the most senior levels of the Chinese government and the party. We met with Mr Huang Ju, a member of the Standing Committee of the Politburo—the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China—and Minister Dia Bing Guo and Vice Minister Zhang Zhiqin of the international department of the Communist Party, both of whom impressed me, and the whole delegation, with their detailed knowledge of social democracy and of Australian politics. We met with other ministers, senior academics, government advisers and government officials in the fields of foreign affairs, trade, education, science, transport, infrastructure and urban planning. All of the people we met demonstrated a keen interest in the issues that were raised by us and they, in turn, put questions to us which were often penetrating and thoughtful.

I suppose it is the common practice that stereotypes abound when it comes to discussions about China. Personal contacts and observation provide an opportunity to challenge preconceived ideas. The sheer scale of the social experiment being attempted in China is little understood in this country and its importance for Australians has equally been neglected. Knowledge and understanding of recent developments within the People's Republic is of profound importance for the prosperity of this country. It is arguable that the momentous reform processes under way in the People's Republic are as significant as any of the changes in Chinese society that have been undertaken since the creation of the People's Republic in 1949.

The reform program is driven by decisions taken by the recent Communist Party conferences and reinforced by the new leadership that has been in the process of taking up office over the last six months. They will culminate in this week's appointment of new ministers and the restructuring of government departments through the formal meetings of the Chinese legislature. Reform measures are driven by a determination to lift the living standards for ordinary Chinese citizens by a greater level than at any time since the destruction of feudalism in the 20th century. The modernisation of Chinese soci-

ety and its economy involves massive changes in all sectors. Under way is a remodelling of education, health and the legal, transport, agricultural and manufacturing systems within China. This remodelling signals a break from the past but also continuity with it. Those who are managing this program seek to learn from the experiences of the Soviet Union yet not repeat the mistakes of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

It would be a mistake, however, to see this as an abandonment of many of the traditional aspirations of the social reformers that established the People's Republic in 1949. This remodelling program is being conducted within the framework of what the Chinese call a socialist market economy. It is a reflection of the priorities set by the Chinese leadership over the last 20 years, highlighted by the changed conditions within China itself. While China has abandoned the command economy, it has not abandoned economic planning, which provides the framework within which the Chinese market mechanisms operate.

The leaders of the People's Republic of China are determined to engage the world as an equal, not in a matter dictated by other countries. The Chinese leaders we met have a very strong sense of history. There is a determination that I experienced amongst the Chinese groups that I met for China to be seen as a country that will never again be taken advantage of by great and powerful nations or by great and powerful corporations. They believe this occurs when the Chinese are weak, backward and poor. The main purpose of the reform is to ensure that China will be none of those things ever again. Those who wish to invest in China or participate in the Chinese economy should understand clearly that China is not there to be plundered. Investment is welcome, but only investment made on a long-term basis and for mutual benefit, not for the purpose of making a quick one-sided gain.

The Chinese are equally determined to learn from the world. Numerous delegations, researchers and missions have been despatched across the globe to gather information about the way problems are dealt with in other countries. Through this means, the

Chinese are seeking to pick the eyes from international experience. For instance, foreign investment is actively sought by the Chinese government but not just in any field nor under any circumstances. Take the case of transfer pricing, which is an important issue when dealing with multinational corporations: the Chinese have sent delegations to Australia, Canada and Europe and, as a result of these trips, the Chinese have adopted what they see as the best of all worlds and they have adjusted their taxation systems accordingly.

In any analysis of the future prospects of the People's Republic, two broad groups seem to have formed. There are the pessimistic and the optimistic schools of thought. I am a member of the optimistic school. China's economic prosperity is, and in the future will be, heavily dependent upon China's political and social stability. This stability in turn is heavily dependent upon the Chinese economy continuing to grow strongly. If growth rates fall below the levels required to keep unemployment below acceptable rates and to meet the growing aspirations of the Chinese people, the political and social effects could be profound. The legitimacy of the reform process now depends heavily upon delivering an improved standard of living to the people of China. The expert economic advice that I have been able to tap is that the annual rate of growth for the Chinese economy is likely to be about seven per cent over the next five years. Last year, the growth rate was around eight per cent. I note that the growth rate last year in the United States was about 1.4 per cent. Even in Australia, growth rates are less than half the Chinese growth rate.

While in China the domestic sector remains the strongest driver for growth, consumer spending and investment in housing look set to continue for some time. Urbanisation and technological change as well as the growth in international trade are also contributing to economic growth. (*Extension of time granted*) The huge investment by the Chinese government in infrastructure underwrites this growth. An examination of the development of the Pudong New Area within the Shanghai district highlights the resources

that the Chinese government is prepared to place behind these projects. The determination to build the largest sea port in the world at Shanghai highlights the scale of the projects that are currently being undertaken in eastern China.

Governing 1.4 billion people is inherently a complex task. Nonetheless, the Chinese leadership face a number of serious and quite specific challenges. These include, firstly, a fragile financial system, which will need to maintain its commitment to simultaneously supporting the struggling state owned enterprises while financially restructuring those enterprises. This will be important, particularly for social policy reasons, for some time to come. While the reform process will continue at great speed, the Chinese government will need to balance the conflicting pressures of maintaining economic efficiency while protecting social equity. Secondly, there are serious disparities in income levels between the eastern and western regions of the country which the government will have to address. It is already attempting to do so by way of a very large program to encourage new economic development in the western provinces. In my judgment, it will take time for these incentive programs to work.

Thirdly, there are high levels of underemployment in both the city and rural areas which may involve the movement of up to 200 million workers and their families over the next 20 years. These mobile workers will place pressure on social infrastructure, especially the education and health systems. It is likely that policy changes will have to be made to adjust to these pressures. Fourthly, there are inevitable structural changes to enterprises and to agriculture as a result of accession to the World Trade Organisation. Yet there is little evidence to suggest that the policy will be reversed. Fifthly, there is the problem of containing corruption, which the government regards as a serious problem. The Chinese will have to rely upon the establishment of the rule of law as well as judicial reform as a means of containing arbitrary misuses of power. This problem represents, to my mind, one of the most serious issues that the Chinese government is facing. Corruption has the potential to corrode the

integrity of decision-making processes and the authority and legitimacy of the Chinese state.

As far as I am concerned—and, as I say, I am an optimist—these are all risks that are manageable and, while the economy is principally driven by domestic growth, China is essentially insulated from international world economic trends. The very high savings ratio of some 40 per cent of GDP and the strong current account surplus are tremendous assets for the reform program. The domestic and the international political situation therefore will remain major areas of attention for the Chinese government.

Turning to my specific areas of portfolio interest, in our discussions I was interested to pursue Australia's involvement and partnership with Chinese counterparts in education, science and research. In these areas, China is of enormous significance for Australia. It would be wrong to think of China as just a market for Australian resources, for our goods or our services. In my judgment, this is a mistake that has characterised our relationships with other countries in the region. We can offer a great deal more for long-term relations than just being a reliable supplier of agricultural or mineral products and technology. Our advanced education and science systems are of interest to the People's Republic of China. This is because we have a solid track record of solving problems for our society which, in many instances, are the same problems faced by the Chinese.

Cooperation between our nations has improved dramatically in recent years. We now have some 50,000 Chinese students studying in Australia, an increase of about 15,000 every year. However, while we cooperate in terms of university levels and support for university administration and research management, more needs to be done. The Chinese Education Vice Minister, Zhang Zhaijin, explained that the growth has to be looked at on a sustainable basis, not in terms of immediate gains. He said more has to be done to improve the quality of the programs offered and greater attention has to be paid to government-to-government relations. The vice minister suggested that a joint working party needs to be established to improve our qual-

ity assurance regime, similar to that established between the Chinese and New Zealand governments. It is quite clear that the Chinese government considers the exchange of cultural contacts to be just as important as the economic ones. Information and ideas can be as valuable to both nations as goods and services.

Like Australia, China is a large country in area and subject to the forces of nature at its extremes. We both suffer droughts, floods, earthquakes, cyclones, soil erosion and salinity. Both countries face environmental degradation as a result of industrial and agricultural development. Like Australia, China is attempting to join the new economy. We share common interests in biotechnology, nanotechnology, information technology and communications, and in many areas China shares Australia's scientific and technological ambitions.

While the list of formal agreements between our nations is quite a lengthy one, the level of direct cooperation between our scientific agencies and our researchers remains underdeveloped and underfunded. For instance, in polar research, China intends to spend \$US100 million in the period 2001-05—that is, within the current Chinese five-year plan. Our scientists in the Antarctic currently cooperate on a number of projects; however, much more could be done in areas such as astrophysical research and oceanography. This could have important consequences for climate research in both countries. Australia and China ought to be cooperating more fully to ensure the Madrid protocols are extended and the Antarctic remains an area of pristine environment preserved for scientific research. While we currently cooperate on areas such as salinity, only small amounts of money are involved in the programs with the CSIRO, as is the case of earthquake research.

The first major agreement between the CSIRO and the Chinese Academy of Science was signed in April 1985—so it is not that long ago. That agreement paved the way for delegations of scientists from Australia and China to visit each other's countries. The pace of collaboration expanded following the signing of memoranda of understanding be-

tween the Australian Department of Industry, Science and Technology and the Chinese State Science and Technology Commission. A number of joint projects were established during the administration of Senator Peter Cook—who I note has now joined us in the chamber—when he was the Minister for Industry, Science and Technology, in 1994-95. These areas included earth sciences, the environment, technology and the management of basic research.

Under the Hawke and Keating governments, APEC was seen to be an important forum for cooperation within the region. Part of that process was the establishment of meetings of ministers for science and technology. While an important meeting was held in 1995 of 17 APEC ministers of science and technology in Beijing, which established the four major areas of collaboration, very little has been done to follow up that program under the life of the current Howard government. The most recent ministerial meeting was held as long ago as October 1998.

The developments in China have a profound importance for Australia's prosperity and security. Australia has to come to terms with the fact that our prosperity will increasingly be associated with that of the Chinese. We as a nation will need to balance our policy pursuits with those of others that live in our region. Our future is as much tied to North Asia as it is to South-East Asia, and that needs to be balanced with our historical ties to North America and Europe. We will need to clearly identify our own interests and understand the interests of others and reorient our policies so that we maximise our advantages as an independent, advanced industrial nation capable of acting as an honest broker within our region.

Asia is our neighbourhood. We have tremendous opportunities here if we embrace our place in the world rather than running in fear of it. We need to seek security in Asia, not security from Asia. The Howard government is obsessed with playing the role of the deputy sheriff to the United States. We cannot realise our full potential in our new strategic situation unless we understand our role within the region.

In summary, the Australian government is falling down on the job. China represents a country of enormous significance to the future prosperity of our nation. Australia and China have a great deal in common and there are many areas in which fruitful cooperation could exist to strengthen our relationships and improve the living standards of the people of both countries. *(Time expired)*

China: Australian Labor Party Delegation

Senator COOK (Western Australia) (8.42 p.m.)—Last week, like Senator Kim Carr, I took part in a parliamentary Australian Labor Party delegation to the People's Republic of China. I think this is exactly what the Remuneration Tribunal had in mind when it awarded to parliamentarians a study allowance. I was pleased to draw on my study allowance for the purposes of making this visit. We visited Shanghai and Beijing and met with Australian business people who are there carving out a niche for our exports in this burgeoning economy. We held talks with various think tanks, with government departments and with officials from the CPC on topics of national interest to Australia and on issues of mutual interest between Australia and China.

Tonight I want to talk in some detail about this visit. I want to stress the importance of the Australia-China relationship and I want to draw the Senate's attention to some of the conclusions that I have drawn from what the delegation saw and heard. Before I do so, however, I want to pay the Liberal Party of Australia a compliment that is both deserved and timely. Like the Labor Party, the Liberal Party has been active in cultivating a sensible and mature relationship between Australia and China. But the Liberal Party has stolen a march on Labor and it deserves to be acknowledged.

No-one can gainsay the ALP's commitment to the bilateral relationship between these two countries. Thirty years ago, Gough Whitlam, then opposition leader, was one of the first serious political leaders from the West to visit the People's Republic. It is worth recalling that at the time the coalition government of the day roundly criticised him for doing so. Their words, however, died in their throats a few months later when Henry

Kissinger, President Nixon's secretary of state, followed in Gough's footsteps. As an emissary for a conservative US President, Kissinger set up his celebrated ping-pong diplomacy with Chairman Mao Tse Tung. This diplomatic initiative led to the normalisation of relations between China and the United States. But Gough was first; Henry and Richard came later, and when they did the Liberal Party of Australia meekly fell in behind the Americans.

All through the Hawke-Keating years, Australia's trade and foreign policy emphasised Asia. We set ourselves the goal of making friends in the region and breaking down the old shibboleths and stereotypes. Never at any point did we compromise our values or our identity as Australians in doing so. Those values are intrinsic to who we are. But always we looked for constructive engagement. We took initiatives that helped the region as well as Australia's place in the region. APEC is emblematic of this approach. We sought a partnership, and a partnership with the region was forged. So successful were we that today, according to the government's white paper, East Asia takes 57 per cent of our exports and China is our third most important trading partner. Moreover, this region, led by the rapidly expanding Chinese economy, is the fastest growing of all our key export destinations. It provides the lion's share of our tourists and is overwhelmingly the biggest source of our full fee-paying foreign students.

We in the Labor Party have a lot to be proud of in building the Australia-China relationship. But, as I have said, the Liberal Party has stolen the march on us and it deserves to be acknowledged. The Liberal Party is the first major political party in Australia to have invited the Communist Party of China to attend its national convention. A delegation from the Communist Party of China was a guest of the Liberal Party at its national convention last April. We in the Labor Party had not, at that point, taken such an initiative. It took the Liberal Party to break the ice, and I congratulate it on a notable first. Certainly, at the time of the April national convention, the \$35 billion LNG contract with Woodside was hanging in the

balance. However, it is obvious that the Liberal Party's invitation was not prompted by any crass commercial considerations. That is clear because in November, when the contract had been awarded to Woodside, Mr Lynton Crosby, on behalf of the Liberal Party of Australia, cabled his organisation's best wishes to the Communist Party of China on the occasion of the 16th national congress of the Communist Party of China.

The 16th congress was indeed an historic meeting. Not only were the goals of openness and growth backed for the future but also a seamless change at the top of the party's leadership occurred. Those leaders who had been foremost in driving the opening of the Chinese economy to the world—President Jiang Zemin, Premier Zhu Rongji and Premier Li Peng—retired from office, to be replaced by Hu Jintao, Wu Bangguo, Wen Jiabao and other distinguished members of the standing committee. I might say that Greg Sword, President of the ALP, also sent a message from the Australian Labor Party expressing the hope that the decisions of the 16th congress would result in a further improvement in the economic life, democratic rights, and social and cultural life of Chinese citizens.

I hope that the CPC will be able to send a delegation to the next ALP national conference and that Labor will be able to duplicate the approach of the Liberal Party. I am sure both Labor and Liberal understand that inviting the CPC into party-to-party talks does not represent an endorsement of all their policies. However, it does represent the commencement of a mature political dialogue between all our parties. Today in question time, Senator Vanstone boasted that her department is working with China's welfare agencies and is promoting Australian welfare and administration models to the Chinese. I have to say that, unfortunately, Senator Vanstone used the dorothy dixer from her backbench to lambaste Jenny Macklin and criticise the Labor Party for wanting to take her model further.

Tonight, I will ignore the uncharitable aspects of Senator Vanstone's outburst and concentrate on its positive features. She is right to take the course that she is taking.

Australia is a leading services provider, and government services and the intellectual property invested in their provision are marketable goods that can positively help developing countries and economies in transition, like China's. The point Jenny Macklin made in a recent Beijing speech is a point that I am sure Senator Vanstone also endorses. Services exports, particularly tourism, education exports and the provision of social welfare services as an export, have a virtuous dimension that makes them even more meaningful than the win-win economic outcomes they deliver. The virtuous dimension is the people-to-people relations that they develop and foster, the cultural misunderstandings that are cleared up and the human and business networks that evolve.

It would seem that there is bipartisanship now between the Liberal Party and the Labor Party when it comes to party-to-party links with China. That is a step forward for both of us. It is something to celebrate. It shows that a mature relationship is emerging which enables us to actively explore how we can strengthen understanding, how we can manage our disagreements between the two nations and how some of those disagreements can be developed into positives. It has to be said that there are real disagreements.

As a Minister for Trade, I made human rights representations to my Chinese counterpart and argued a range of issues—including nuclear weapons testing—on which Australia held different views from China. That is what constructive engagement means. That is the approach I followed. Now it seems to have been raised to the level of a bipartisan concept. This enables Australia to relate to China in a way that advances the relationship and allows the points of difference, including how deep they are and how passionately we or the Chinese feel about them, to be honestly and positively pursued. With this in mind I have to say it was nonetheless disappointing when I read in the government's white paper entitled *Advancing the national interest*, which was tabled three weeks ago, that the Howard government interprets part of its role in relation to China to be that of managing the complex relationship the US has with China. As Jenny Macklin

said, this sounds like we are not content to be deputy sheriff on defence and security issues with Asia but on economics and other issues with China we want to be the United States assistant manager.

The United States' relationship with Australia is, of course, a vital one. That does not mean that we surrender our own independence and subjugate our independent aspirations in the region by helping to manage the US goals. The idea that we may see things this way potentially offends both the United States' and Chinese sensibilities. (*Extension of time granted*) Certainly, a better way to see Australia's role is as being independent within the US alliance but nonetheless committed to it and to our regional relationships and able to be a bridge between both nations. Yet we should nonetheless be able to put our own independent views within the context of that relationship.

As part of the Australian delegation, I was last week able to engage in a formal dialogue between the ALP and the CPC in Beijing. For their part, the Chinese impressed us with their desire to have a peaceful, stable and economically healthy Asia-Pacific region. It is absolutely fundamental to the outlook of their economy that this is realised. China is growing at between seven per cent and eight per cent a year and is in transition from a centrally planned, welfare focused structure to a more open market economy. Domestic aggregate demand in the Chinese economy is strengthening but it still has not reached the level of creating self-sustaining economic growth. China needs global markets and export-led growth to fulfil its objectives, including its goal of lifting per capita income for the overwhelming majority of its population to above \$US4,000 per annum. I have no doubt that they are sincere in their wish for stability. That is, after all, a precondition for economic growth.

The CPC also argued that the 16th congress had committed China to ongoing democratic reform. The nature of that reform is to continue to recognise other political organisations in the country, introduce a legal structure which enables rights to be pursued through the court and introduce democratic elections at village level. If these re-

forms are realised, they will represent a genuine shake-up of the system. The fact that they are proposed offered the opportunity to make the point about the stability democracy brings and the importance of establishing rights at law.

My own view is that, in a country like China with an economy growing so rapidly, pressures for democratic reform are often masked by the daily evidence of improving material fortunes in the lives of ordinary people. If China follows the normal growth path from developing country to economy-in-transition to developed country, then the massive lunge for growth that its economy is now going through will eventually plateau as it comes to first-world maturity. At that time, the push for democratic reform will be strongest. To make that observation is to comment on the phenomena of change rather than to comment on the desirability of democratic freedoms. For us, those democratic freedoms are immutable, but the importance of a dialogue between the ALP and the CPC, and indeed the dialogue between the Liberal Party and the CPC, is that we are in a position to try to influence the speed and depth of these sorts of changes in China.

Our discussions also covered Iraq and North Korea. In the present global gloom over looming military conflict and debate about weapons of mass destruction, it was essential for us to be clear about each other's point of view on these deeply important concerns. From the discussions, it is my understanding that China is committed to the UN process on Iraq. So is the Labor Party. China is no fan of Saddam Hussein. China does not support his tyrannical regime—nor, of course, do we—and China is opposed to the spread of weapons of mass destruction, as are all Australians. While China has the power of veto on the Security Council, the only conclusion I can draw from our talks is that no hard decision has been made as to how it might cast its vote under any number of hypothetical scenarios about the directions of the weapons inspections. China, I believe, will judge each circumstance on its merits and then decide what to do.

The Chinese position on North Korea is well known, and they did not depart from it

in the discussions we held. I am not so sure that North Korea does not have or is not well on the way to acquiring a nuclear weapons capability and a delivery system, no matter how rudimentary it is, to deliver its warheads. There are many bizarre characteristics to the regime in Pyongyang. Not least is their withdrawal from the International Atomic Energy Agency. I have to say, though, that in the case of China I believe it is true that their influence over Kim Jong Il is far less than we in the West may have originally believed. Nonetheless, I believe all of us have an obligation to try to do what we can in our region to bring about greater stability, to curb the spread of nuclear weapons and to settle down the emerging conflicts that are now arising.

That said, I do not think the missile defence system that Australia has committed itself to in the defence white paper is a sensible direction for us to take. Disarmament is surely the most enduring protection against nuclear war. Opting for escalation is not a prudent choice when very little is being done to create the context to prevent proliferation of nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula.

My colleague the shadow minister for trade, Dr Craig Emerson, has made an eloquent argument for Australia to reinforce a fundamental commitment to multilateral trade negotiation. His concern that multiplying bilateral trade deals is sucking the energy out of the Doha round is a worry I share. Last year China and ASEAN announced they would pursue a free trade agreement. This month, Australia and the US face off across a negotiating table to try to settle an Australia-US free trade agreement. In trade, the greatest gains are made at a global level. If the world is turned into a patchwork quilt of preferential trade agreements then not only will industry be saddled with higher transactional costs and buried in administrative red tape as it endeavours to export to the world but trade patterns will be distorted and the true worth of Australia's economic efficiency will be undervalued.

China's accession to the WTO is sprinkled through every economic conversation you have in China. That accession creates a framework against which the further opening of the economy can be measured. Chinese

interlocutors pressed us that their priority was multilateral trade negotiation. We welcome this. We also made the point that, since the Doha round is a development round, China should help the global effort led by the Cairns group to open markets in agriculture and, as well, in textiles in North America, Europe and Japan.

Open agricultural and textile markets will help Australia and developing countries in further economic growth. In particular, the least developed countries in the world, the LDCs, will then be able to sell their goods into sophisticated markets, and that is a far better option for them. They will be able to grow their own economies through trade rather than rely on foreign aid to help sustain their own growth. I believe those arguments were well understood by the Chinese.

For Australia, growth in developing countries, particularly in developing economies like China, is a plus. This is a concept that needs to be thought about and understood. Growth in those economies not only lifts millions of people out of poverty and gives them dignity in their lives, which is of course significant and important in its own right, but also enlarges world GNP and creates a new and bigger market for Australian goods and services. That creates better and more challenging and rewarding jobs in Australia while giving people of the world access to affluent living conditions and freedom from hunger, want and disease. Recently Paul Keating said that Australia must learn to walk with three legs and we must find alliances with East Asia, which includes China, the USA and South-East Asia, including Indonesia. I would cast my net even wider: Australia has to learn to walk in the global sphere and open trade and economic development links with all countries in the world. Only by doing that can our economy grow faster. But the emphasis in seeking those arrangements is on opening markets for developing countries so that those economies can grow too.

The key lesson I believe I learnt last week is that to the north of Australia is the world's most populous country. It is growing between seven and eight per cent and it creates huge market opportunities for Australia.

Both major political parties in Australia are well attuned to those opportunities and wish to build a constructive working relationship. By doing so, we will not only be focused on the needs of this region but also be good neighbors with the countries that surround us and contribute to their wellbeing—as they will to ours. That is a positive direction for Australia and the region. It is one that we in the Labor Party are deeply committed to.

Workplace Relations: Paid Maternity Leave

Senator CROSSIN (Northern Territory)

(9.02 p.m.)—Other than in the United States, in a number of countries across the world women have had access to paid maternity leave for decades. In Australia, on the other hand, we are attempting to convince the government that women finally deserve this fundamental right. On 11 December 2002 the Sex Discrimination Commissioner, Pru Goward, released her final paper on paid maternity leave. This 277-page document advocated a government-funded national paid maternity leave scheme. The document was entitled *A time to value* and it looked extensively at the history and purpose of paid maternity leave, the health and wellbeing of mothers and babies, economic security, workplace disadvantage, equality, the social benefits of paid maternity leave, the benefits to employers and to the economy, funding, coverage, eligibility, duration, social and cultural change, women's labour force participation rates and education.

This report has made a valid attempt to look at all possible options, interactions and arguments surrounding paid maternity leave and the broad discrimination that women face in Australia on this issue. Yet, not surprisingly, so far the government has not responded to this report. Of course the government made every attempt to downplay the importance of this report by making vague statements in the immediate days prior to its release suggesting that Australian women do not see paid maternity leave as a big issue. It is difficult to see how the government could possibly be led to honestly believe this, given that over 250 submissions were made to the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission by individuals, academics,

community groups, employers and even the government's own departments. Even more surprising is the attitude of the government, given that the majority of these submissions supported some form of national paid maternity leave scheme. That is not to mention the wider public discussion, which has escalated exponentially in the last few years, particularly in the previous 12 months. For example, almost every person in Australia now knows that we are one of only two developed countries that do not support women with a national paid maternity leave scheme. This knowledge is a result of the very public and constructive debate that has occurred in this country.

Recently the government has attempted to sidetrack the media and validate its hopeless attempt to understand and give genuine consideration to the situation that women face today. Rather than take on board recommendations made by the Sex Discrimination Commissioner or take on board what she has had to say or look at the reality for many women and families in Australia, this government has decided that it is easier to pretend that there really is no issue about this matter and that women in Australia do not really want or in fact need paid maternity leave. The reality, though, is that this government is not comfortable delivering policy which benefits women in the workplace. Sure, there are women who decide to be full-time mothers and they too need adequate support but the point is that the majority of women in Australia are currently being denied a basic right, a right which most women around the world enjoy.

Unfortunately, women in the work force are not the concern of the Prime Minister because—and let us admit it—the Prime Minister would rather see the women of this country stay at home. This may explain why he has taken on board research conducted by Catherine Hakim and relied so heavily on various interpretations of her findings. Dr Hakim's theory of preference is applied to women and the choices that women make regarding work and family. Dr Hakim ultimately argues that women can be categorised into three groups: women who are career centred, women who are home or family

centred and those who are trying to achieve a balance between the two. She has come to the conclusion, according to a report in the *Age* on 28 July 2002, that a 'homecare allowance for full-time mothers would be attractive to a wider group of women than maternity leave rights'. Given this statement, the government has obviously run with this idea, making the frightening assumption that the wider community, women and the media will blindly accept it.

Unfortunately for the government, people are not as uncritical, gullible or unsuspecting as to believe every word that is blurted out in defence of the inaction of this government. Unfortunately for Dr Hakim, her statements have largely been simplified and hijacked by this government which has misrepresented her on a number of issues. Even though she has identified full-time mothers as an important consideration in her opinion, the UK sociologist also clearly recommends that policy makers should not choose between maternity leave rights and a home care style allowance. However, this government has conveniently chosen to ignore this and to pursue a limited interpretation for its own political and budgetary gain. This is not a well thought out long-term policy directive; it is simply the easy way out, a move this government is well known for. Rather than attempting to tell women what they want and implementing policy that unfairly favours some women over others without regard for basic rights, this government must provide adequate support and protection for all women.

As Dr Hakim argues in her latest book:

... social policy and family policy need to be diversified to recognise, and support, all three lifestyle choices, instead of assuming that one policy will fit all.

She also suggests that by far the largest group consists of adaptive women, who want to combine employment and family work. Perhaps the Prime Minister should look more closely at Dr Hakim's arguments, and not to mention other research on this issue. I am talking about other research done by Australian women and feminists. Anne Summers pointed out in the *Sydney Morning Herald* on 12 August 2002 that the Prime Minister has

been very selective in choosing to listen to a British feminist and her arguments rather than Australian feminists who have been arguing along similar lines, as well as along significantly different lines, for years. Summers has reflected on the reliance of this government on a single body of research. She says to the Prime Minister that if he is serious about this, then he will need to recognise that at present parents' choices are distorted by the ideological biases built into his government's family policy. She says that Howard's policy is 'loaded against women who want to combine work and family'.

The Australian Labor Party, unlike this government, is committed to delivering to mothers and families in a range of situations. Of course, paid maternity leave will not on its own provide women with equal opportunity and support. However, a holistic approach, such as that which Labor is proposing, will benefit women in a number of ways. Paid maternity leave is an integral part of providing real options and real solutions for women in Australia. The International Labour Organisation and the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women—I might add that this government has yet to ratify the optional protocol under that convention—as well as the European Union's directives recognise the basic and fundamental right to paid maternity leave. This is a right that most women in Australia have been denied for too long.

It is interesting to note that in most cases the Public Service is used to promote best practice in employment. The Public Service in Australia has had paid maternity leave since 1972, when it was introduced by the Whitlam government. However, now this government is telling us that paid maternity leave is not such a good idea or is not necessary. The government should remember that women still earn only around 80 per cent of men's average weekly wage; women are still left with inadequate superannuation funds due to the discontinuity of time spent in the work force, and women still struggle to be financially independent due, among other things, to increasing child care costs.

The fact is that this government does not take women seriously. Even Liberal Party women in this parliament have come forward and said publicly that it is time that the Prime Minister took them seriously and introduced paid maternity leave. In fact, in this very Senate earlier this year, Senator Troeth applauded the Sex Discrimination Commissioner's report on paid maternity leave, entitled *A time to value*. She agreed with the commissioner that it is time to introduce a comprehensive, national, government funded scheme. It is obvious that the Prime Minister is not even interested in listening to the women in his own party.

It is also interesting to note that the Prime Minister, in the *Weekend Australian* just recently, admitted that he now understands that what a large number of women want is optimum opportunities for part-time work. (*Extension of time granted*) Despite this outstanding and welcome realisation, I understand that the Prime Minister has absolutely no intention of retracting the failed baby bonus scheme which punishes women for returning to work after the birth of a child and delivers more money to high-income earners rather than to low-income earners. The fact that this so-called benefit is cut off as soon as a woman returns to work—even part-time work—proves that this is certainly not what women need. The baby bonus does not deliver viable options to all women in Australia. It certainly does not provide optimum opportunities for women who are attempting to combine work and family, which Dr Hakkim has identified as being as high as 60 per cent of women. The baby bonus is ill conceived, discriminatory and biased and should be abandoned. The \$500 million that has been budgeted for this scheme could be, and should be, better spent on a national paid maternity leave scheme or on adequate child care in Australia.

In recognition of the upcoming International Women's Day on Saturday, I would like to stress the importance of women's rights, including the internationally recognised right to paid maternity leave. This is not an issue that is going to disappear. The government should stop trying to distract the public from the arguments and should take

the Sex Discrimination Commissioner's report seriously. The Labor Party, on the other hand, has listened to Australian women, organisations, businesses, unions and departments. Labor has made a commitment to the introduction of a national paid maternity leave scheme that will allow women to combine work and family in whichever proportion they want or need. There is no reason why women with children or without children, single, married, in employment, not in employment, young or old cannot be provided for within a range of policies. Focusing on and ultimately discriminating against one group has serious social and economic implications. It is time that Australia caught up with the rest of the world. It is time to value the contribution that all women make to society in our many roles, and it is certainly time that Australian women had access to a national paid maternity leave scheme.

Senate adjourned at 9.15 p.m.

DOCUMENTS

Tabling

The following government documents were tabled:

Australia-Korea Foundation—Report for 2001-02.

Australian Communications Authority—National relay service provider performance—Report for 2001-02.

Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency—Quarterly reports for the periods—

1 April to 30 June 2002.

1 July to 30 September 2002.

Australian Trade Commission (AUSTRADE)—Report for 2001-02—Erratum.

Commonwealth Electoral Act—2002-2003 Redistribution into electoral divisions—Victoria—Report, together with composite maps [2] showing boundaries as determined by the augmented Electoral Commission and compact disc containing suggestions and comments, objections and comments, transcript of proceedings at public hearing into public objections and copy of report.

Commonwealth Grants Commission—Report—State revenue sharing relativities—2003 update.

CrimTrac Agency—Report for 2001-02—Corrigenda.

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade—Advancing the national interest: Australia's foreign and trade policy white paper.

National Environment Protection Council and NEPC Service Corporation—Report for 2001-02.

Native Title Act—Native title representative bodies—Reports for 2001-02—

- Cape York Land Council Aboriginal Corporation.
- Central Queensland Land Council Aboriginal Corporation.
- Gurang Land Council (Aboriginal Corporation).
- Kimberley Land Council.
- Ngaanyatjarra Council (Aboriginal Corporation).
- North Queensland Land Council Aboriginal Corporation.
- South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council Aboriginal Corporation.
- Yamatji Barna Baba Maaja Aboriginal Corporation.

Regional Forest Agreement between the Commonwealth and Tasmania—Reports—

- Inquiry on the progress with implementation of the Tasmanian Regional Forest Agreement (1997)—Final recommendations report, December 2002.
- Tasmanian Government implementation—2001.

Treaties—

Bilateral—Text, together with national interest analysis and regulation impact statement—Singapore-Australia Free Trade Agreement, done at Singapore on 17 February 2003, and associated exchange of notes.

Multilateral—

- Text, together with national interest analysis—Amendments, done at Santiago in November 2002, to Appendices I and II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, of 3 March 1973.

Text, together with national interest analyses and regulation impact statements—

Annex IV: Regulations for the Prevention of Pollution by Sewage from Ships (revised) of the Protocol of 1978 Relating to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as Amended (MARPOL 73/78), done at London, 17 February 1978, revised text adopted at London, 13 March 2000.

International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-fouling Systems on Ships, done at London on 18 October 2001.

Wheat Export Authority—Report for 1 October 2001 to 30 September 2002.

Tabling

The following documents were tabled by the Clerk:

Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act—National Capital Plan—

Amendment 41.

Approval of Amendment 41.

Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act—Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry (High Quality Beef Export to the European Union) Order 2003.

Class Rulings CR 2003/12 and CR 2003/13.

Goods and Services Tax Determination GSTD 2003/1.

Goods and Services Tax Rulings GSTR 2003/1 and GSTR 2003/2.

Migration Act—Directions under section 499—Directions Nos 30 and 31 of 2003.

Taxation Determination TD 2003/2.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

The following answers to questions were circulated:

Aviation: BAe 146 Aircraft (Question No. 462)

Senator Knowles asked the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services, upon notice, on 18 July 2002:

With reference to the *Air Transport Safety Bureau Report 200103696* which cites two instances of cabin air contamination of the same aircraft, VH-NJA, on consecutive days and in both instances, the crew donned oxygen masks after being affected by contaminated air, and the cabin crew and passengers were affected by contaminated air:

- (1) Why was the plane not immediately turned around when fumes were first detected.
- (2) How are crew members who are wearing oxygen masks capable of identifying the source of the contamination.
- (3) Is it not considered an emergency situation in which the aircraft should be landed as soon as possible; if not, what would happen if all crew members were seriously affected at the same time and unable to continue their duties.
- (4) (a) How many flights were there between the two reported incidents; (b) why are the two incidents on the same report form; and (c) are they not two separate incidents.
- (5) Given the documented illness of crew and passengers on the first flight: (a) why was there found to be no sign of oil contamination when initially inspected by the ground engineers; and (b) what was different between the engineering check after the first flight found 'no signs of oil contamination or oil leaks,' and the next inspection, which 'revealed oil contamination in the number 3 engine'.
- (6) Given that, on 6 September 1999, the Australian Transport Safety Bureau issued recommendation R19990052 to the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) that stated in part, 'These deficiencies should be examined by the regulatory authority as part of its responsibilities for initial certification and continued airworthiness of the BAe 146 aircraft': Why then has CASA responded (more than 6 months later) that 'CASA is satisfied that the BAe 146 aircraft in service in Australia are safe for public transport'.

Senator Ian Macdonald—The Minister for Transport and Regional Services has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) A response in any particular aircraft incident is a matter for the pilot-in-command and the aircraft operator. In this particular incident, the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB)'s investigation found that the crew troubleshooted the problem in accordance with BAe Service Information Leaflet 21-45 as noted in CASA Airworthiness Directive BAe 146/86 and were able to eliminate the fumes by switching off the number-2 air conditioning pack. The flight was able to continue safely using only the number-1 air conditioning pack, with no fumes evident.
- (2) BAe 146 Operational Notice OP 16 provides the procedures to be followed by the flight crew in the event of fumes in the cabin. Visible fumes can be identified while oxygen masks are worn and if they cease to be produced when one airconditioning pack is switched off, the source is identified. If fumes are not visible, masks should be worn by crew until the aircraft lands.
- (3) Flight crew are required to don oxygen masks if there is any indication that there are fumes from the air conditioning system, as required per BAe 146 Operational Notice OP16. If the source of the fumes can be eliminated operational procedures may permit the flight to be continued to the planned destination. Not all fumes incidents are similarly serious and only a very serious emergency would lead to the need for landing as soon as possible, particularly if not at an airport normally open to the aircraft type. In this particular incident, the pilot-in-command was responsible for determining the seriousness of the situation.
- (4) (a) There were a total of 11 flights between the two reported incidents, four flights on 6 August 2001 and seven flights on 7 August 2001.
(b) & (c) The two incidents were reported on two separate report forms by two different pilots and therefore logged at the ATSB as two separate incidents. Initial ATSB analysis indicated that both of the fumes events were the result of a bearing seal fault in the number 3 engine. An in-

depth category 4 investigation was carried out in response to the second event that occurred on 7 August 2001 but with reference to both events. The first event, on 6 August 2001, was therefore logged as a category 5 investigation, for statistical purposes. The cabin crews and flight crews of both flights were interviewed during the information gathering process.

- (5) (a) The inspection undertaken on 6 August 2001 was undertaken in accordance with CASA and British Aerospace Systems requirements. The reason the source of the fumes was not found during the first maintenance inspection could not be determined from the ATSB's investigation.
- (b) The initial maintenance inspection of the airconditioning system, engines and APU that revealed no signs of oil contamination or oil leaks, highlighted the difficulty faced by maintenance staff in trying to trace the cause of reported fumes events. The identification of the failed oil seal and the subsequent engine change resulted from the CASA airworthiness directive requiring the operator to follow up the event with corrective maintenance action.
- (6) The Government acknowledges that the issue of air safety and cabin air quality in the BAe 146 aircraft has received considerable attention, particularly following an incident in July 1997. In response to a recommendation made by the then Bureau of Air Safety Investigation (BASI) following its investigation into the incident in 1999, CASA undertook an extensive review of the certification of the BAe 146 aircraft and concluded that the aircraft continues to meet the design standards applicable to the aircraft.

It should be noted that an aircraft is certificated against standards which apply at that time of certification. For example, the BAe 146 was certificated in 1983 by the United Kingdom Civil Aviation Authority against Joint Aviation Requirement 25 as existing at that time. Similarly the United States Federal Aviation Administration certificated the aircraft in 1983 against Federal Aviation Regulation 25.831 that existed at that date.

As a signatory to the Chicago Convention, CASA performs its functions in a manner consistent with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). The ICAO Manual of Procedures for an Airworthiness Organisation Doc 9389-AN/919, Para 5.2.1 states: *The airworthiness standards which were complied with are identified clearly in the Type Certificate/Approval and become the regulatory basis for the Certificate/Approval. These standards normally continue to be applicable to individual aircraft/components built in accordance with the design.* The intention of ICAO is that the basis of certification continues unchanged through the life of the aircraft, notwithstanding subsequent changes in the certification standards.

When the certification standard for aircraft is enhanced, the new standard is seldom applied to existing aircraft. Only in exceptional cases is an enhanced standard applied retrospectively to existing aircraft.

CASA has also issued Airworthiness Directive/BAe 146/86, effective 3 April 2001, to mandate enhanced techniques for isolating sources of contamination and to implement improved maintenance procedures. The introduction of these requirements, in conjunction with improvements made by the aircraft's manufacturer, has led to a decrease in the incidence of fume events.

Trade: Live Animal Exports

(Question No. 495)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, upon notice, on 29 July 2002:

- (1) What was the total number of cattle that died during the July 2002 voyage of MV *Becrux*.
- (2) When did the Minister or his office first become aware of livestock deaths aboard the MV *Becrux*.
- (3) What was the number of cattle deaths advised to the Minister or his office in that advice.
- (4) (a) Who provided that information to the Minister or his office; and (b) how was the information communicated.
- (5) When did the Minister or his office become aware that the number of cattle that had perished on the July voyage of the MV *Becrux* was considerably higher than the initial reports of losses.
- (6) What was the number of cattle deaths advised to the Minister or his office in that advice.
- (7) (a) Who provided that information to the Minister or his office; and (b) how was the information communicated.

- (8) When did the Minister first become aware that the number of cattle that had perished on the July voyage of the MV *Becrux* was in the order of 900.
- (9) What was the exact number of cattle deaths advised to the Minister or his office in that advice.
- (10) (a) Who provided that information to the Minister or his office; and (b) how was the information communicated.
- (11) Has the Minister called for an investigation into these livestock deaths aboard the MV *Becrux*, to be conducted by the Australian Maritime Safety Authority, the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service and Livecorp.
- (12) When is the investigation due to report to the Minister.
- (13) When will the report be made available to: (a) the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals; and (b) the public.

Senator Ian Macdonald—The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) The Master's Report provided by the shipper records that 614 cattle died on board ship. A further 200 cattle died in the feedlot after unloading.
The Minister was advised by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (AFFA) following receipt of advice from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority.
- (3) The Australian Maritime Safety Authority was not able to provide AFFA with a precise number of mortalities at that time but advised that it expected the final number to be in excess of 280.
- (4) Advice to the Minister on livestock mortalities on the MV *Becrux* was provided by AFFA.
- (5) The advice was provided on 12 July 2002.
- (6) The advice indicated 658 mortalities at the time of discharge into a feedlot in the United Arab Emirates (including 95 that remained on board to be euthanased because they were too weak to be unloaded), and an additional 230 that died in the feedlot shortly after discharge.
- (7) This preliminary advice to the Minister on livestock mortalities on the MV *Becrux* was provided by AFFA based on the figures provided by the exporter before official mortality figures were available.
- (8) See (5).
- (9) See (6).
- (10) See (7).
- (11) The Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service conducted an inquiry into the mortalities on the MV *Becrux* in accordance with its legislative responsibilities under the Export Control Act 1982. The Australian Maritime Safety Authority and Livecorp participated in that inquiry and also prepared their own reports.
- (12) The AQIS report was tabled in the Senate on 12 December 2002 and has been published on the AFFA website.
- (13) The AQIS report was tabled in the Senate on 12 December 2002 and has been published on the AFFA website.

Defence: Air 5077 Project

(Question No. 624)

Senator Chris Evans asked the Minister for Defence, upon notice, on 9 September 2002:

With reference to the Air 5077 Project:

- (1) To date, what is the price growth that has occurred in relation to this project as a result of the annual indexation of prices.
- (2) To date, what is the total increase in cost related to foreign exchange movements.
- (3) To date, what is the total value of price variation payments made under this contract (if possible indicate separately the value of foreign exchange related variations and price growth variations).
- (4) What currency was specified in the contract.

- (5) If the contract is in a currency other than the Australian dollar: (a) what was the original value of the contract in that currency when the contract was signed; and (b) what was the exchange rate for the relevant currency on the date the contract was signed.
- (6) If the contract is in Australian dollars: (a) what provisions does it include in relation to foreign currency movements; and (b) is the value of the contract tied to a particular foreign currency; if so, which currency.

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

- (1) The Air 5077 project budget remains unchanged in real terms since project approval in December 2000. Capital project budgets are adjusted annually according to parameters issued by the Department of Finance and Administration to account for price (inflation) to retain the purchasing power. In this regard, the nominal project budget has been adjusted by \$107.669m since the acquisition contract was signed.
- (2) The Air 5077 project budget remains unchanged in real terms since project approval in December 2000. Capital project budgets are adjusted annually according to parameters issued by the Department of Finance and Administration to account for exchange rate variations to retain the purchasing power. In this regard, the nominal project budget has been adjusted by \$415.594m since the acquisition contract was signed.
- (3) In line with normal commercial practice the Air 5077 contract contains clauses to allow for adjustment of contract prices in line with inflationary or deflationary pressures according to a specified formula. The contractor is entitled to claim for price adjustments against work invoiced. The total value of price variation payments made under the Air 5077 System Acquisition Contract are:
 - Contract US\$ Component - \$US 24.744m
 - Contract A\$ Component - \$A 9.647m
- (4) Australian and United States currencies.
- (5) (a) At the signing of the acquisition contract, the United States dollar component of the project was valued at \$US 1,093.063m and the Australian dollar component was valued at \$A 412.237m.
 - (b) The approved project budget at contract signature was based on an exchange rate of \$AUS 1.00 = \$US 0.6175 for the United States dollar component.
- (6) In relation to the Australian dollar component of the contract, no provision is made in relation to foreign currency movements.

Bankruptcy Reform Consultative Forum
(Question No. 680)

Senator Ludwig asked the Minister representing the Attorney-General, upon notice, on 24 September 2002:

With reference to the Bankruptcy Reform Consultative Forum:

- (1) When were the members of the forum appointed.
- (2) Who was in charge of the selection process.
- (3) What level of skill does each member of the forum bring to the decision-making process.
- (4) By what criteria were these members selected.
- (5) When does the forum meet.
- (6) Where does the forum meet.
- (7) (a) What amount has been allocated for expenses, travel and meeting fees for forum members; and (b) how is this broken down.
- (8) From which department does the funding originate.
- (9) Can minutes of the meetings be provided.
- (10) How are consumers adequately represented in this forum.
- (11) How does the forum process work.
- (12) (a) When does the forum report on any findings; and (b) how can the public access those findings.

(13) Has the forum released any reports recently; if so: (a) when; and (b) can copies be provided.

Senator Ellison—The Attorney-General has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

(1) The Forum was formed in 1996. No individuals are appointed as members. They are drawn from organisations represented on the Forum.

The Forum comprises representatives of:

Insolvency Practitioners' Association of Australia

Law Council of Australia

Australian Bankers Association

Credit Union Services Corporation Australia Limited

Australian Finance Conference

Australian Financial Counsellors and Credit Reform Association

Australian Taxation Office

Attorney-General's Department

Insolvency and Trustee Service Australia (ITSA)

(2) There was no selection process to appoint individuals as members of the Forum. The individual members are chosen by the organisations listed in the answer to (1). The Forum represents the main organisations with an interest in personal insolvency issues.

(3) The Forum is not a decision-making body. See the answer to (11).

(4) See answer to (2).

(5) The Forum meets twice yearly.

(6) The meetings alternate between Sydney and Melbourne.

(7) (a) Members of the Forum are generally responsible for meeting their own costs associated with attending meetings. The meetings are conducted in ITSA's offices. ITSA has agreed to meet the travel costs of a representative from the Australian Financial Counselling and Credit Reform Association Inc where the meeting is not held in that person's home town. Members do not receive remuneration for attending the meetings. ITSA and the Attorney-General's Department meet the costs of their own representatives attending. (b) Not necessary to answer.

(8) See the answer to 7(a).

(9) No. The meetings are not open to the public. Notes of the meeting are generally taken by ITSA and are provided to participants in the meetings. The notes are primarily for the benefit of participants in the meetings and the organisations that they represent. If the notes were made available more widely participants may not be as forthright in providing their views to the Government on bankruptcy issues. This would hamper the functioning of the Forum and its ability to provide feedback to the Government on bankruptcy issues.

(10) The peak bodies represented on the Forum represent a wide range of consumers with an interest in bankruptcy. See the answer to (1).

(11) The Forum provides a mechanism for stakeholders to discuss and provide input to proposed reforms to the bankruptcy system and to raise issues of concern within the industry (including issues related to how the system is currently working and where administrative improvements might be made). It does not make decisions or provide advice to Government. Forum members consult widely within their own constituencies on proposed changes and provide feedback to the Forum. This consultative process is an important element in formulating advice provided to Government.

The Forum also provides members with an opportunity to update each other on developments within their own sectors which may have an impact on the bankruptcy system.

(12) The Forum does not issue reports.

(13) No.

Quarantine: Veterinary Scholarships
(Question No. 688)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, upon notice, on 24 September 2002:

- (1) (a) How many scholarships will be administered by the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service for each of the financial years 2002-03 to 2007-08; and (b) for each of these financial years, how many will be scholarships for veterinary science students.
- (2) What criteria will be used to select students to receive these scholarships.
- (3) (a) What is the value of the scholarships available to students under the proposed scholarship program; and (b) what method of payment options will be available.
- (4) To which academic years, of the veterinary science course, will the scholarship apply.
- (5) (a) What meetings have been held with stakeholders to date in order to develop this particular scholarship program; (b) when were these meetings held; and (c) what was discussed at each meeting.
- (6) What records exist of these meetings.
- (7) Which stakeholders remain to be fully consulted.
- (8) (a) What meetings have been scheduled with stakeholders not already consulted in the development of this particular scholarship program; and (b) when are these meetings scheduled to occur.
- (9) What priority has been given to the development of this particular scholarship program within the department or agency.
- (10) How many departmental or agency staff (in FTE, ie. Full Time Equivalent, terms) are engaged in developing this scholarship program.
- (11) What is the seniority of each of the staff developing this program.

Senator Ian Macdonald—The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) (a) Five veterinary bonded scholarships will be offered each financial year from 2002-03 to 2006-07.
(b) The five scholarships to be offered each financial year from 2002-03 to 2006-07 will be for veterinary science students.
- (2) The criteria to be used to select students to receive a veterinary bonded scholarship have been adapted from those used to select candidates for the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (AFFA) Graduate Development Program and target a range of core skills and attributes. The selection criteria also provide a basis for assessing candidate interest in and aptitude for working in a rural or regional area. The criteria cover communication skills; interpersonal skills; critical thinking; problem solving and innovation; initiative and flexibility; and commitment to ongoing learning. The selection process for the inaugural program in 2002-03 was finalised in December 2002, and successful candidates have been advised.
- (3) (a) Each scholarship is for \$25,000.
(b) The scholarship amount of \$25,000 per student will be paid by cheque in three instalments. The first instalment of \$10,000 will be paid at the commencement of the scholarship holder's final year of study toward a Bachelor of Veterinary Science degree. The two remaining instalments of \$7,500 each will be made on the completion of each of the two work experience placements undertaken as part of the scholarship program.
- (4) The fifth (final) year.
- (5) (a) Consultation has been undertaken with universities and the Australian Veterinary Association.
(b) Discussions with the four Australian universities offering the veterinary science degree were undertaken throughout October and November 2002, and a meeting held with the Australian Veterinary Association (AVA) on 6 November 2002.
(c) Discussions held with the four participating universities were undertaken to inform the Veterinary Science faculties of the availability of the scholarship program and to seek their assis-

tance in promoting the program to students. The main issues discussed with the AVA were the purpose and structure of the scholarship program.

- (6) These were primarily information exchange sessions, and were not minuted.
- (7) Further consultation will be undertaken through early and mid 2003 with the AVA on work placement options for the work experience component of the program.
- (8) (a) (b) Not applicable, as stakeholders have been consulted.
- (9) AFFA has placed a high priority on the development of the veterinary bonded scholarship program.
- (10) Specific records have not been kept on a project basis of the number of FTEs engaged in the development of the rural veterinary bonded scholarship program. However four departmental staff have been involved at various times, as part of their normal duties, in the development of the program.
- (11) The staff involved in developing this program include a Senior Executive Band 2, Senior Executive Band 1, a DPIE Band 3 AFFA Level 8 and DPIE Band 3 AFFA Level 7.

Trade: Live Animal Exports

(Question No. 723)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, upon notice, on 4 October 2002:

With reference to the statement, 'Moratorium on Live Sheep Exports from Portland', issued by the Minister on 1 October 2002:

- (1) When did the Minister first consider the imposition of a moratorium on live sheep exports from Portland.
- (2) Did the department, the Minister's office or the Minister receive any representations from industry requesting a moratorium on livestock exports; if so, who made these representations and when were they received.
- (3) Which members of the livestock export industry were consulted prior to the imposition of the moratorium.
- (4) (a) Which representatives of the livestock export industry were present at the meeting to discuss this matter on 1 October 2002; (b) where did this meeting occur; (c) what time did it begin; and (d) what was its duration.
- (5) When did the Minister decide to impose the moratorium.
- (6) Is the moratorium secured by a formal order, or is it an informal agreement; if it is an informal agreement, who are the parties to the agreement.
- (7) In relation to each of the five incidents of "unacceptable losses" to which the Minister refers, excluding the recent journey of the Al Shuwaikh: (a) when did these incidents occur; (b) what vessels were involved; (c) when and where did the journeys commence and end; (d) when was the health of the sheep checked; (e) at what point in the journey did the sheep die; (f) how many sheep died; and (g) what was the result of the investigation, if any, into the reportable deaths.
- (8) Has the Commonwealth received any communication from governments of livestock destination countries expressing concern about the high mortality rate aboard Australian export vessels or the health of the livestock that survive; if so, can details be provided of the nature of this communication, the source of the communication, the date or dates on which it was received, and the response of the Commonwealth, if any.
- (9) With respect to the recent journey of the Al Shuwaikh that triggered the Minister's action: (a) how many sheep died; (b) at which point or points in the journey did the sheep die; (c) at which point or points in the journey were the carcasses disposed of; (d) what was the method of disposal; (e) when were these deaths reported to the department; (f) when was the Minister's office advised of these deaths; (g) when was the Minister advised of these deaths; (h) when and where did this particular journey begin; (i) when, where and for what duration did the vessel dock at other ports during the journey; (j) what was the geographic origin of the sheep on board; (k) was their health assessed prior to departure, and what was the result of this assessment; (l) was their health assessed at any time after the vessel left Portland, and what was the result of this assessment; (m) what was the vessel's destination; (n) what was the final destination of the sheep; and (o) what assessment was made of the condition of the surviving sheep when the vessel reached its final port.

(10) (a) What 'extra conditions' were imposed on the voyage; and (b) can full details be provided, including the method of assessing the appropriate conditions to be imposed and the department or agencies involved in determining these conditions.

(11) (a) Which departments or agencies will conduct an investigation into the deaths on this voyage; (b) how long will the investigation take; and (c) will the results of the investigation be released to the public.

(12) (a) How many other incidents of reportable deaths of sheep or livestock have involved the vessel Al Shuwaikh and/or its owners and/or operators; and (b) can full details be provided, including the date, the type and number of animals involved and the results of any investigations into these deaths.

Senator Ian Macdonald—The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) The Minister first considered a moratorium at the end of September 2002.
- (2) The Minister met with the Australian Livestock Exporters' Council (ALEC) and Livecorp on 26 September 2002, where the issue was discussed. The Minister was advised that on 25 September 2002, the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry - Australia (AFFA) received representations from the Sheepmeat Council of Australia (SCA) requesting a moratorium on sheep exports from Portland.
- (3) See the response to question 2.
- (4) There was no meeting between the Minister and the livestock export industry on 1 October 2002.
- (5) The moratorium on live sheep exports from Portland was imposed by the livestock export industry on 1 October 2002 with the support of the Minister.
- (6) The moratorium was an informal undertaking to the Minister by the livestock export industry.
- (7)

	Al Shuwaikh V20	Cormo Express V84	Corriedale V152	Express	Al Messilah V50
a	Sailing date 18 July 2002	Sailing date 23 July 2002	Sailing date 31 July 2002	Sailing date 6 August 2002	
b	See column heading	See column heading	See column heading	See column heading	
c	Portland 18 July 2002	Adelaide 23 July 2002	Portland 31 July 2002	Portland 6 August 2002	
	Muscat 14 August 2002	Jeddah 17 August 2002	Jebel Ali 24 August 2002	Muscat 1 September 2002	
d	Daily	Daily	Daily	Daily	
e	Deaths occurred on each day	Deaths occurred on each day	Deaths occurred on each day	Deaths occurred on each day	
f	5,800	1,064	6,119	2,173	
g	Feedlot-associated salmonellosis	Smothering	Ship mechanical ventilation failure	Feedlot-associated salmonellosis	
	Shy feeding	Shy feeding	Long wool length	Shy feeding	
	Hot weather in Gulf	Hot weather approaching Jeddah			

- (8) Neither the Minister nor AFFA is aware of any representations from overseas countries expressing concern in relation to high mortality rates aboard Australian export vessels or the health of livestock that survive.
- (9) (a) 2,304
 - (b) Sheep died daily
 - (c) Carcasses were disposed of daily
 - (d) Carcasses were disposed of according to relevant marine regulations
 - (e) The final number of deaths was reported to AFFA on 26 September 2002
 - (f) The Minister's office was advised by AFFA following receipt of advice from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA)

- (g) The Minister was advised by AFFA following receipt of advice from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority
- (h) 1 September 2002, Portland
- (i) Muscat, 17 September 2002, 6 hours
Bahrain, 20 September 2002, 17 hours
Kuwait, 22 September 2002, 6 hours
Dubai, 24 September 2002, 9 hours
- (j) Predominantly Victoria and New South Wales
- (k) Their health was assessed as being adequate for export
- (l) Their health was assessed daily. Numbers of the sheep exhibited diarrhoea
- (m) Muscat, Bahrain, Kuwait and Dubai
- (n) Muscat, Bahrain, Kuwait and Dubai
- (o) Surviving sheep were in good condition.

(10) (a) An AQIS veterinary officer oversaw final selection of sheep for the voyage; there was a reduced stocking density; an AQIS-approved veterinarian accompanied the voyage; the AQIS-approved veterinarian reported daily to AQIS Canberra.

(b) AQIS determined the conditions for the subsequent voyage after assessing the information provided in the Master's report on the carriage of livestock for the previous voyage, the stockman's report on the previous voyage, correspondence from the exporter in relation to the outcomes of the previous voyage and any correspondence received from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority.

(11) (a) AQIS will conduct an investigation into the deaths. AMSA has not advised whether or not they will conduct an investigation.

(b) The AQIS investigation has been completed.

(c) The AQIS investigation report was tabled in the Parliament and has been posted on the AFFA website.

(12) The exporter has been involved in three incidents of reportable mortalities since July 2002

	18 July 2002	6 August 2002	1 September 2002
Vessel	Al Shuwaikh V20	Al Messilah	Al Shuwaikh V21
Port of loading	Portland, Fremantle	Portland, Fremantle	Portland
Destination	Kuwait, Bahrain, Jebel Ali, Oman	Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman	Kuwait, Bahrain, Dubai, Oman
No. exported	85,974 sheep	77,158 sheep	74,740 sheep
No. died	5,800	2,173	2,304
% died	6.8%	2.8%	3.08%
Principal cause of death	Feedlot-associated salmonellosis Shy feeding Hot weather in Gulf	Feedlot-associated salmonellosis Shy feeding	Feedlot-associated salmonellosis Shy feeding Bad weather in Australian Bight

Agriculture: Independent Reference Group
(Question No. 726)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, upon notice, on 8 October 2002:

With reference to the statement, 'Moratorium on Live Sheep Exports from Portland', issued by the Minister on 1 October 2002:

- (1) When was the Independent Reference Group formed.
- (2) Why was it formed.
- (3) Who are its members.

- (4) What are its standing terms of reference.
- (5) Does it have particular terms of reference related to the current moratorium.
- (6) Who determines its membership.
- (7) Has its membership varied since its formation.
- (8) What is the method of appointment of its members.
- (9) On what dates has it previously met.
- (10) What recommendations has it previously made.
- (11) Have these recommendations been adopted; if not, why not.

Senator Ian Macdonald—The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) The Independent Reference Group (IRG) was formed in July 1999.
- (2) The IRG was established as a result of some significant incidents in 1998 and 1999 affecting the welfare of animals during live export.
- (3) The IRG is chaired by Dr Gardner Murray, Australia's Chief Veterinary Officer. Other members are Professor Ivan Caple, Chair of the National Consultative Committee on Animal Welfare, Dr Hugh Wirth AM, President of RSPCA Australia, and Mr Malcolm Foster, formerly Chairman of the Red Meat Advisory Council.
- (4) The IRG was established to: provide independent opinion and advice on existing and proposed new measures designed to improve the welfare of animals involved in the live export trade; and report to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (AFFA), Liveworp and the Australian Livestock Export Corporation Ltd (ALEC).
- (5) No, its current reference is wider than the moratorium.
- (6) The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.
- (7) No.
- (8) By invitation from the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.
- (9) The IRG met on 22-23 July 1999, 7-8 October 1999, 1 December 1999, 25 October 2001, 8 April 2002, 2-3 October 2002 and 21 October 2002. A preliminary meeting of the group was held on 7 April 1999 to discuss formation and Terms of Reference.
- (10) The IRG made 11 recommendations in its report of February 2000. The IRG report of February 2000 is available on the AFFA website at www.affa.gov.au/animalwelfare.
- (11) Both industry and government supported all recommendations, except for Recommendation 5. Industry did not adopt Recommendation 5 as Liveworp considers industry ownership of the Livestock Export Accreditation Program (LEAP) critical to its ongoing acceptance and development.

Defence: Superannuation

(Question No. 760)

Senator Sherry asked the Minister for Defence, upon notice, on 8 October 2002:

With reference to Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) audit report no. 65 tabled on 28 June 2002, Management of Commonwealth Superannuation Benefits to Members – Comsuper:

- (1) In figure 3.10 the ANAO report states that 35 per cent of new members in the Department of Defence were not reported to ComSuper in the period from 1 July 2001 to 1 October 2001: Does this figure include members of the Public Sector Superannuation Scheme and the Military Superannuation and Benefit Scheme.
- (2) What steps has Defence taken to ensure that new members are reported to ComSuper in a more timely manner.
- (3) In each of the quarters after 1 October 2001, what proportions of new members in Defence were not reported to ComSuper.
- (4) In key finding 25 and in paragraphs 3.42 and 3.45 the ANAO report states that 'the Department of Defence (Defence) did not report up to 81% of changes in member contribution rates to ComSuper

in 2000-01': Does this figure include members of both the civilian and the military superannuation schemes.

- (5) What steps has Defence taken to ensure that changes in member contribution rates are reported to ComSuper in a more timely manner.
- (6) In the year starting 1 July 2001, what proportion of changes in member contribution rates was not reported to ComSuper.

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

- (1) No, only members of the Public Sector Superannuation Scheme.
- (2) Defence is producing additional reports for manual update action by ComSuper. Since May 2002, the frequency of this report has been increased from monthly to fortnightly. This is an interim solution that will remain in place until the related software problem has been resolved.

System related problems have been investigated and a resolution has been identified by Defence systems analysts. Programming changes to rectify the problem have been scheduled for the next major PMKeyS software release in early 2003.

- (3) **Quarter Percentage not reported**

Dec 01 32.48

Mar 02 18.95

Jun 02 18.93

Sep 02 22.12

Since October 2001, all new Australian Defence Force (ADF) members have been reported to ComSuper.

- (4) No, only members of the civilian superannuation schemes. The percentage represents the rate of non-reporting of contribution changes to the civilian schemes.
- (5) Steps include:

The causes of the non-reporting have been analysed and identified as primarily pers admin processing errors.

Advice has been forwarded to the relevant PMKeyS pers admin staff of the correct processes to be followed when applying changes to contribution rates.

From July 2002, additional components in relation to superannuation have been added to the competency training for relevant staff. Remediation training has also been conducted for all current staff administering civilian superannuation changes.

In addition, incidences of staff processing errors are being detected through the generation of system queries, and are subsequently reported to ComSuper to enable the manual update of member's records in a timely fashion.

- (6) Approximately 40%. A breakdown by quarters is in the table below.

Quarter Percentage not reported

2001 – Sep 01 38.28

2001 – Dec 01 37.86

2002 – Mar 02 40.85

2002 – Jun 02 43.61

In the year starting 1 July 2001, all changes to ADF member contribution rates were reported in a timely and accurate manner.

Defence: Gulf War Syndrome

(Question No. 771)

Senator Brown asked the Minister for Defence, upon notice, on 10 October 2002:

- (1) What is currently the postulated cause of Gulf War syndrome.
- (2) What is microplasm.
- (3) Have any Australians been subject to Gulf War syndrome.

(4) Is Gulf War syndrome a real condition or has the Government established that it does not exist.

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

- (1) Despite large-scale studies, no clear cause for Gulf War Syndrome has been established. Several agents have been postulated as a cause, including chemical and biological warfare agents, vaccines and nerve agent antidotes, smoke from oil well fires, depleted uranium, inhaled sand particles, stress, environmental hazards, parasites, bacteria, mycoplasma, chronic fatigue syndrome, and multiple chemical sensitivity. There is no objective evidence to support any of these postulated causes, however, research is ongoing.
- (2) Mycoplasma is a genus of minute microorganisms without cell walls that are intermediate in some respects between viruses and bacteria. These microorganisms are capable of self-replication and cause various diseases in humans, animals, and plants.
- (3) No.
- (4) It is difficult to determine whether Gulf War Syndrome is a real condition as symptoms are many and are ill defined. United States research has shown that similar 'syndromes' of ill-defined symptoms have occurred in veterans of almost every armed conflict since the United States civil war.

Civil Aviation Safety Authority: Code of Conduct

(Question No. 780)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services, upon notice, on 16 October 2002:

With reference to Question on Notice No 353 (Senate *Hansard*, 19 August 2002, p. 3213):

- (1) If there are no provisions or processes to review or investigate possible breaches of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) Code of Conduct, what are the guidelines or rules against which breaches of the code are reviewed or investigated.
- (2) On how many occasions since January 2000 have breaches of the code been referred to an authorised officer or manager.
- (3) In each case: (a) when was the matter referred to the authorised Officer or Manager; (b) who was the authorised Officer or Manager (c) what action did the authorised Officer or Manager take; (d) was external legal advice sought; and (e) when was the matter concluded.

Senator Ian Macdonald—The Minister for Transport and Regional Services has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

The Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) has provided the following advice.

- (1) As advised in the Civil Aviation Safety Authority's response to Question on Notice 357, the processes for dealing with an alleged failure by an employee to adhere to the requirement of the Code of Conduct are contained in the Discipline Policy, Section 5 of the CASA Staff Policy Manual.

In September 2002, the Staff Policy Manual was replaced by the CASA Consolidated Certified Agreement 2002-2005 (CA). The CA deals with breaches of the Code of Conduct under Schedule L – Discipline Procedures and Processes.

With regards to alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct, an authorised Manager or Officer has responsibility for the management of the disciplinary process. This process may range from informal discussion with the employee concerned through to seeking a written explanation, counselling or investigation to determine whether further action is necessary.

The outcome of this process will determine whether a charge of misconduct is made. If an inquiry into the charge is made and if proven, a recommendation with regards to disciplinary action is made, and, in accordance with the Authority's Discipline Policy, a range of actions from counselling to dismissal may be recommended.

A copy of Schedule L of the CASA Consolidated Certified Agreement 2002-2005 has been forwarded to Senator O'Brien.

- (2) and (3) Refer to the response provided for Question on Notice 782.

Civil Aviation Safety Authority: Code of Conduct
(Question No. 781)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services, upon notice, on 16 October 2002:

With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 355 (Senate *Hansard*, 19 August 2002, p.3214): Have any legal costs been incurred by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority in relation to any investigation or review of any actions allegedly in breach of the Code of Conduct since January 2000; if so, on each occasion: (a) what was the cost of the legal advice; (b) when was the legal advice provided; (c) what was the nature of the legal advice; and (d) who provided the legal advice.

Senator Ian Macdonald—The Minister for Transport and Regional Services has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

The Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) has provided the following advice.

Yes.

- (a) The cost of the legal advice was \$13,325.64.
- (b) It was provided in May-June 2002.
- (c) The advice was concerning CASA's Discipline Policy.
- (d) It was provided by Phillips Fox.

Civil Aviation Safety Authority: Code of Conduct
(Question No. 782)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services, upon notice, on 16 October 2002:

With reference to the answers to questions on notice nos 354 and 357 (Senate *Hansard*, 19 August 2002, pp. 3213-5): Is the Minister advising that there is no record of legal advice of alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct that can be made available to the Parliament?

Senator Ian Macdonald—The Minister for Transport and Regional Services has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

The Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) has provided the following advice:

As per the response to Question on Notice 781, a review of CASA's files has indicated that there has been one occasion where CASA has requested external legal advice concerning the application of CASA's discipline policy.

There is therefore one record of legal advice pertaining to this question. CASA does not believe it would be appropriate to release legal-in-confidence information in the public arena.

Australian Defence Force: Personnel
(Question No. 835)

Senator Chris Evans asked the Minister for Defence, upon notice, on 1 November 2002:

- (1) (a) What are the most recent figures on how many permanent members of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) there are; (b) can these figures be provided for each of the services; and (c) can this information be broken down by gender.
- (2) For each of the services, are the current figures above or below expectations.
- (3) For each of the services, why are the current figures above or below expectations.
- (4) (a) What were the targets for the total number for each of the services over the past 5 financial years; and (b) what were the actual number for each of the services over that past 5 financial years.
- (5) What are the targets for the total number for each of the services over the next 5 financial years.
- (6) With reference to (e) of question W36 from February 2002 (Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee, Additional Estimates 2001-02), can an update to the tables for each of the services be provided.
- (7) With reference to part (f) of question W36, can an update to the tables for each of the Services be provided, showing the same information as at 31 December 2001 and 30 June 2002.

(8) With reference to part (f) of question W36, are there any other specialist areas in the ADF experiencing shortages of personnel (that is, areas of specialist skill that were not identified in the previous answer to this question).

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

(1) The information for part (a), (b) and (c) is contained in the following table:

1 Nov 02	Total	Male	Female	Target
Navy	12 641	10 543	2 098	14 000
Army	25 371	22 841	2 530	26 000
Air Force	13 763	11 720	2 043	13 555
ADF Total	1825	2147	677	53 555

(2) **Navy.** The current strength of 12,641 is below the overall target strength of 14,000 but is in line with current expectations. Navy is attempting to rebuild the workforce back to a strength of 14,000 over a period of nine years. Expectations are that Navy will achieve an Average Funded Strength of 12,838 during Financial Year 2002/2003. The current strength is in line with this expectation.

Army. Current figures are above expectations (reviewed over the past 16 months). Between June 2001 and the end of October 2002, Army has grown in strength by 1011 positions.

Air Force. The current figures are above expectations.

(3) **Navy.** Navy's strength of 12,641 on 1 November 2002 is in line with current expectations.

Army. These figures are above expectation and are attributable to lower than forecast separation rate (improved retention) and a more successful than anticipated recruiting campaign.

Air Force. The current surplus of Air Force personnel is a result of improved retention (lower than forecast separations) and a better than anticipated success with a campaign to re-enlist former serving personnel.

(4) The information sought is contained within Defence Annual Reports.

(5)

	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Navy	13000	13133	13264	13396	13529
Army	25812	25956	26156	26357	26557
Air Force	13400	13475	13555	13555	13555

(6), (7) and (8) Updates to parts (e) and (f) to question W36 are contained in the following tables:

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9037

Navy update to part (e) to question W36

Skill Category (Navy)	1996/97		1997/98		1998/99		1999/00		2000/01		2001/02		2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
	Target Num- bers	Actual Num- bers	Target Num- bers	Target Num- bers	Target Num- bers	Target Num- bers	Target Num- bers										
Officers (TF CMDR and below)																	
Aviation	183	168	196	162	196	166	206	164	236	158	248	170	259	263	263	263	263
Seaman	938	841	960	824	960	823	1066	825	1088	815	1077	808	1084	1084	1080	1076	1076
Engineering	447	421	453	437	453	427	440	411	445	405	444	427	448	448	448	448	448
Supply	202	280	204	269	204	243	215	211	215	191	215	208	217	217	217	217	217
Medical Groups	101	116	101	108	103	119	104	120	107	97	107	99	107	107	107	107	107
Miscellaneous	181	312	180	275	164	233	165	196	170	203	170	211	170	170	170	170	170
Other Ranks (TF all ranks)																	
Technical	4910	3890	4673	3754	4405	3901	4825	4019	4765	4030	4502	3654	4396	4396	4396	4396	4396
Non-Technical	5497	6312	5054	6261	5190	6024	5960	5495	5733	5112	5557	4911	5447	5447	5447	5447	5447
Officer Sub-Total	2052	2138	2094	2075	2080	2011	2196	1927	2261	1869	2261	1923	2285	2289	2285	2281	2281
Officers working in areas that require no particular specialty	0	163	0	204	0	190	0	168	0	164	0	63	0	0	0	0	0
Star Officers and Captain Ranks	126	121	127	115	111	100	106	102	127	116	131	121	131	131	131	131	131
Officer Total	2178	2422	2221	2394	2191	2301	2302	2197	2388	2149	2392	2107	2416	2420	2416	2412	2412
Other Ranks Total	10407	10202	9727	10015	9595	9925	10785	9514	10498	9142	10059	8565	9843	9843	9843	9843	9843
Navy Total (Trained Force)	12585	12624	11948	12409	11786	12226	13087	11711	12886	11291	12451	10672	12259	12263	12259	12255	12255

Notes

1. Actual numbers do not include Navy's training force.
2. The seaman category includes: Hydrography, Mine Warfare and Clearance Diving, Mine Warfare, Principal Warfare Officer, Seaman, Seaman Submarine.

Army update to part (e) to question W36

	Actual Numbers (as at 28 February 2002)	Target (as at 28 February 2002)	2001-02	Actual Numbers 2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Army CORPS Officers									
Officers									
Non Corps(2)	773	2143	2138	613	2117	2110	2105	2104	2104
Royal Australian Armoured Corps	235	172	172	234	171	171	165	165	165
Royal Australian Artillery	284	201	201	285	201	200	192	192	192
Royal Australian Engineers	387	274	274	393	273	273	273	273	273
Royal Australian Signals	347	299	298	355	296	293	289	288	288
Royal Australian Infantry	695	365	357	717	356	356	342	342	342
Australian Army Aviation	339	363	363	360	358	357	356	355	354
Royal Australian Armoured Corps/Royal Australian Artillery/Royal Australian Infantry(3)	0	148	148	0	145	145	145	145	145
Australian Army Band Corps	23	20	20	23	20	20	20	20	20
Australian Intelligence General	198	170	170	204	170	170	169	169	169
Royal Australian Corps of Transport	290	157	157	289	157	156	154	154	154
Royal Australian Corps of Transport/Royal Australian Army Ordnance Corps/Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers(3)	0	298	298	0	295	294	290	289	288
Australian Army Catering Corps	20	11	11	20	11	11	11	11	11
Royal Australian Army Medical Corps (Medical)	93	59	59	92	58	58	56	56	55
Royal Australian Army Medical Corps (Pharmaceutical)	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
Royal Australian Army Medical Corps (Miscellaneous)	118	74	73	118	70	70	70	70	70
Australian Army Psychology	53	54	54	52	49	48	48	48	48
Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps	94	97	97	96	93	91	90	90	90

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9039

Army CORPS Officers	Actual Numbers (as at 28 February 2002)	Target (as at 28 February 2002)	Actual Numbers							
			2001-02	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	
Royal Australian Army Medical Corps (Therapist)	3	5	5	3	5	5	5	5	5	5
Royal Australian Army Medical Corps (Science)	9	11	11	8	11	11	11	11	11	11
Royal Australian Army Dental Corps	37	39	38	35	31	31	31	31	31	31
Royal Australian Army Medical Corps/Royal Australian Army Dental Corps/Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps(3)	0	25	25	0	24	23	23	23	23	23
Royal Australian Army Ordnance Corps	372	200	200	366	200	199	196	196	194	
Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers	423	284	284	427	275	270	261	259	245	
Royal Australian Corps of Military Police	53	38	38	53	38	38	38	38	38	
Royal Australian Army Pay Corps	14	19	19	14	19	18	17	17	17	
Australian Army Legal Corps	38	43	43	40	42	42	42	42	42	
Royal Australian Army Education Corps	96	114	114	96	113	113	113	113	113	
Australian Army Public Relations	14	22	22	15	22	22	22	22	22	
Royal Australian Army Chaplains Department	50	55	55	50	54	54	53	53	53	
Military Personnel(4)	0	209	209	0	204	204	204	204	204	
Totals	5076	5987	5971	4976	5896	5871	5809	5803	5784	

Notes

1. A breakdown of Army's skill categories cannot be provided for previous years, as data are not stored electronically but are held on some 430 files, approximately 40 per cent of which are archived.
2. The 'Target' is the number of officer positions for which there is no designated Corps. The 'Actual Numbers' only include those few types of officers who do not have a designated Corps (ie. Officer Cadets, undergraduates, and officers of the rank of Colonel and above). Officers with designated

Corps will also be filling these Non Corps positions and this explains why the 'Actual Numbers' will exceed 'Targets' for some Corps (eg. Royal Australian Infantry).

3. Similar to Non Corps. The 'Target' is the number of officer positions, which may be filled by an officer from any of the three Corps. 'Actual Numbers' is zero as the officers filling these positions are from a specific Corps and this explains why the 'Actual Numbers' will exceed 'Targets' for these three specific Corps.
4. Similar to Non Corps. This is an officer specialisation. Officers who fill these positions remain within their original Corps. Hence the 'Actual Numbers' for Military Personnel is zero and the officers filling these positions will be reflected in the 'Actual Numbers' for their Corps.
5. Personnel filling the combined Corps RAAC/RAA/RA INF, RACT/RAAOC/RAEME and RAAMC/RAADC/RAANC are reflected in the specific Corps figures above.

Army CORPS	Actual Num-	Target (as at 28 February 2002)	2001-02	Actual Numbers 2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
	bers (as at 28 February 2002)								
Other Ranks									
Royal Australian Armoured Corps	864	892	892	997	895	912	636	636	636
Royal Australian Artillery	946	1100	1100	1114	1100	1113	1078	1078	1078
Royal Australian Engineers	1417	1232	1232	1785	1228	1215	1201	1201	1201
Royal Australian Signals	1613	1591	1590	1780	1511	1581	1574	1574	1574
Royal Australian Infantry	4788	4525	4428	5111	4428	4429	4387	4387	4387
Australian Army Aviation	218	238	238	270	238	238	238	238	238
Australian Army Band Corps	179	193	193	187	193	193	193	193	193
Australian Intelligence General	230	252	252	230	252	252	251	251	251
Royal Australian Corps of Transport	1711	1754	1753	1875	1744	1730	1875	1875	1875
Australian Army Catering Corps	581	589	586	632	579	579	531	531	531
Royal Australian Army Medical Corps (Medical)	606	717	712	704	692	687	680	680	680
Australian Army Psychology	41	52	52	48	43	43	43	43	43
Royal Australian Army Dental Corps	127	113	113	133	97	92	88	88	88
Royal Australian Army Ordnance Corps	2215	2777	2774	2334	2759	2592	2502	2502	2502
Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers	2314	2325	2323	2591	2323	2227	2158	2157	2155

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9041

Army CORPS	Actual Num-	Target	2001-02	Actual	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
	bers (as at 28 February 2002)								
Royal Australian Corps of Military Police	228	239	237	231	237	237	237	237	237
Royal Australian Army Pay Corps	145	163	162	153	162	162	158	158	158
Australian Army Public Relations	17	16	16	17	16	16	16	16	16
General Enlist Corps	1117	260	260	0	260	260	260	260	260
Manpower Not Related to Establishment(1)	0	272	272	0	272	272	272	272	272
Miscellaneous Non Specific Trade Positions(2)	141	1188	1187	2	1177	1166	1155	1155	1155
Adult Tradesman(3)	24	701	701	0	701	701	701	701	701
General Enlistment(4)	0	317	317	0	317	317	317	317	317
Corps Enlistment Recruit(5)	329	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trainees									
Other Ranks Total Totals	19851	21506	21390	20194	21224	21014	20551	20550	20548

Notes

1. Includes Illegal Absentees, discharge, Long Service Leave, Leave Without Pay, Medical Treatment, Maternity Leave and Compassionate Leave
2. This is not a trade. These positions may be filled by soldiers of any trade. Soldiers filling these positions retain their trade and will be reflected in the 'Actual Numbers' of that trade. This includes Administration, Careers Adviser, Recruit Instructor and Sergeant Major positions.
3. These 'Targets' are all training positions. Most trainees are paid against different categories and hence do not appear in the 'Actual Numbers'.
4. These are positions used for recruits who were enlisted without having elected a trade. Recruits are now enlisted to a trade. 'Targets' should be transferred to 'Corps Enlistment Recruit'.
5. Targets' have yet to be transferred from 'General Enlistment' (a skill category that is no longer used).

Air Force update to part (e) to question W36

Skill Category (Air Force) Officers	1996-97		1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		2005-06		2006-07	
	Target Num- bers (1)(3)	Actual Num- bers (4)	Target Num- bers (1)(3)	Actual Num- bers (4)	Target Num- bers (2)	Actual Num- bers (4)	Target Num- bers (2)	Actual Num- bers (4)	Target Numbers (2)	Actual Num- bers (4)	Target Num- bers (2)	Actual Num- bers (5)	Target Num- bers (2)	Actual Num- bers (2)	Target Num- bers (2)	Target Num- bers (2)	Target Num- bers (2)	Target Num- bers (2)	Target Num- bers (2)	
Officers – Trained																				
Support Operations(1)	863	600	868	594	710	539	702	501	486	483	592	480	550	536	539	538	539			
Medical Groups(2)	242	238	242	262	233	236	241	211	228	205	232	196	213	214	220	213	215			
Logistics and Engineering(3)	1229	1198	1170	1242	1239	1185	1223	1126	966	1077	1061	1084	1068	1036	1029	1007	991			
Air Operations(4)	1500	1380	1494	1443	1637	1533	1710	1574	1497	1587	1632	1491	1523	1555	1564	1558	1580			
Officer Total - Trained	3834	3416	3774	3541	3819	3493	3876	3412	3177	3352	3517	3251	3354	3341	3352	3316	3325			

- (1) **SUPPORT OPERATIONS INCLUDE** Administration, Chaplain, Educational Officer, Legal Officer, Security Police, General List, Photography Officer (Obsolete), Meteorological Officer (Obsolete), Any Officer (Trained)
- (2) **MEDICAL GROUPS INCLUDE** Dentist, Environmental Health Officer, Laboratory, Medical, Nurse, Pharmacy, Radiographer
- (3) **LOGISTICS and ENGINEERING INCLUDE** Aerospace Engineer, Armament Engineer, Electrical Engineer, Logistics Officer, Airfield Engineer, Anylogistics Officer (Trained), Any Engineering Officer (Trained)
- (4) **AIR OPERATIONS INCLUDE** Airborne Electronics, Air Defence Officer, Air Traffic Control, Ground Defence Officer, Intelligence Officer, Navigator, Pilot, Any Air Officer

Skill Category (Air Force) Other Ranks	1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
	Target Num- bers	Actual Num- bers																		
Other Ranks - Trained																				
Technical Trades(1)	5853	6028	5878	5587	5712	5110	5041	4760	4252	4180	4184	4089	4087	4126	4100					
Non-Technical Trades(2)	6371	6043	5907	5590	5830	5047	5269	4645	4771	4359	4513	4424	4442	4450	4539					
Other Ranks Total - Trained	12224	12071	11785	11177	11542	10157	10310	9405	9023	8539	8697	8513	8529	8576	8639					
Summary																				
Officer Total - Trained	3774	3541	3819	3493	3876	3412	3177	3352	3517	3251	3354	3341	3352	3316	3325					
Other Ranks Total - Trained	12224	12071	11785	11177	11542	10157	10310	9405	9023	8539	8697	8513	8529	8576	8639					
Air Force Total - Trained	15998	15612	15604	14670	15418	13569	13487	12757	12540	11790	12051	11854	11881	11892	11964					

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9043

Skill Category (Air Force) Other Ranks	1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
	Target Num- bers	Actual Num- bers	Target Num- bers	Target Num- bers	Target Num- bers	Target Num- bers									
Officer Total – Training	492	694	492	702	497	619	564	545	564	562	574	574	574	574	574
Other Ranks Total – Training	655	277	655	253	715	351	959	761	959	855	860	860	860	860	860
Air Force Total – Training	1147	971	1147	955	1212	970	1523	1306	1523	1417	1434	1434	1434	1434	1434
Officer Total Force	4266	4235	4311	4195	4373	4031	3741	3897	4081	3813	3928	3915	3926	3890	3899
Other Ranks Total Force	12879	12348	12440	11430	12257	10508	11269	10166	9982	9394	9557	9373	9389	9436	9499
Air Force Total Force	17145	16583	16751	15625	16630	14539	15010	14063	14063	13207	13485	13288	13315	13326	13398

- (1) **TECHNICAL TRADES INCLUDE** Aircraft Technician, Aircraft Life Support Fitter, Aircraft Surface Finisher, Avionics, Communications Electronics Technician, Ground Support Engineering Trades, Aircraft Structural Technician
- (2) **NON-TECHNICAL TRADES INCLUDE** Airfield Defence Guard, Airborne Electronics Analyst, Any Airman (Trained), Air Surveillance Operator, Carpenter, Communications Information System Controller, Clerk, Clerk Supply, Cook, Crew Attendant, Dental Assistant, Dentaltechnician, Dental Hygienist, Environmental Health Surveyor, Electrician, Electroplater (Obsolete), Fire Fighter, Flight Engineer, General Hand, Imagery Analyst, Laboratory Technician, Loadmaster, Medical Assistant, Mess Operator (Obsolete),Metal Machinist (Obsolete),Obsolete Non-Technical,Photographer,Plumber,Physical Training Instructor,Steward (Obsolete),Tailor (Obsolete),Telephone Operator (Obsolete),Works Supervisor,Warrant Officer Disciplinary

Navy update to part (f) to question W36

Officer Employment Groups	Target Numbers 2001-02	Actual Numbers (as at 1 July 2001)	Actual Numbers (as at 31 December 2001)		Actual Numbers (as at 1 June 2001)
			74	78	
Observer	111	86	74	78	
Pilot	137	91	68	77	
Seaman Officer - includes: Hydrography, Mine Warfare and Clearance Diving, Principal Warfare Officer, Seaman and Seaman Submarine	1077	794	785	784	
Weapons electrical aircraft engineering	24	18	23	28	
Weapons electrical engineering	190	N/A	178	181	
Medical Doctor	47	N/A	28	27	
Sailor Employment Groups					
Aviation technician avionics	353	320	310	308	
Boatswain's mate	963	828	837	893	
Combat systems operator	816	732	695	699	
Combat systems operator mine warfare	161	130	136	129	
Electronic technician	1295	1078	1131	1053	
Marine technician	2186	1818	1905	1909	
Musician	106	83	88	90	
Steward	333	257	297	322	
Electronic Warfare Linguist	202	N/A	115	122	
	340	N/A	295	290	

Army update to part (f) to question W36

Officer Employment Group	Target Numbers	Actual Numbers	Actual Numbers	Actual Numbers
Nursing Officer	92	95	90	87
Medical Doctor	59	N/A	70	69
Dentist	35	N/A	36	31
Chaplain	N/A	N/A	49	50
Other Rank Employment Groups				
Assistant medical	493	391	404	406
Combat Clerk – Infantry	252	173	171	187
Combat Storeman – Infantry	410	323	319	324
Crewman and crewman commander M113	304	301	370	396
Driver engineer	124	74	86	75
Gun number	412	399	674	455
Linguist	53	35	36	39
Operator bearer systems	131	76	64	126
Operator command support systems	265	208	198	230
Operator radar	43	26	26	38
Operator special vehicle – engineer	22	10	6	12
Operator special vehicle – transport	89	96	84	87
Operator supply	1043	748	1256	1237
Operator terminal	151	111	106	127
Rigger Parachute	90	N/A	66	74
Technician Electronic Telecommunications	124	N/A	124	118
Technician Telecommunications Systems	366	N/A	296	283
Technician Electronic Radar	34	N/A	29	23

Air Force update to part (f) to question W36

Officer Employment Group	Target Numbers	Actual Numbers	Actual Numbers	Actual Numbers
Administration	274	215	214	227
Air Defence	131	118	120	135
Air traffic control	331	250	254	258
Education	80	65	66	63
Ground Defence	56	48	48	58
Logistics	273	270	269	264
Medical	57	54	55	58
Nurse	101	83	83	88
Pilot(1)	554	627	630	650
Airmen and Airwomen Employment Group				
Air surveillance operator	274	251	255	266
Communications electronics	566	480	478	474
Clerk	563	563	563	574
Cook	233	183	181	222
Electrician	28	16	13	19
Fire fighter	199	201	202	216
General hand	137	181	174	182
Ground support equipment	416	373	382	392
Medical assistant	147	105	108	113
Plumber	12	16	14	19
Physical training instructor	81	67	68	65
Security police	345	291	295	290
Supplier	567	522	529	540
Work supervisor	26	25	23	25

Note

1. The Air Force reduced target pilot numbers by 80 during 2001.

**Australian Defence Force: Enlistment Targets
(Question No. 837)**

Senator Chris Evans asked the Minister for Defence, upon notice, on 1 November 2002:

- (1) What were the enlistment targets for each of the services over the past 5 financial years; (b) what are the enlistment targets for each of the services for the 2002-03 financial year; and (c) what are the enlistment targets for each of the services for the next 4 financial years.
- (2) With reference to the answers to parts (1) and (2) of question on notice no. 205 (Senate Hansard, 15 May 2002, p.1668) on enquires about joining the services: Can the table be updated to provide final figures for the 2001-02 financial year and year-to-date figures for the 2002-03 financial year.
- (3) With reference to the answer to part (3) of question on notice no. 205 on applications to join each of the services: Can the table be updated to provide final figures for the 2001-02 financial year and year-to-date figures for the 2002-03 financial year.
- (4) With reference to the answer to part (4) of question on notice no. 205 on enlistments to each of the services: Can the table be updated to provide final figures for the 2001-02 financial year and year-to-date figures for the 2002-03 financial year.
- (5) With reference to the answer to part (5) of question on notice no. 205 on separations from each of the services: Can the table be updated to provide final figures for the 2001-02 financial year and year-to-date figures for the 2002-03 financial year.

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

- (1) (a) and (b) Enlistment targets for the past 5 financial years are contained in the following table:

Targets	Navy	Army	Air Force
1997-98	1,227	1,490	802
1998-99	1,136	2,003	719
1999-00	1,496	2,622	1,209

Targets	Navy	Army	Air Force
2000-01	1,666	3,519	1,252
2001-02	1,863	2,830	1,614
2002-03	1,871	2,382	1,307

(c) The development of enlistment targets for future years is a relatively new initiative. Work is currently underway and it is anticipated that future enlistment targets will be confirmed by 20 January 2003.

(2), (3) and (4) The statistics addressing the year-to-date figures for enquiries, applications and enlistments for FY2002-03, for both the permanent and reserve forces, broken down by Service and gender are not currently available. Available information is provided in the following tables:

Enquiries	NAVY	ARMY	RAAF	Total
2001/02	22,165	61,432	42,449	127,290 (1)
2002/03 (as at 31 October 2002)	5,901	19,299	12,853	38,053 (2)

Notes:

(1): Includes 1,224 enquiries where enquirer was 'Undecided on Service'

(2): Includes TBA enquiries where enquirer was 'Undecided on Service'

Applications	NAVY	ARMY	RAAF	Total
2001/02	5,487	10,388	7,537	23,412
2002/03 (as at 31 October 2002)	1,787	3,182	3,088	8,057
Enlistments	NAVY	ARMY	RAAF	Total
2001/02	1,590	2,844	1,402	5,836
2002/03 (as at 31 October 02)	567	785	453	1,805

(5) The information sought is contained in the following table:

Permanent and Reserve Force Separations 1990/91 to 2002/03 (Year to Date)						
	Navy		Army		Air Force	
	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men
2002/03 (as at 31 Oct 02)						
Reserve			187	907		
Percentage			20.95%	19.86%		
Permanent	109	492	87	797	73	329
Percentage	13.56%	11.68%	13.75%	10.92%	12.01%	9.02%
2001/02						
Reserve			625	3077		
Percentage			23.28%	23.22%		
Permanent	270	1185	353	2526	270	1109
Percentage	13.46%	11.29%	14.11%	11.37%	13.69%	9.79%
2000/01						
Reserve			614	2683		
Percentage			22.46%	21.15%		
Permanent	339	1345	372	2867	371	1725
Percentage	18.41%	12.92%	14.66%	13.28%	18.27%	15.07%
1999/00						
Reserve			694	3473		
Percentage			22.66%	25.28%		
Permanent	342	1420	395	2611	314	1309
Percentage	18.35%	12.98%	15.51%	12.28%	14.69%	10.93%
1998/99						
Reserve			973	4450		
Percentage			25.55%	27.10%		

Permanent and Reserve Force Separations 1990/91 to 2002/03 (Year to Date)						
	Navy		Army		Air Force	
	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men
Permanent Percentage	352 17.24%	1380 11.88%	389 14.77%	2737 12.67%	374 15.89%	1395 11.02%
1997/98						
Reserve Percentage			934 21.98%	3886 21.71%		
Permanent Percentage	304 14.26%	1342 11.17%	318 11.72%	2422 10.71%	312 12.15%	1349 9.94%
1996/97						
Reserve Percentage			837 20.18%	3579 20.48%		
Permanent Percentage	274 12.62%	1365 11.27%	408 14.88%	2264 9.83%	309 11.50%	1189 8.37%
1995/96						
Reserve Percentage			724 18.26%	3325 19.47%		
Permanent Percentage	289 13.40%	1614 13.29%	502 18.78%	2833 12.14%	321 11.75%	1225 8.44%
1994/95						
Reserve Percentage			795 20.46%	3753 21.34%		
Permanent Percentage	248 12.34%	1600 12.65%	412 15.87%	3113 13.27%	323 11.84%	1230 8.29%
1993/94						
Reserve Percentage			800 20.36%	3751 20.12%		
Permanent Percentage	227 12.15%	1355 10.47%	399 14.54%	2871 11.77%	480 16.49%	1587 10.08%
1992/93						
Reserve Percentage			821 20.45%	4170 21.34%		
Permanent Percentage	161 8.34%	1083 8.07%	273 9.25%	2879 10.95%	486 15.26%	2165 12.34%
1991/92						
Reserve Percentage			978 23.90%	4952 24.29%		
Permanent Percentage	164 8.26%	1061 7.76%	228 7.64%	2045 7.35%	325 9.58%	1214 6.59%
1990/91						
Reserve Percentage			1162 29.09%	5030 24.86%		
Permanent Percentage	207 10.52%	1297 9.44%	383 13.82%	3164 11.41%	352 10.61%	1532 8.24%

Defence: Recruitment
(Question No. 841)

Senator Chris Evans asked the Minister for Defence, upon notice, on 6 November 2002:

With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 205 (Senate *Hansard*, 15 May 2002, p. 1668) which provided information on enlistments, to and separation from, each of the services: Given that recent Defence annual reports also provide information on enlistments to (see for example table 5.11 of the Defence Annual Report 2001-02), and separations from (see for example table 5.15 of the report) each of the services:

- (1) Should the enlistment and separation information provided in response to question on notice no. 205 be identical to the enlistment and separation information included in Defence annual reports.
- (2) If the information is not the same, what is the explanation for the difference.
- (3) (a) If the information should be the same, why do the annual figures provided in response to question on notice 205 on enlistments into each of the services consistently differ from the information contained in Defence annual reports; and (b) is there any explanation for the consistent discrepancy in enlistment figures across each of the services.
- (4) (a) If the information should be the same, why do the annual figures provided in response to question on notice no. 205 on separations from each of the services consistently differ from the information contained in Defence annual reports; and (b) is there any explanation for the consistent discrepancy in separation figures across each of the services.

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

- (1) Yes.
- (2) As per (3) (a) and (b) and (4) (a) and (b).
- (3) (a) Parts (1), (2) and (3) to Question on Notice No. 205 requested data that related to the Defence Force Recruiting Organisation (which is the source of the data provided). To compliment the Inquiries and Applications data, the enlistment figures provided in Part (4) to Question on Notice No. 205 are the numbers of personnel who were enlisted/recruited into the Services by the Defence Force Recruiting Organisation. They are the same figures as those reported in the Defence Annual Reports in the table titled: "ADF – Permanent Force Recruiting Activity". The numbers reported in the table titled: "ADF - Permanent Force Enlistments" in the Defence Annual Reports included personnel who re-enlist and transfer between the Services or categories of Service and are, therefore, higher than the Defence Force Recruiting Organisation numbers. (Please note that the table headings given above differ slightly between each annual report). (b) No discrepancy exists.
- (4) (a) Part (5) to Question on Notice 205 requested that separations from the Services for the period 1990 to date (31 January 2002) be reported on a gender basis. Separations details reported in the Defence annual reports are based on point-in-time (30 June 2002) personnel snapshots, and do not include gender details. To answer Question on Notice 205, personnel data had to be re-compiled from that in the Defence annual reports. It is not unusual to have hundreds of personnel transactions daily in the Defence workforce. These transactions are often applied retrospectively, and in some cases these transactions have an effect date that precedes the data entry date by days, weeks and sometimes, months. There is no mechanism to update the Defence annual reports in line with changes that occur after the cut-off date for a report has passed. No such limitation in gathering data to answer Questions on Notice exist. The response to Question on Notice 205 was compiled with a later and different dataset, and accordingly, overall separation numbers differed from those reported in the Defence annual reports. (b) As per (4) (a).

Defence: Health Services

(Question No. 842)

Senator Chris Evans asked the Minister for Defence, upon notice, on 6 November 2002:

- (1) What is the total cost of the contract that has been, or will be, awarded to Mayne Health Services for provision of Australian Defence Force (ADF) health services in Victoria.
- (2) (a) What is the duration of the contract; and (b) when does it commence.
- (3) Can details be provided of the options for extension of the contract.
- (4) What are the key performance indicators for the contract.
- (5) In relation to the Minister's statement to the Senate on 21 October 2002 that in some areas current health services to ADF in Victoria will improve: what are those areas.

- (6) Does the Government require Mayne to employ some, or all, of the on-base medical staff for the ADF in Victoria on the contractual basis that the staff are subject to posting: (a) within Australia; and (b) overseas; if so, how many staff have such a contractual condition, in relation to both (a) and (b).
- (7) Does the contract with Mayne include any provision on the use of Reservists; if so, can details be provided on Mayne's obligation in relation to Reservists.
- (8) Can copies of the tender documents for the provision of health services in the Australian Capital Territory and southern New South Wales region be provided.
- (9) When will a decision be made on the outsourcing of health services in the Australian Capital Territory and New South Wales; if the timeframe is not known, can an estimate be provided.
- (10) What is the original baseline cost for the provision of on-base health services in Victoria from which the projected cost saving is calculated.
- (11) What has it cost the department to conduct the various reviews into the cost of health services in Victoria since 1997.
- (12) Are all Defence health services being market tested; if not, in which areas is no market testing occurring, and why.
- (13) Is any planning underway to outsource health services in areas other than Victoria, the Australian Capital Territory and southern New South Wales.
- (14) Can the Minister confirm that non-ADF hospitals, that is, public or private hospitals, within Australia treat ADF personnel as privately insured patients, and that the Government pays the gap.

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

- (1) The estimated contract price quoted by Mayne Health current until 30 June 2003, but still subject to negotiation, is \$24,564,624.
- (2) (a) and (b) A contract will commence on the Execution Date (the date of signing of a contract) and, subject to extension, termination or expiry in accordance with the terms of the contract, remain in force until the Expiration Date (five years from the Execution Date).
- (3) The Commonwealth has an option to extend the Performance Period by an additional period or periods of up to two years each up to a total of an additional four years.
- (4) Key Performance Indicators were specified in the Request for Tender for each of the health services to be provided and will be included in a contract. The following Key Performance Indicators were specified for Primary Health Care Services and are representative of the Key Performance Indicators specified for all other health services:
 - the level of satisfaction of Australian Defence Force (ADF) members with the timeliness and quality of health care provided;
 - the level of satisfaction of senior Base and Unit Commanders and Defence Joint Health Services Authority with the quality and timeliness of health advice;
 - the percentage of personnel serving at each Base who are current at the end of each calendar month, for:
 - (i) routine inoculations.
 - (ii) PAP smears.
 - (iii) Medical examinations.
 - qualified staff are available at all times to provide the required services;
 - course training objectives and outcomes are being achieved;
 - clinical performance standards are met, and are as prescribed by relevant learned colleges, professional associations, accreditation bodies, and Defence;
 - the access times for treatment are met;
 - continuity of care is provided;
 - time away from training and military duties is minimised; and
 - management performance requirements are met with regard to health promotion and prevention programs.

(5) The following health service requirements included in the Request for Tender were not costed in the Baseline Costing, either as services currently being provided, or requirements to be met. Accordingly, they represent the following areas of improvement:

- the level of accreditation and training required of Health Service practitioners;
- ongoing first aid training for all ADF personnel in Victoria;
- enhanced accident and emergency services at some Bases;
- support to visiting ADF units at Puckapunyal, and additional administrative support at the Puckapunyal Health Centre; and
- provision of sick parades at Point Cook (two hours each weekday).

(6) (a) and (b) No.

(7) Yes. The Draft Conditions of Contract provides that, 'it is Commonwealth policy to promote the Reserve Forces in order to strengthen links between Defence and the community and to reinforce the national Defence infrastructure. The Service Provider is encouraged to employ Reservists wherever practical.'

(8) Yes.

(9) The Tender Evaluation Report is yet to be finalised. The outcome of that evaluation may be announced by the end of December 2002.

(10) \$28.386 million.

(11) The cost is estimated to be \$0.149 million for costing analyses only (\$0.127 million for consultants, \$0.022 million for Defence staff). These estimates are for the costing reviews and not for the costing/financial analysis during the tender evaluation.

(12) No.

- A rationalisation study and activity based costing is currently planned for Sydney and Surrounding Regions. It is not planned to undertake market testing in the Sydney area. The area includes three major deployable ADF health facilities and any market testing was considered to be very complex with the potential to have an adverse effect on deployable health capabilities.
- Detailed consideration is yet to be given to the scope for market testing of ADF health services in Western Australia, Southern and Northern Queensland, Northern Territory, South Australia, and Tasmania. Any decision will take into account a number of factors including the effect on ADF deployable health capabilities and the ability of the civilian infrastructure to provide quality health care to an increased population.

(13) No.

(14) No. ADF personnel are not treated in public and private hospitals as privately insured patients. Treatment costs are as negotiated between Defence and the health services provider concerned and are paid directly.

Defence: Hospitals
(Question No. 843)

Senator Chris Evans asked the Minister for Defence, upon notice, on 6 November 2002:

- (1) (a) Can the Minister confirm: (i) that a decision has been taken to shut RAAF6 Hospital, and (ii) that this decision was made by the Government; (b) if the decision was not made by the Government, did Mayne Health Services make this decision; and (c) when was this decision made.
- (2) Other than RAAF6 Hospital, how many Australian Defence Force (ADF) hospitals treat personnel from all three Services.
- (3) What types of surgery have been conducted at RAAF 6 Hospital since it opened in the early 1990s.
- (4) What are the target numbers and actual strength for the various categories of ADF permanent uniformed health personnel in each of the following financial years: (a) 1999-2000; (b) 2000-01; and (c) 2001-02. (Please use the same categories as were used in answer to Question W9 arising out of Additional estimates hearings of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee on 20 to 21 February 2002).

(5) How many permanent ADF personnel employed in health roles in Victoria have sought discharge: (a) for the following financial years: (i) 1999-2000, (ii) 2000-01, (iii) 2001-02, and (b) since 1 July 2002,

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

- (1) (a) (i) Yes. (ii) Yes. (b) Not applicable. (c) 29 October 2002.
- (2) There are currently six other Defence health facilities which provide formal surgery and in-patient care.
- (3) RAAF 6 Hospital provides a wide range of general surgery not requiring intensive care facilities.
- (4) The target numbers and actual strength for the various categories of ADF permanent uniformed health personnel for FY 99/00, 00/01 and 01/02 were as follows:

Category	Target 99/00	Strength 99/00	Target 00/01	Strength 00/01	Target 01/02	Strength 01/02
Officers	99/00	99/00	00/01	00/01	01/02	01/02
Medical	169	119	169	123	165	115
Dental	103	101	94	91	81	76
Nursing	243	193	242	189	235	211
Radiography	14	10	14	12	14	11
Pharmacy	32	19	32	20	34	17
Physiotherapy	6	4	5	4	5	6
Laboratory	13	11	13	12	13	17
Environment	29	17	31	22	31	23
Health						
Other Ranks						
Medical Asst	892	680	848	674	819	619
Dental Asst	183	179	170	171	184	161

(5) (a) (i) 38. (ii) 30. (iii) 29. (b) 12 (as at 31 October 2002).

Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service: Staff Recruitment
(Question No. 872)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, upon notice, on 7 November 2002:

- (1) How many additional Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service staff were recruited in the 2001-2002 financial year?
- (2) What was the cost of this recruitment?
- (3) (a) How many of these staff completed training; and (b) what was the cost of that training?
- (4) (a) In what geographic locations were these staff deployed; and (b) what activities did they undertake upon deployment?
- (5) How many of these staff, if any, have: (a) resigned their employment; (b) had their employment terminated; (c) transferred employment within the Australian Public Service?

Senator Ian Macdonald—The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) 827.
- (2) The estimated cost of this recruitment was \$1.204 million.
- (3) (a) All additional staff recruited completed training with the large majority having completed training to Certificate II standard.
(b) The estimated cost of this training was \$ 1.57 million.
- (4) (a) The additional staff are deployed at Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne, Adelaide, Perth, Darwin, Hobart, Broome, Cairns, Townsville, Mackay, Gladstone, Mildura and Canberra.
(b) The majority of staff are engaged in carrying out a range of border control activities involving the quarantine clearance of passengers and their baggage, vessels, cargo and mail at international airports, seaports and international mail centres. A small number of these staff are also

engaged in carrying out functions in areas such as finance, human resources, information technology and export inspection.

(5) (a) 42.
 (b) One.
 (c) 30.

Defence: Bad and Doubtful Debts
(Question No. 875)

Senator Chris Evans asked the Minister for Defence, upon notice, on 8 November 2002:

With regard to the reference on page 160 of the Department of Defence annual report for 2001-02, to \$31 029 000 in 'bad and doubtful debts' written off in the 2001-02 financial year:

(1) Can the department provide a breakdown of these debts, showing the debtor and the amount owed; if there are large number of debtors can the top ten in value be provided?
 (2) Why was this figure so high in the 2001-02 financial year, compared to previous years?

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

(1) A breakdown of bad and doubtful debts (\$31.029m) is:

An accounting adjustment to correct an error relating to an overstatement of revenue in relation to receipts from the New Zealand Government for the Anzac Ships project. The adjustment was required to align the debt recorded in prior years with what the New Zealand Government agreed to pay as part of its share of the project.	\$20.000m
An accounting adjustment to correct an error relating to revenue accrued before June 2001 but which was not correctly reversed in the following accounting period in line with accrual accounting requirements.	\$8.123m
An accounting adjustment to correct a range of old foreign exchange differences relating to Foreign Military Sales purchases from the United States which should have been processed in previous years.	\$0.751m
Accounting adjustments to correct two invoices incorrectly raised in prior periods.	\$0.134m
An increase in the general provision for doubtful debts relating to a significant number of current and former employees and customers.	\$1.847m
An increase in the provision for doubtful debts made against specific debtors where amounts are in dispute. Every effort will be made to recover this amount.	\$0.041m
Bad debts written-off where the debtor has been declared bankrupt.	\$0.059m
Debts written-off as the individual amounts involved were considered uneconomic to pursue.	\$0.074m
Total	\$31.029m

(2) The reason this figure was so high in 2001-02 financial year is because Defence has improved its accrual accounting methods including identifying bad and doubtful debts. Defence initiated a comprehensive review of its receivables in 2001-02 and as a result identified previous years' accounting errors and overdue receivables.

Defence: Funding
(Question No. 876)

Senator Chris Evans asked the Minister for Defence, upon notice, on 8 November 2002:

With reference to the graph of Defence funding on page 32 of the Department of Defence Annual Report for 2001-02:

- (1) Can the data table for this graph be provided, showing the actual amounts in each of the categories in each of the years.
- (2) In relation to the exchange rate update funding: (a) when was a decision made to provide this additional funding; (b) why was this funding provided; and (c) on what basis were the amounts paid each year determined.

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

- (1) The underlying data for the graphic on page 32 of the 2001-02 Defence Annual Report, presented in current prices and exchange rates, is:

	99/00	00/01	01/02	02/03	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12
\$ Billion													
Previous Defence Funding From Gov't	10.6	11.4	12.5	12.8	12.5	12.8	12.8	13.0	13.2	13.4	13.8	14.0	14.3
East Timor /Force Generation	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
White Paper Increase			0.5	1.0	1.5	2.0	2.3	3.1	3.5	3.6	4.3	5.2	5.3
Exchange Rate Impact – White Paper			0.1	0.1									
Sub-Total Defence Funding	11.2	12.2	13.8	14.5	14.6	15.2	15.5	16.5	17.1	17.4	18.5	19.6	20.0
Foreign Exchange Contingency Reserve held by DoFA – White Paper element					0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.5
Total	11.2	12.2	13.8	14.5	14.8	15.4	15.7	16.8	17.4	17.7	18.9	20.1	20.5

Note: The total funding base for the years 1999-00 to 2002-03 represent the Additional Estimates funding outcomes for those years. The years 2003-04 to 2011-12 represent the currently endorsed departmental forward estimates funding plan (the first four years of which are visible in the 2002-03 Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements).

- (2) (a) The White Paper funding decisions were made in the context of the 2001-02 Budget. Defence's funding allocations have since been subject to price and foreign exchange adjustments in the 2001-02 Additional Estimates, 2002-03 Budget and 2002-03 Additional Estimates as part of the annual budget development cycle.
- (b) This additional funding was provided in line with the no-win/no-loss foreign exchange funding arrangements under which Defence operates. These adjustments are to maintain the purchasing power of the elements of the Defence budget exposed to foreign currency fluctuation.
- (c) The exchange adjustments are based on foreign exchange rates issued by the Department of the Treasury at each point in the Budget development cycle. The amounts in the table reflect the difference between the foreign exchange rate parameters prevailing at the time of the White Paper and the parameter assumptions at subsequent Budget milestones.

Defence: Computers
(Question No. 877)

Senator Chris Evans asked the Minister for Defence, upon notice, on 8 November 2002:

The list of contracts signed in 2001-02 indicates the following:

Optima Technology	Computer	4500132944	31/05/02	\$16 162 740.00	16200 X PC'S
Compaq Australia Pty Ltd	Computer	4500132958	31/05/02	\$15 782 250.00	15000 X PC'S
Optima Technology	Computer	4500132949	31/05/02	\$8 979 300.00	9000 X PC'S
Compuware Asia Pacif		4500052034	13/07/01	\$5 500 000.00	Computers
Compaq Australia Pty Ltd	Computer	4500132938	31/05/02	\$3 926 670.00	3260 X PC'S

Dell Computer Pty Lt	4500042188	28/05/01	\$2 420 000.00	2000 Desktops
ASI Solutions	4500042191	28/05/01	\$2 169 200.00	2000 X PC'S
IBM Australia ltd	4500042213	29/05/01	\$2 299 000.00	X Desktops

- (1) Can the department confirm how many computers were purchased across Defence in the 2001-02 financial year.
- (2) How many computers were lost or stolen in Defence in the 2001-02 financial year.
- (3) How many surplus computers were disposed of by Defence in the 2001-02 financial year.

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

- (1) 27,248.
- (2) 64.
- (3) 6,536.

Note: These figures include desktop and laptop computers.

Environment: Great Artesian Basin
(Question No. 882)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation, upon notice, on 11 November 2002:

- (1) How many bores tap into Great Artesian Basin ground water.
- (2) (a) How many bores have been controlled under the Great Artesian Basin Sustainability Initiative; and (b) how many bores remain uncontrolled.
- (3) How much artesian water is wasted each year through these uncontrolled bores.
- (4) Has the Great Artesian Basin Sustainability Initiative resulted in any pressure recovery in the Great Artesian Basin.
- (5) How many bore drains have been covered under the Great Artesian Basin Sustainability Initiative.
- (6) How much artesian water is wasted each year through uncovered bore drains.
- (7) What assessment has been made of the efficiency and effectiveness of the Great Artesian Basin Sustainability Initiative.

Senator Ian Macdonald—The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

- (1) The current estimate of the number of bores tapping Great Artesian Basin aquifers is 13,815. This can be separated into 3,399 artesian bores, and 10,416 sub-artesian bores.
- (2) (a) The States have reported a total of 130 uncontrolled bores approved for works under the Great Artesian Basin Sustainability Initiative in the period July 1999 to June 2002. Not all of these works have yet been completed.
(b) The current estimate from the States of uncontrolled bores remaining is 892.
- (3) The waste of water through uncontrolled bores cannot be separated from the waste of water through open earthen bore drains. Current estimates for the rate of wastage of water extracted by the pastoral industry vary between 60% in the black clay plains and up to 95% in the very sandy areas.
- (4) Modeling of pressure recovery attributable to the works approved under the first three years of the Great Artesian Basin Sustainability Initiative suggest that significant pressure recovery will occur over time. The model suggests that:
 - a substantial proportion of the Great Artesian Basin in South Australia will experience a pressure recovery of between 1 and 3m,
 - there will be pressure recovery of up to 7m around Walgett and Lightning Ridge, with lesser recoveries extending to the southern extremity of the Basin near Dubbo and the eastern extremity of the Basin, and into the Western Division; and
 - a ridge of recovery in the south eastern portion of the Basin in Queensland, varying between 5m at Goondiwindi and 2m at Charleville, with minor recoveries (of around 1m) in the northern regions around Julia Creek.

- Informal advice from the States is that direct measurements at monitoring bores and rehabilitated bores are confirming the predicted recovery.

(5) Under the Great Artesian Basin Sustainability Initiative, piped reticulation systems have replaced some 3,580 km of bore drains.

(6) Refer to answer (3).

(7) The States maintain a network of observation bores across the Great Artesian Basin. In addition, rehabilitated bores are monitored after works are completed. Informal advice from State Program Managers is that rapid partial pressure recovery generally occurs in the months after works are completed, and there is a more muted general pressure recovery occurring in many observation bores. These observations are supported by modeling of the pressure response of the Basin to the works approved under the Initiative to date (see (4)).

A formal review of the effectiveness and efficiency of the Great Artesian Basin Sustainability Initiative is scheduled to commence early in 2003.

Agriculture - Advancing Australia Communication Program
(Question No. 897)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, upon notice, on 12 November 2002:

(1) Was the 18 month Agriculture – Advancing Australia (AAA) Communication Program intended to encourage greater participation in AAA programs; if so, did the program effectively fulfil this purpose; if not, what was its purpose.

(2) (a) What are the results of the evaluation conducted at the conclusion of the communication campaign; (b) who conducted the evaluation; and (c) what was the total cost of the communication campaign.

Senator Ian Macdonald—The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

(1) Yes, encouragement of participation in Agriculture – Advancing Australia (AAA) programs was one of the objectives of the AAA communication campaign. Yes, this objective has been effectively fulfilled.

(2) (a) A full copy of the evaluation report of the AAA Communication Campaign by Woolcott Research Pty Ltd has already been provided to Senator O'Brien in response to an earlier question on notice.

(b) The evaluation was conducted by Woolcott Research Pty Ltd.

(c) \$4.975 million

Veterinary Health: Memoranda of Understanding
(Question No. 911)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, upon notice, on 13 November 2002:

(1) With which countries and/or groups of countries does Australia have memoranda of understanding on veterinary health and/or phytosanitary matters.

(2) (a) With which countries and/or groups of countries have negotiations on memoranda of understanding on veterinary health and/or phytosanitary matters concluded since June 2001; and (b) what new trade opportunities have resulted.

(3) (a) With which countries and/or groups of countries is Australia currently negotiating memoranda of understanding on veterinary health and/or phytosanitary matters; and (b) in each case, when are these negotiations expected to conclude.

Senator Ian Macdonald—The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

(1) Australia has Memorandum of Understandings (MOUs) with the following countries:

- Argentina on mutual cooperation in agriculture and agrifood matters;
- Brazil on cooperation in sanitary matters;

Chile on beef grading and certification;
Chile on technical cooperation aimed at preventing the entry, establishment and spread of pests and diseases of plants and animals and improving food safety;

The Czech Republic on cooperation in the field of veterinary public health and animal health;

Egypt on cooperative development of trade standards for pulses;

Indonesia on collaboration on animal and plant health and quarantine ;

Poland on cooperation in the field of veterinary public health and animal health;

Thailand on plant quarantine; and

Vietnam on animal health technical cooperation.

- (2) (a) Chile on technical cooperation aimed at preventing the entry, establishment and spread of pests and diseases of plants and animals and improving food safety.
- (b) MOUs are designed to improve cooperation and confidence in animal and plant health and quarantine matters. They improve the conditions under which trade can take place; however, whether trade eventuates is a commercial decision between Australian exporters and their trading partners.
- (3) (a) Australia is negotiating MOUs with; Bulgaria, Russia, Romania, Slovakia and Yugoslavia
- (b) As these are ongoing negotiations with aspects beyond the control of Australia, it is not possible to provide a timeframe for completion of the negotiations.

Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry: Visit to Japan, Korea and the Philippines

(Question No. 914)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, upon notice, on 13 November 2002:

With reference to the visit by the Minister to Japan, Korea and the Philippines in January and February 2002:

- (1) When did the Minister: (a) depart Australia; and (b) return to Australia.
- (2) Who travelled with the Minister.
- (3) Who met the cost of the participants' travel and other expenses associated with the trip.
- (4) If costs were met by the department, can an itemised list of costs be provided; if not, why not.

Senator Ian Macdonald—The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) (a) 12.40 pm Sunday 27 January 2002
- (b) 6.45 am Wednesday 6 February 2002
- (2) Mrs Lyn Truss

Ms Cheryl Cartwright, Chief of Staff, Office of the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Mr Michael Taylor, Secretary, the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (AFFA).

Dr Simon Hearn, Executive Manager, Market Access and Biosecurity, AFFA.

- (3) The Commonwealth Department of Finance and Administration (DOFA) met the costs associated with my, Mrs Truss' and Ms Cartwright's travel. AFFA met the travel costs of Mr Taylor and Dr Hearn.

- (4) Mr Taylor

Airfares	\$7073
Accommodation	\$3187
Travel Allowance	\$1920
Other Expenses	\$ 616

Dr Hearn

Airfares	\$7163
Accommodation	\$3376
Travel Allowance	\$1109
Other Expenses	\$ 100

Fisheries: Illegal Fishing
(Question No. 925)

Senator Crossin asked the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, the following question upon notice, on 14 November 2002:

- (1) How many illegal fishing boats have been detained in Darwin Harbour since 2000.
- (2) How many people have been detained in relation to the detention of illegal fishing boats in Darwin Harbour.
- (3) How many people have been charged in relation to illegal fishing boats in Darwin Harbour.
- (4) How many of these vessels had cats or dogs on them.
- (5) Who is responsible for the detection and handling of these animals.
- (6) What is the process followed to detain or destroy these animals.
- (7) How many cats or dogs have been detained or destroyed since 2000.
- (8) How many cats or dogs have been allowed to remain on these boats.
- (9) What explanation is there for these animals remaining on these boats.

Senator Ian Macdonald—The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) For the period from 1 January 2000 to 22 November 2002, 182 boats.
- (2) For the period from 1 January 2000 to 22 November 2002, 1,305 people.
- (3) For the period 1 January 2000 to 22 November 2002, there have been 306 foreign fisheries prosecutions finalised in Darwin.
- (4) For the period 1 January 2000 to 22 November 2002, one vessel had one dog on it.
- (5) The Master of the vessel escorting the foreign fishing vessel into port (normally the Royal Australian Navy or the Australian Customs Service Marine Group) is responsible for notifying the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) if there are any animals on board. This notification is often done prior to the vessel being brought to an off-shore anchorage. On arrival, officers from AQIS meet and inspect the vessel. AQIS is the agency responsible for the handling of any animals on board.
- (6) The normal process followed to detain and/or destroy cats and/or dogs on illegal foreign fishing vessels is as follows:
 - under Sections 35 and 48 of the Quarantine Act 1908, AQIS orders the animal into quarantine; this effectively means that the animal must be secured on board the vessel in a manner as directed by AQIS. The animal remains in quarantine until court proceedings have been finalized;
 - surveillance is maintained by AQIS;
 - under Section 26 of the Quarantine Act 1908, AQIS orders the vessel to remain at an anchorage off-shore;
 - under normal circumstances, AQIS would not destroy the animal until such time that legal proceedings result in the vessel being forfeited; and
 - if the vessel is forfeited and the crew are removed, the animal would be deemed to be abandoned and therefore considered to be an illegal import. The animal would then be humanely destroyed by an AQIS Veterinary Officer. Animals would also be destroyed if they are not secured as directed by AQIS.
- (7) For the period from 1 January 2000 to 22 November 2002, one dog was destroyed as it was not adequately secured as directed by AQIS.

- (8) For the period from 1 January 2000 to 22 November 2002, one dog was ordered into quarantine and detained on board while court proceedings relating to that boat were taking place. This is the same dog as referred to in the answer to question 7.
- (9) As per the answer to question 6, animals are ordered into quarantine and detained and secured on board until court proceedings have been finalised.

Trade: Korea

(Question No. 931)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, upon notice, on November 18 2002:

Did quarantine negotiations with Korea in the 2001-02 financial year result in improved access to the Korean market for any Australian goods; if so, what goods were concerned and what are the details of the improved market access.

Senator Ian Macdonald—The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

Yes.

Feeder cattle exports have recommenced following agreement by industry and government on revised preparation and animal identification arrangements for the Korean market.

Korea has agreed to remove the requirement for leaf and fruit testing on Australian citrus subject to a confirmatory visit by a Korean scientist in early 2003.

Access to the Korean market for fish and fish products has been maintained, with agreement to provide six-monthly "approved laboratory" reports and lists of approved signatories for fish certification, to streamline the import clearance process.

Agriculture—Advancing Australia: Projects

(Question No. 932)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, upon notice, on 18 November 2002:

What International Agricultural Cooperation projects have been funded under Agriculture – Advancing Australia Program?

Senator Ian Macdonald—The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

Funding under the Agriculture – Advancing Australia program has been provided for exchange missions between Australia and China under the Australia-China Agricultural Cooperation Agreement (ACACA) and for activities aimed at enhancing agricultural cooperation and developing bilateral relations. The projects that have received Agriculture – Advancing Australia Program funding are listed below:

ACACA exchange missions to China

- Investigation of the niche malting industry;
- Improvement of livestock production;
- Chinese agrifood industry;
- Cereal breeding;
- Water management and fishway development;
- Pine hybrids;
- Eucalyptus nitens;
- Export of food products;
- Animal feed products;
- Fodder conservation;
- Fresh dried flowers;
- Sheep meat; and

- Live cattle embryos and semen.

ACACA exchange missions to Australia

- Biological pesticides;
- Canola and hybrid oil sunflowers;
- Animal bio-tech research;
- Mechanical technology of animal husbandry;
- Tropical fruit crops and sugar cane;
- Aquatic products;
- Firebreak controls with NSW Rural Fire Service;
- Grassland resources;
- Forestry tropical pine hybrids;
- Organic agricultural products;
- Agricultural cooperatives;
- Biodiversity and sustainable technology;
- Eucalyptus nitens;
- Biological technology in dairy cattle;
- Ornamental plants and flowers; and
- Animal husbandry and dairy production.

Other Projects

- Vietnam wool;
- China-Australia wheat research;
- Thailand - Rapiscan Xray;
- ABARE – ‘Developing Countries’;
- Australia’s imported food requirements internet database;
- Quality assurance for animal health laboratories in Indonesia & Thailand;
- Australian fumigation accreditation;
- Indonesian clean milk;
- Korean MJTEC (Australia-Korea Ministerial Trade & Economic Commission);
- Indonesian officials visit on food labelling;
- Russian veterinary officials visit to inspect meat establishments; and
- India Wool (stages 1-3).

Quarantine: Campaign

(Question No. 941)

Senator O’Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, upon notice, on 18 November 2002:

What is the budgeted cost of the second phase of the Quarantine Matters! campaign, due to conclude in the 2003-04 financial year.

Senator Ian Macdonald—The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has provided the following answer to the honourable senator’s question:

The budgeted cost of the second phase of the Quarantine Matters! Campaign is as follows:

2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	Total
\$3.455 m	\$3.394 m	\$3.394 m	\$10.243 m

A pilot component of the campaign is being run in 2002/03 at the request of the Ministerial Committee on Government Communication (MCGC). The pilot will supplement existing public awareness measures and will cost an estimated \$3.5 million. This will bring the total outlays on the Quarantine Matters! Campaign to \$6.894 million in 2002/03.

Defence: Budget
(Question No. 951)

Senator Chris Evans asked the Minister for Defence, upon notice, on 19 November 2002:

With reference to page 141 of the Department of Defence annual report for 2001-02, which includes a figure of \$835.1 million for the total cash held by Defence as at 30 June 2002: What was the total cash held by Defence as at each of the following dates in 2002: (a) 31 January; (b) 28 February; (c) 31 March; (d) 30 April; (e) 31 May; (f) 31 July; (g) 31 August; (h) 30 September; and (i) 31 October.

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

- (a) \$286.372 million;
- (b) \$555.374 million;
- (c) \$701.815 million;
- (d) \$896.602 million;
- (e) \$977.650 million;
- (f) \$494.980 million;
- (g) \$774.837 million;
- (h) \$807.186 million; and
- (i) \$716.139 million.

Following criticism by the Auditor-General about Defence's low cash level as at 30 June 2001, Defence planned to increase the level of cash in the bank from \$500m in 2001-02 to \$610m in the 2002-03 Budget context. This was considered the appropriate level to cater for Defence's liquidity requirements, given the size of the Defence budget and the diverse nature of its activities.

The increase from a planned \$610m to an actual \$835m in 2001-02 was largely due to lateness of the Additional Estimates, which resulted in additional funding being appropriated later than the usual time-frames. In addition, Defence withheld some major capital projects' payments because it was not fully satisfied with the performance of some suppliers.

Defence: Vehicles
(Question No. 960)

Senator Chris Evans asked the Minister for Defence, upon notice, on 26 November 2002:

- (1) Under the terms of the original contract with ADI Limited, how many Bushmaster Infantry Mobility Vehicles were required to be produced.
- (2) What were the delivery timeframes under the terms of the original contract.
- (3) When was the project due to be completed under the terms of the original contract.
- (4) What was the budget for the original contract as at (a) the time the original contract was signed on 1 June 1999, (b) 30 June 2000, (c) 30 June 2001, and (d) 30 June 2002.
- (5) When was it decided that the original contract with ADI Limited needed to be revised.
- (6) Under the terms of the revised contract with ADI Limited, how many Bushmaster Infantry Mobility Vehicles are to be produced.
- (7) What are the delivery timeframes under the revised contract.
- (8) When is the project due to be completed under the revised contract.
- (9) (a) What were the reasons for the delays in this project and (b) have the causes for the delays been addressed in the revised contract.
- (10) Were there any penalty-type clauses in the original contract with ADI Limited; if so, what did the clauses say; if not, why not.
- (11) If the original contract did contain penalty-type clauses, have these clauses been invoked, if not (a) why not; and (b) is it normal practice for the department not to invoke penalty clauses and why is this the case.
- (12) (a) Does the revised contract contain penalty-type clause, and (b) What do these clauses say.

- (13) How much of the money expended on the Bushmaster project to date has been paid to ADI Limited.
- (14) (a) On what basis are these payments being made to ADI Limited? (b) Are payments made on the basis of milestones, if so, can the following information be provided: (i) a list of these milestones, including the dates and payments due to ADI Limited at the time of these milestones, (ii) whether these milestones were achieved, and (iii) a list of expected milestones, including payments and milestones, and the dates on which they fall due.
- (15) Are there any costs associated with the delays in this project, if so, what are the nature of these costs.
- (16) Under the terms of the original contract, is the Department liable for any increased costs due to the delays in this process.
- (17) Did the Department examine options other than revising the contract with ADI Limited, if so, what alternate options were examined, if not, why not.
- (18) Has consideration already been given to not proceeding with the project and terminating the contract with ADI Limited given its inability to deliver the project on schedule.
- (19) Given that, at a public hearing of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee's inquiry into Defence Materiel, Mr Roche, the Under-Secretary of the Defence Materiel organisation, said of the Bushmaster contract with ADI Limited that, 'if they fail, that is the end of it and the project will be finished'. Does this mean that the contract with ADI Limited will be terminated if the terms of the contract, including deliverables and key milestones, are not achieved.
- (20) Given that, in announcing the original contract, the then Minister stated that, 'Australian content will be around 70 per cent, providing significant opportunities for Australian industry to contribute to the project'. Is this the case under the revised contract, if not, what is the level of Australian content under the revised contract.
- (21) What will be the impact on capability of the decision to accept the reduction in the number of Bushmaster Infantry Mobility Vehicles under the revised contract.

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

Project Bushranger has been developed in several phases, an early phase having provided Landrover vehicles as an interim capability. The answers below focus on the current active phase involving the acquisition of Bushmaster vehicles from ADI.

- (1) 370.
- (2) The delivery targets in the original contract differed for each variant, as follows:

VARIANT	PROTOTYPE	INITIAL PRODUCTION VEHICLE	1ST PRODUCTION VEHICLE
Troop Variant	8 December 1999	11 July 2000	13 February 2001
Command Variant	2 June 2000	22 December 2000	10 August 2001
Engineer/Pioneer Variant	25 August 2000	30 March 2001	2 November 2001
Mortar Variant	6 October 2000	11 May 2001	14 December 2001
Direct Fire Weapons Variant	31 November 2000	8 June 2001	25 January 2002
Ambulance Variant	15 December 2000	3 August 2001	22 March 2002

- (3) The Contract Final Report was due on 10 April 2003.
- (4) As at 20 June 2002 the project budget for purchase of Bushmaster vehicles from ADI was \$329m (in December 2002 prices). There has been no real change to the project budget since the project was first approved by Government in November 1998, so in December 2002 prices the project budget at each of the nominated dates was \$329m.
- (5) The Program Office became aware that ADI Limited was having difficulty meeting its contractual obligations in mid 2000, and after major review and consultation with ADI a request for a contract change proposal was issued to ADI in May 2001.
- (6) 299.

(7) The delivery timeframes under the revised contract for volume vehicle production (noting that prototypes have already been produced and initial low rate production is planned to commence in August 2004), are as follows:

VARIANT	VOLUME VEHICLE PRODUCTION & QUANTITY
Troop Variant	December 2004 to May 2006
Command Variant	May to November 2006
Combat/Pioneer Variant	November 2006 to January 2007
Mortar Variant	February to March 2007
Direct Fire Weapons Variant	April to May 2007
Ambulance Variant	May to June 2007

(8) July 2007.

(9) (a) The contract failed to recognise the developmental nature of the Project, and there were inadequate mechanisms to deal with developmental difficulties. This was exacerbated by the fact that ADI underestimated the costs associated with the manufacture of the Infantry Mobility Vehicles.

(b) Yes.

(10) and (11) Apart from the normal remedies under contract law, the original contract included provision for liquidated damages for schedule delay. These liquidated damages clauses were not invoked when they became available in late 2001. A decision to defer consideration of a claim was taken because of independent legal advise that indicated it was not clear whether the clauses could be successfully enforced, given the developmental and collaborative nature of the contract. Defence has invoked such clauses in other contracts where the Commonwealth position is less ambiguous.

(12) (a) The revised Bushranger Contract does contain provisions for protecting the Commonwealth against future poor performance by ADI. These include provisions for liquidated damages and contract termination in the event that Reliability Qualification Test vehicles and production vehicles fail to meet contracted requirements in clearly defined trials. The Contract Change Proposal negotiations resulted in revised contract terms and conditions that reduced liquidated damages in line with current Defence policy, but strengthened termination provisions.

(13) The amount paid to ADI to date under this contract is \$56.3 million as at 10 December 2002.

(14) An initial advance mobilisation payments was made to ADI. Subsequent payments are made to ADI on the basis of milestone achievement set out in the contract payment schedule or after the date for delivery of the supplies in respect of that milestone - whichever occurs last. The payments made to date and the future milestones planned under the contract are as follows:

Milestones Paid to Date	Payment (\$m) Price Basis at Date of Payment	Date Paid
Advance Payment	43.20	Jun 99
Price variation claim against Advance Payment	1.32	8/11/99
Delivery of Prototype	0.34	27/06/01
Contractor Project Management	1.01	16/08/02
Engineering Change to Contract Amendment 5	3.41	28/08/02
Provision of Infantry Mobility Troop Prototype	0.60	28/08/02
Provision of Infantry Mobility Command Prototype	0.60	28/08/02
Provision of Infantry Mobility Assault Prototype	0.59	28/08/02
Reliability Quality Test Plan	0.33	9/09/02
Configuration Management Plan and Item List	0.27	8/10/02
Reliability Quality Test Procedure	0.14	9/09/02
Miscellaneous Minor Milestones to Dec 2002	4.49	Various

Future Major Contract Milestones	Payments Remaining \$m (June 01 prices)	Contract Date (16 July 2002) + Weeks
Contractor Project Management	14.37	CD to CD+261
Reliability Engineering Program Plan	0.48	CD+56 to CD+99

Future Major Contract Milestones	Payments Remaining \$m (June 01 prices)	Contract Date (16 July 2002) + Weeks
Reliability Quality Test - including vehicle reworks	2.73	CD+21
Production Reliability Readiness Test	1.36	CD+20 to CD+99
Training plan	0.90	CD+52 to CD+105
Training Aids and Equipment	0.54	CD+103
Supply of support equipment	0.37	CD+125
Warranty on Production vehicles	5.44	CD+125 to CD+257
Contractor Master Test Plan	0.65	CD+125 to CD+257
First Article Testing and Testing Plan	0.92	CD to CD+258
Provision of Initial Production Vehicles	7.89	CD+59 to CD+118
Infantry Mobility Troop Vehicles	59.10	CD+125 to CD+198
Infantry Mobility Command Vehicles	31.12	CD+199 to CD+228
Infantry Mobility Assault Pioneer Vehicles	7.89	CD+228 to CD+237
Provision of Infantry Mobility Mortar Vehicles	8.79	CD+245 to CD+253
Provision of Direct Fire Weapons Vehicles	8.63	CD+237 to CD+245
Provision of Infantry Mobility Ambulance Vehicles	4.86	CD+253 to CD+257
Miscellaneous Minor Milestones	6.52	Various

- (15) The revised contract with ADI provided a cost neutral outcome for the Department in terms of the total project funding.
- (16) No.
- (17) The Department considered many options that included termination of the contract and seeking to identify a replacement vehicle. These options were reviewed based on the expected impact on cost, schedule and capability. The Department also wanted to ensure that ADI was given every reasonable opportunity to develop the Bushmaster vehicle. After considering the options, Government decided that renegotiating the contract was the preferred course, noting that ADI must demonstrate vehicle performance or face contract termination in future.
- (18) Yes. Consideration was given before the contract change was signed.
- (19) Mr Roche's comments referred to the principle underpinning the department's agreement to a revised contract. ADI must demonstrate that Reliability Qualification Test vehicles meet reliability and performance requirements in a formal trial on or before 24 December 2002. The results of the Reliability Qualification Test will be considered by the Department following the completion of the test and are subject to contractual review with ADI on 3 March 2003. If the Reliability Qualification Test vehicles have failed the Reliability Qualification Test, then the Department has the right, amongst other rights, to terminate the contract. A further trial of initial production vehicles provides another potential exit point some 18 months later, should vehicles fail to meet defined performance and reliability standards. These specific measures are in addition to the normal provisions for termination under contract law.
- (20) The expected level of Australian content under the Bushranger contract currently stands at 68 per cent. It remains consistent with the original target of "around 70 per cent".
- (21) The reduction in number under the revised contract will reduce the number of contingency vehicles and the size of the repair pools. It will also reduce to a minimum the number needed to equip the two battalion groups, noting that there is always some flexibility in setting the mix and number of vehicles in a battalion group. Army has advised that with the reduced number of operational vehicles it can still meet the Government's requirement to equip two battalion groups – one for an operation and a second for rotation.

Defence: Capital Equipment Projects
(Question No. 963)

Senator Chris Evans asked the Minister for Defence, upon notice, on 26 November 2002:

- (1) Can a list be provided to show those capital equipment projects worth \$10 million or more that are currently behind their original schedule; for example, where the delivery and/or acceptance dates are later than originally planned.

(2) With respect to each project, can the following information be provided: (a) the original delivery date at the time the project was approved; (b) the original acceptance into service date; (c) the current expected delivery date; (d) the current expected acceptance into service date; (e) the reason or reasons for the delay; (f) whether the cost of the project has been increased over the life of the project and, if so, what the increase has been; (g) the reason or reasons for any increase in project cost; and (h) whether the department has incurred any other costs because of the delay to the project and, if so, the total of these additional costs.

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

(1) Because of the work which would be involved in providing a consolidated response covering all capital equipment projects over \$10m in value (that is, effectively all of Defence's major capital equipment projects), the response has been limited to Defence's current Top 20 projects (by forecast spending in 2002-03) listed in the 2002-03 Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements, where the now expected (or achieved) delivery date varies from the originally contracted delivery date.

(2) With respect to each project, the following information is provided – refer to Table below:

- (a) Column 2 provides the date of project approval. Column 3 provides the original delivery date at the time of contract signature.
- (b) Not provided as 'acceptance into service' is a military concept which involves detailed testing and evaluation of the boundaries and application of the capability and is not related to the project delivery schedule. A platform can be delivered and used by Defence for sometime prior to formal acceptance into service.
- (c) Refer to Column 4.
- (d) Refer to 2 (b) above.
- (e) Refer to Column 5 for reasons for delays in achievement against originally contracted delivery date.
- (f) Refer to Column 6 for real changes to the project cost. It should be noted that the approved cost of each project is also adjusted regularly for movements in price parameters and relevant foreign currency exchange rates. These adjustments have the effect of maintaining the "purchasing power" of original approved costs and do not alter the scope or real cost of the project. These amounts, as well as internal accounting-related transfers of funds across project phases, have not been included.
- (g) Refer to Column 7 for reasons for real adjustments to project costs.
- (h) Defence actively manages the impact on wider organisational issues of any variation in scheduled delivery of contracted assets. Information in relation to the cost of this cannot be easily consolidated.

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9065

Variations in Defence Major Capital Equipment Projects Identified for Question on Notice 963						
		Project Schedule				
Project Title	Contract Signed	Delivery Date at Contract Signature	Current Forecast/Achieved Delivery Date	Reasons for Schedule Variations	Real Cost Variations (\$m) (1)	Reasons for Material Real Cost Variations
Maritime						
ANZAC Ship Project - Phase 2	Aug-89	Ship 01 (October 1995) to Ship 10 (November 2004)	Ship 10 - March 2006	Original delays (5 months) at commencement of project due to lateness in obtaining design information. As the project has progressed, allowances have been made to incorporate emerging modifications to capability.	191	Primarily to meet changes to the MK45 gun for the frigates (+\$104m) and to offset reduced revenue from New Zealand for their frigates (+\$80m).
FFG Progressive Upgrade - Phase 2	Jun-99	Ship 01, May 2003, to Final Ship (06), January 2006	Ship 01, Dec 2004, to final ship, December 2007	Delays due to underestimating the complexity of the command and control software design and integration task.	0	
Minehunter Coastal Acquisition - Phase 2	Aug-94	Ship 06 (final), YARRA, August 2002	Ship 06 (final), YARRA, December 2002	The delayed delivery of Ship 6 was agreed by Defence and Contractors to allow incorporation of planned modifications and additional operational testing prior to delivery	0	
New Submarine Project - Phase 3	Jun-87	COLLINS (SM 01) January 1995 to RANKIN (SM 06 and final) October 1999	SM 01 - July 1996, SM 06 - March 2003	Initial causes for the delays relate to the performance of combat system software and rectification of various defects. More recently, Defence has imposed delays to augment and improve the combat system in two submarines and make hull shape and propellor changes to four submarines.	-2	A minor safety vessel associated with project was acquired through other means.

Variations in Defence Major Capital Equipment Projects Identified for Question on Notice 963						
		Project Schedule				
Project Title	Contract Signed	Delivery Date at Contract Signature	Current Forecast/Achieved Delivery Date	Reasons for Schedule Variations	Real Cost Variations (\$m) (1)	Reasons for Material Real Cost Variations
Evolved SeaSparrow Missile - Phase 2A	Jun-99	May 2001	December 2002	Delays in the cooperative missile development program in the USA, including requirements for missile flight testing, environmental qualification testing, and safety certification.	18	An increase of \$18m was provided to meet additional costs associated with software development for the ANZAC Ship system and purchase of new test equipment to support introduction of ESSM in the ANZAC ships. Separately, the scope of the original project was also significantly increased through the consolidation of existing individual ESSM-related elements of other projects involving ANZAC and FFGs.
Aerospace						
P3C Update - Phase 2	January 1995	Final aircraft - Sep 2000	December 2004	Delays earlier in the project were the consequence primarily of software development and integration problems experienced by subcontractor, underestimation of the scope of the integration by the prime contractor, and technical difficulties experienced by the radar subcontractor.	36	Additional capability for AP-3C aircraft (+\$4m) and additional logistics support (+\$32m)
ANZAC Ship Helicopter - Phase 1	June 1997	August 2001	December 2004	Poor performance by the principal subcontractor engaged in delivering integrated tactical avionics system software. Two subcontractors have had their statement of work altered to complete delivery and the contracted capability is expected to be achieved	0	

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9067

Variations in Defence Major Capital Equipment Projects Identified for Question on Notice 963						
		Project Schedule				
Project Title	Contract Signed	Delivery Date at Contract Signature	Current Forecast/Achieved Delivery Date	Reasons for Schedule Variations	Real Cost Variations (\$'m) (1)	Reasons for Material Real Cost Variations
Joint Logistics						
Air-to-Air Weapons Capability - Phase 1	Dec-98	December 2001	December 2003	Acquisition of the ASRAAM missile is linked to equivalent British project. The British have incurred contractual delays and performance issues. The AMRAAM missile was delivered on schedule.	58	Integrating and testing the Advanced Short Range Air-to-Air Missile on F/A 18 and establishing maintenance support. Also increased costs associated with AIM 120 Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile
Air-to-Surface Stand-off Weapon Capability - Phase 1	Jun-96	First aircraft into operational service - October 1998	September 2004	Significant scope changes and difficulties with aircraft integration led to delays and consideration of alternative weapons (from original expectations). The project is experiencing some minor delays in relation to serviceability of ageing F-111 aircraft.	93 (2)	Missile acquisition and support costs (+\$37m) and integration effort with the F111 (+\$56m) were higher than expected.
Electronic Systems						
Jindalee Operational Radar Network	Jun-91	June 1997	June 2003	Substantial delays were experienced earlier in the project due to poor performance from the original project contractor. The alternative contractor continues to progress the project (the revised contractual delivery date was Jan 02). Further delays were experienced during the complex integration and testing stages. Final delivery of JORN is expected by mid 03.	0	
MILSATCOM (Military Satellite) - Phase 3D	Oct-99	On-ground acceptance of payload - Apr 02 Completion of in-orbit testing - Jul 02	On-ground acceptance of payload - Jan 03 Completion of in-orbit testing - May/Jun 03	Technical issues that needed resolution during C1 satellite building and testing. Delays in the scheduled launch date	5	Contingency reserves

Variations in Defence Major Capital Equipment Projects Identified for Question on Notice 963						
		Project Schedule				
Project Title	Contract Signed	Delivery Date at Contract Signature	Current Forecast/Achieved Delivery Date	Reasons for Schedule Variations	Real Cost Variations (\$'m) (1)	Reasons for Material Real Cost Variations
High Frequency Modernisation - Phase 3A (3)	Dec-97	Core: December 2001 Final: May 2004	Core: December 2003 Final: December 2005	Software development and integration problems.	11	Increased capability
E-Defence Project - Phase 1	May-01	December 2002	April 2004	The impact of wider Defence organisational issues (e.g. existing networks and IT policies) has been greater than anticipated.	-25	Changing technology developments (noting that a phase 2 of this capability development has also now been approved for further advancements in the capability).

Notes

1. Real variations do not include the following:
 - transfers of funds to/from other projects/phases where scope was also transferred;
 - transfers of funds to the capital facilities program to cover facilities work; and
 - transfer of funds to salaries to cover full-time employees to replace consultants and professional service providers.
2. The previous reported variation of -\$68m did not reflect amounts approved by Cabinet in Sep 01 and Jun 02 for restoration of the White Paper reduction, nor in Dec 97 to cover higher than anticipated tender prices.
3. The High Frequency Modernisation Project has two major delivery dates: core and final. At core, the project will provide a replacement capability for the existing Navy and Airforce high frequency networks. At final delivery, additional enhancements are provided to the network delivered at core and selected ships, army mobile stations and aircraft are upgraded to take advantage of the enhanced fixed network capabilities.

Defence Science and Technology Organisation
(Question No. 965)

Senator Chris Evans asked the Minister for Defence, upon notice, on 26 November 2002:

- (1) (a) What is the total budget for the Defence Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO) for the 2002–03 financial year; and (b) what was the DSTO budget for each of the previous 7 financial years.
- (2) Can a list of DSTO sites be provided.
- (3) How many personnel, by site, are employed by DSTO. (a) How many Professional Service Providers (PSPs) are currently engaged by DSTO; (b) what is the total cost of these PSPs; (c) how many PSPs were engaged in each of the past 3 financial years by DSTO; and (d) what was the cost in each of these years.
- (4) Does the department own any of the current DSTO sites; if so, does the Government plan to sell and lease back any of these sites.
- (5) If there are any DSTO sites that have previously been sold and are now subject to lease back arrangements, can details be provided of the costs of these leases and when the leases will expire.
- (6) Have any DSTO sites been relocated in the past 3 financial years; if so; (a) what was the nature of these relocations; and (b) what was the total cost of these relocations.
- (7) Have any DSTO sites undergone refurbishments in the past 3 financial years; if so; (a) what was the nature of these refurbishments; and (b) what was the total cost of these refurbishments.

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

(1) Total budget for DSTO for 2002-03 and each of the previous seven financial years

	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
	Cash \$m	Cash \$m	Cash \$m	Cash \$m	Accrual \$m	Accrual \$m	Accrual \$m	Accrual \$m
Budget	220.651	229.487	230.300	207.503	235.900	234.891	264.184	276.818

* Reduction in 1998/99 due to functional transfers flowing from implementation of Defence Reform Program.

(2) DSTO Sites

Fern Hill	DSTO Fern Hill, HP Building, Thynne Street, Fern Hill Park, Bruce, ACT.
Melbourne	Fishermans Bend - 506 Lorimer Street, Fishermans Bend, Victoria. Maribyrnong - Cordite Avenue, Maribyrnong, Victoria.
Innisfail	496 Palmerston Highway, Innisfail, QLD.
Pyrmont	7 Pirrama Road, Pyrmont, NSW.
Scottsdale	76 George Street, Scottsdale, Tasmania.
Edinburgh	West Avenue, Edinburgh, South Australia.
Stirling	Building A51, HMAS STIRLING Rockingham, Western Australia.

* DSTO is headquartered within Russell Offices

(3) DSTO staff by Site

ACT (Fernhill & Russell)	190
NSW (Pyrmont and attached to Defence units in NSW)	104
VIC (Fishermans Bend & Maribyrnong)	637
QLD (Innisfail and attached to Defence units in QLD)	6
SA (Edinburgh)	1,312
WA (Stirling)	40
TAS (Scottsdale)	15
Sub-Total DSTO Sites	2,304
NT (Attached to Defence units)	3
Overseas	29
Total (all Defence sites and Overseas postings)	2,336

Number and cost of Professional Service Providers (PSPs) engaged by DSTO for 2002-03 and each of the previous three financial years

PSPs	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03 (to 30 Nov)
\$million	0.274	0.705	2.224	0.836
number	69	76	108	53

* Increase from 2000-01 to 2001-02 due to change in definition of PSPs.

- (4) The department owns the Fishermans Bend, Maribyrnong, Innisfail, Scottsdale, Edinburgh, Stirling and Pyrmont. It is planned to sell and lease back Pyrmont.
- (5) N/A.
- (6) No.
- (7) No DSTO sites have undergone significant refurbishment in the past 3 years. However, some buildings at Edinburgh have undergone refurbishment under the Medium New Works program. Buildings 75 and 81 were refurbished to accommodate Land Operations Division at a cost of \$4.5 million, and Buildings 11 and 12 were refurbished to accommodate Stores activities at a cost of \$0.5 million.

Defence: Project SEA 1429

(Question No. 974)

Senator Chris Evans asked the Minister for Defence, upon notice, on 29 November 2002:

In relation to project Sea 1429 Phase 2, the replacement of the heavyweight torpedo:

- (1) Given that, in response to question on notice No. 219 (Senate *Hansard*, 17 June 2002, p. 1910), it was stated that the ADCAP Mod 6 was the torpedo that would be purchased under this project, but in the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee estimates hearing on 21 November 2002 it was stated that the goal for project Sea 1429 is to purchase ADCAP Mod 7 torpedoes; (a) When was the decision made to purchase ADCAP Mod 7s; and (b) why was the decision made not to purchase ADCAP Mod 6 torpedoes, as indicated in June 2002.
- (2) Given that it was stated on 22 November 2002 that a limited number of ADCAP Mod 6 torpedoes would be purchased to trial the new combat system on the submarine: (a) how many ADCAP Mod 6 torpedoes will be purchased for this purpose; and (b) will ADCAP Mod 5 torpedoes also be purchased for this purpose.
- (3) In terms of the integration study now underway: (a) is this study for the ADCAP Mod 6; (b) will another study be needed to install the ADCAP Mod 7; and (c) to date how much has been spent on this study.
- (4) Given that, in response to question no. 219, it was stated that the budget for project Sea 1429 was \$200 million to \$260 million, while in the Senate estimates hearing on 21 November 2002 it was stated that the budget for this project is now a total of \$450m; when was the decision made to increase the budget for this project.
- (5) In terms of the tender process originally started for the replacement torpedoes were any bids: (a) under \$300 million in price; or (b) under \$250 million in price.
- (6) As at today, what is the total funding approved for Sea 1429 Phase 2.
- (7) Why was the change to the funding for the project not indicated in the Defence Capability Plan Supplement released in June 2002.
- (8) Has the department put a proposal to the Government for the approval of this increase in the funding for the replacement of the torpedoes, if so: (a) when was this proposal put to the Government, and (b) has approval been granted for this increase.
- (9) When it was stated at the estimates hearing that funding would be provided from Phase 5 of the continual upgrade project: (a) was this referring to Phase 5 of Sea 1439; and (b) will \$200 million of the funding allocated to this project be used for the purchase of new heavyweight torpedoes.
- (10) (a) Is the purchase of the heavyweight torpedoes outside the scope of Sea 1439 Phase 5, as described in the capability plan; (b) is approval needed to use funds allocated to Sea 1439 Phase 5 for the purchasing of the new torpedoes; and (c) has that approval been sought; if so, when.

- (11) What impact will the diverting of \$200 million from project Sea 1439 Phase 5, for the new torpedoes, have on the implementation of this project; (b) will this not reduce the funding for the continual upgrade of the Collins Class submarine; and (c) what elements of the continual upgrade will no longer be implemented as a result.
- (12) In terms of the stated \$450 million project budget for the replacement torpedoes, will that cover the full cost of integrating all new torpedoes into the submarine, in service support, training and purchasing the necessary training torpedoes and warstocks; and (b) are there any plans to spend additional amounts on the replacement torpedoes.
- (13) Given the ADCAP Mod 7 is still under development, and therefore its price would be uncertain: (a) is there the possibility that more will have to be paid for this torpedo at a future date; (b) has a fixed price for the ADCAP Mod 7 been struck with the United States (US) Government.
- (14) Of the \$450 million now to be spent on the new torpedo project, how much of this will be spent on the ADCAP Mod 5s and the ADCAP Mod 6s to be used in trials of the new combat system.
- (15) Of the \$450 million now to be spent on the new torpedo project, how much of this will be spent contributing to the US development project of the ADCAP Mod 7.
- (16) Of the \$450 million now to be spent on the new torpedo project, how much of this will be spent purchasing training and warstocks of the ADCAP Mod 7.
- (17) What is the current estimate on when the ADCAP Mod 7 will be in service on the Collins Class Submarine.

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

- (1) (a) A decision has not yet been made to purchase ADCAP Mod 7 torpedoes. As indicated at the Senate Legislative Committee hearing on 21 November 2002, the acquisition of the Mod 7 weapon is planned but it is yet to be approved by the Government. It is planned to initially acquire the Mod 6 version, upgraded to include the Mod 7 hardware baseline, with the intention to further upgrade them to full Mod 7s later in the program. (b) No decision has been made not to purchase the ADCAP Mod 6 weapon.
- (2) (a) The number of torpedoes to be acquired under this program is classified. (b) No.
- (3) (a) Yes. However, in terms of weight and physical dimensions, the Mod 6 and Mod 7 are essentially the same weapon and no distinction between the two is made in the physical integration study. (b) No. (c) To the end of November 2002, \$227,669 has been spent on the physical integration study.
- (4) The answer provided to Question on Notice 219 in relation to the project budget reflected only the approved Phase 2 provision for the heavyweight program. The total cost estimate for the program (Phase 1 and Phase 2) of \$450m (\$475m in December 2002 prices and exchange rates), has not changed in real terms since 1996 and was the figure provided at the Senate Estimates hearing on 21 November 2002. This figure includes Phase 1 (Study Phase of \$9.8m), and the yet to be approved funding of some \$213m for the acquisition of appropriate war stocks of the weapon.
- (5) The tender bids in response to the Project Definition Study solicitation process, which closed on 21 December 2000, and was subsequently terminated by Government in July 2001, are commercially sensitive and cannot be released
- (6) The current Phase 2 approval is \$253m in December 2002 prices and exchange rates.
- (7) The Defence Capability Plan reflects the approved project cost. There has been no change in this funding provision.
- (8) There is no proposal to increase funding for the replacement torpedoes. However, a proposal has been put to the Government seeking approval for the currently unapproved portion of Phase 2.
- (9) (10) and (11) The total project cost estimate for the replacement heavyweight torpedo is in the order of \$475 million. This is equivalent to an original cost estimate provision contained in the 1996 "Pink Book" (\$358.7m), updated to December 2002 prices. There has been no cost "blow-out".

The heavyweight torpedoes expenditure program was reshaped in 2000. The Defence Capability Sub Committee decided not to fund the full project costs at that time because of uncertainties relating to the stockholding levels required, linkages with the submarine combat system, and determination of a preferred weapon. The Government approved \$253m (December 2002 prices) for

the physical integration and an initial weapons purchase. The balance of the additional warstocks of weapons was foreshadowed as part of the submarine continuous technology upgrade program.

In 2002, with the signing of the Australia/United States Statement of Principles on Submarine Co-operation, and the direction by Government to sole source the replacement heavyweight torpedo from the United States Navy, the funding requirement was clarified and reconfirmed \$475m in the December 2002 prices.

The scope and content of SEA 1439 Phase 5 continuous improvement program is still evolving and yet to be fully defined. There is currently no approved funding for this project phase but it remains one possible source of future funding for the currently unapproved balance of SEA 1429 Phase 2.

- (12) (a) Yes. (b) No.
- (13) (a) No. Under the terms of the proposed Memorandum of Understanding with the United States Navy, the Commonwealth's cost sharing arrangement is capped. (b) Yes.
- (14) It is estimated that the cost of the Mod 6 ADCAPs (incorporating the Mod 7 hardware baseline) for replacement combat system trials, will be between \$15-\$30m. Mod 5 weapons will not be used for this purpose.
- (15) Of the total project cost estimate of \$475m (December 2002 prices), approximately \$50m will be the Commonwealth's share of the joint development costs for the Mod 7 weapon.
- (16) Of the total project estimated cost of \$475m (December 2002 prices), approximately \$385m will be spent purchasing exercise and warstock ADCAP Mod 7 torpedoes and their support.
- (17) The baseline Mod 7 (the Mod 6 incorporating the Mod 7 hardware baseline) is expected to be in service by the end of 2006 with the full capability Mod 7 weapon in service by the end of the decade.

Agriculture: Farm Help Program
(Question No. 979)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, upon notice, on 3 December 2002:

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that the maximum amount of assistance provided to individual rural producers in the form of a Commonwealth re-establishment grant to exit rural enterprise under the AAA Farm Help – Supporting Families Through Change Program and its predecessors is currently \$45 000.
- (2) With reference to the AAA Farm Help – Supporting Families Through Change Program, and its predecessors for the past 10 financial years: (a) how many rural producers have applied for assistance to exit rural enterprise in the form of a Commonwealth re-establishment grant; (b) how many rural producers have received assistance to exit rural enterprise in the form of a Commonwealth re-establishment grant; (c) what has been the total amount of funding expended to provide rural producers with assistance to exit rural enterprise; and (d) how many rural producers have received less than the full amount of assistance available to leave rural enterprise in the form of a Commonwealth re-establishment grant due to their failure to meet the requirements of the assets test.

Senator Ian Macdonald—The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Details of re-establishment support shown below include grants paid under the Rural Adjustment Scheme (RAS) before the establishment of Farm Family Restart Scheme (FFRS), now Farm Help. Applications for RAS re-establishment grants closed on 30 November 1997 and the FFRS commenced from 1 December 1997. The information below does not include industry or region specific re-establishment assistance offered from time to time

Under the Farm Help program all farmers who join for the purposes of income support are taken to have applied for a re-establishment grant and may be eligible to be paid the grant if their farm is sold and re-establishment eligibility criteria are met. As such, the number of re-establishment grant applications is not available. Separate re-establishment grant applications were made under the RAS and the number of applications and approvals is shown in the table below.

Rural Adjustment Scheme	Received	Approved	Declined	Amount
	^	*		\$m**
Source: RASAC/NRAC annual reports				
1.1.93 to 30.6.93	401	136	62	5.738
1993-94	676	403	194	16.908
1994-95	440	302	147	13.466
1995-96	347	250	91	10.852
1996-97	121	254	49	8.410
1997-98	195	152	71	5.806
1998-99	76	24	22	1.130
1999-00	1	5	2	0.240
Total	2257	1526	638	62.550

* While applications closed on 30 November 1997 payments could not be made until the farm was sold.

** Note that due to timing differences, grants approved may not be reported as expenditure until the following year. Total expenditure shown - under the RAS, the Commonwealth paid for 90% of the cost of re-establishment grants and the States paid the remaining 10%. Farm Help is fully funded by the Commonwealth.

^ Applications not approved or declined under RAS may have been withdrawn or transferred to FFRS etc.

Farm Family Restart Scheme/Farm Help	Approved	Amount
		\$m**
Source: Centrelink		
1.12.97-30.6.98	34	1.5
1998-99	172	7.5
1999-00	242	9.8
2000-01	182	7.3
2001-02	161	5.7
1.7.02 to 31.10.02	49	1.9
Total	840	33.7

** Note that due to timing differences, grants approved may not be reported as expenditure until the following year.

As indicated in the above tables, from 1 January 1993 to 31 October 2002 under the RAS, FFRS and Farm Help, 2,366 re-establishment grants have been approved and a total of approximately \$96.3 million paid, an average of approximately \$40,700 per recipient. The long-term average payment for this grant indicates that the assets test and the deduction of income support received (under FFRS and Farm Help) have not significantly reduced the average grant over this period.

In the period from 1 July 2002 to 31 October 2001, 47% of Farm Help re-establishment grant recipients were paid the full \$45,000, the remaining 53% received less than the full grant. These grants may have been reduced by the value of income support, assets above the \$100,000 limit or a combination of these elements.

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry: Financial Statements

(Question No. 981)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, upon notice, on 20 November 2002:

- (1) Did the Secretary of the department sign a statement on 30 August 2002 attesting that the departmental financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2002 were a 'true and fair view' of the matters required by the Finance Minister's Orders made under the Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997.
- (2) Did the Secretary read the annual report prior to signing the statement.
- (3) Does Schedule 1 of the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies (Financial Statements 2001-2002) Orders require the disclosure in the notes to the financial statement of: (a) the aggregate remuneration of all managers of the entity whose remuneration for the financial year is \$100 000 or

more; and (b) the number of managers of the entity whose remuneration for the financial year falls within each successive \$10 000 band commencing at \$100 000.

- (4) Is it the case that within the meaning of the Orders' requirement to disclose director/manager remuneration, 'managers' includes executives.
- (5) Does note 21 to Appendix 9 of the department's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2002 declare the highest level of executive remuneration in 2000-01 to be within the band \$250 000 to \$260 000.
- (6) Is it the case that the Secretary's remuneration exceeded this band in 2000-01; if so, should the Secretary's remuneration have been reported in the band \$330 000 to \$340 000.
- (7) Does the declaration therefore fail to comply with the requirements of the Finance Minister's Orders.
- (8) (a) When did the department become aware that the notes to the financial statement for the year ended 30 June 2002 were not accurate; and (b) on what date did the department report the inaccurate remuneration figure for 2000-01 to the Minister.
- (9) (a) What action has the department or the Minister taken to correct the remuneration figure in the note to the 2001-02 annual report; and (b) on what date was this action taken.
- (10) Is the Secretary's declared remuneration for 2001-02 accurate?
- (11) Are any of the other notes to financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2002 inaccurate.
- (12) With reference to evidence provided to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee during the estimates hearing on 20 November 2002 that the remuneration details required to be declared include a number of components: What was the detailed breakdown of the Secretary's remuneration package for the 2001-02 financial year, including: (a) base salary; (b) performance pay; (c) productivity pay; (d) car; (e) fringe benefits tax; (f) car parking; (g) superannuation; (h) unused leave; and (i) any other components.

Senator Ian Macdonald—The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) Yes
- (2) Yes
- (3) (a) Yes (b) Yes. Please note that the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (AFFA) is not subject to the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act.
- (4) Yes. See note at (3) (b).
- (5) Yes.
- (6) Yes and yes.
- (7) No. The financial statements are materially correct notwithstanding the error in note 21.
- (8) (a) Just prior to the Senate Estimates hearing on 20 November 2002. (b) A formal report was considered unnecessary given that the financial statements are materially correct and the error in the note occurred in a previous financial year. My office became aware of the error on 20 November 2002.
- (9) (a) AFFA corrected the error during the course of the Senate Estimates hearing on 20 November 2002. (b) 20 November 2002.
- (10) Yes.
- (11) To the best of my knowledge, no.
- (12) The Secretary's remuneration for the financial year 2001-2002, in accordance with the Prime Minister's Determination under Section 61 of the Public Service Act was \$298,700. This amount includes base salary, a fully maintained vehicle plus parking and fringe benefits and the employer's superannuation contribution, but does not include performance bonus payments, accommodation allowances or reunion airfares. The Finance Minister's Orders require the note entitled 'Remuneration of Executives', which is appended to the department's Financial Statements, to include amounts to reflect movements in the recreation and long service leave provisions, performance pay, housing and other allowances included in remuneration agreements. These additional

amounts increase the overall remuneration package for the Secretary to the range of \$380,000 to \$390,000 as reported in the department's Annual Report.

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry: Financial Statements
(Question No. 982)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, upon notice, on 4 December 2002:

- (1) Did the Secretary of the department sign a statement on 11 September 2001 attesting that the departmental financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2001 were a 'true and fair view' of the matters required by the Finance Minister's Orders made under section 63 of the Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997.
- (2) Did the Secretary read the annual report prior to signing the statement.
- (3) Does Schedule 1 of the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies (Financial Statements 2000-2001) Orders require the disclosure in the notes to the financial statement of: (a) the aggregate remuneration of all managers of the entity whose remuneration for the financial year is \$100 000 or more; and (b) the number of managers of the entity whose remuneration for the financial year falls within each successive \$10 000 band commencing at \$100 000.
- (4) Is it the case that within the meaning of the Orders' requirement to disclose director/manager remuneration, 'managers' includes executives.
- (5) Does note 20 to Appendix 8 of the department's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2001 declare the highest level of executive remuneration in 2000-01 to be within the band \$250 000 to \$260 000.
- (6) Is it the case that the Secretary's salary exceeded this band in 2000-01; if so, should the Secretary's salary have been reported in the band \$330 000 to \$340 000.
- (7) Does the declaration therefore fail to comply with the requirements of the Finance Minister's Orders.
- (8) (a) When did the department become aware that the notes to the financial statement for the year ended 30 June 2001 were not accurate; and (b) on what date did the department report the inaccurate remuneration figure to the Minister.
- (9) (a) What action has the department or the Minister taken to correct the remuneration figure in the note to the 2000-01 annual report; and (b) on what date was this action taken.
- (10) In respect to note 20 to Appendix 8 of the annual report for the year ended 30 June 2001, what corresponding amendments are required to provide a 'true and fair view' of the remuneration of executives in 2000-01 to: (a) the aggregate amount of total remuneration of executive officers; and (b) the aggregate amount of performance pay paid during the year to executive officers.
- (11) Are any of the other notes to financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2001 inaccurate.
- (12) With reference to evidence provided to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee during the estimates hearing on 20 November 2002 that the remuneration details required to be declared include a number of components: What was the detailed breakdown of the Secretary's remuneration package for the 2000-01 financial year, including: (a) base salary; (b) performance pay; (c) productivity pay; (d) car; (e) fringe benefits tax; (f) car parking; (g) superannuation; (h) unused leave; and (i) any other components.

Senator Ian Macdonald—The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) Yes
- (2) Yes
- (3) (a) Yes (b) Yes. Please note that the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (AFFA) is not subject to the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act.
- (4) Yes. See note at (3) (b).
- (5) Yes.
- (6) Yes and yes.
- (7) No. The financial statements are materially correct notwithstanding the error in note 20.

- (8) (a) Just prior to the Senate Estimates hearing on 20 November 2002. (b) A formal report was considered unnecessary given that the financial statements are materially correct and the error in the note occurred in a previous financial year. My office became aware of the error on 20 November 2002.
- (9) (a) AFFA corrected the error during the course of the Senate Estimates hearing on 20 November 2002. (b) 20 November 2002.
- (10) (a) The aggregate amount of total remuneration of executive officers should be \$9787951, an increase of 1.14% on the amount shown. (b) The aggregate amount of performance pay paid during the year to executive officers is correct.
- (11) To the best of my knowledge, no.
- (12) The Secretary's remuneration for the financial year 2000-2001, in accordance with the Prime Minister's Determination under Section 61 of the Public Service Act was \$285,000. This amount includes base salary, a fully maintained vehicle plus parking and fringe benefits and the employer's superannuation contribution, but does not include performance bonus payments, accommodation allowances or reunion airfares. The Finance Minister's Orders require the note entitled 'Remuneration of Executives', which is appended to the department's Financial Statements, to include amounts to reflect movements in the recreation and long service leave provisions, performance pay, housing and other allowances included in remuneration agreements. These additional amounts increase the overall remuneration package for the Secretary to the range of \$330,000 to \$340,000.

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry: Customer Service Line
(Question No. 983)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, upon notice, on 4 December 2002:

With reference to the department's toll-free 24-hour customer service telephone line:

- (1) What is the telephone number.
- (2) Which output area is responsible for the customer service line.
- (3) What was the full cost of maintaining the customer service line in the financial year ended 30 June 2002.
- (4) Can a breakdown of direct and indirect costs be provided, including:
 - (a) staff costs;
 - (b) infrastructure costs (including maintenance);
 - (c) telephone costs;
 - (d) departmental costs; and
 - (e) any other costs.
- (5) Is it the case that the customer service line received three calls in the year 2001-02 financial year and just one call related to a departmental program area.
- (6) What action was taken in response to this single call.
- (7) To which two agencies were the other two calls referred.
- (8) On what days in the 2001-02 financial year were the three calls received.
- (9) When was the customer service line established.
- (10) Have the hours of operation, or other operational details, altered since it was established; if so, can details these of changes be provided.
- (11) What has been the total cost of maintaining the customer service line since its establishment.
- (12) How many calls have been received, by year, in each year of its operation.

Senator Ian Macdonald—The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) 1800 813 753
- (2) Corporate Governance

- (3) \$1,352
- (4) (a) \$1,000, (b) \$0, (c) \$352, (d) \$0, (e) \$0
- (5) The line received only three calls that might be classified as complaints – additionally there were a number of import clearance enquiry calls (wrongly directed and not documented).
- (6) The complaint related to the Agriculture - Advancing Australia (AAA) package, and was anonymous and policy orientated – it was referred to the AAA program area for action.
- (7) Centrelink; WA State Quarantine.
- (8) 26 July 2001; 4 September 2001; 20 September 2001.
- (9) 1998
- (10) Remained the same.
- (11) Approximately \$8,000.
- (12) Calls of a complaints nature:
 - 1998: 1
 - 1999: 1
 - 2000: 0
 - 2001: 8
 - 2002: 1

Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service
(Question No. 984)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, upon notice, on 20 November 2002:

With reference to evidence given to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee during the estimates hearing on 20 November 2002, in relation to the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) uniform contracts held by Bizwear Pty Ltd:

- (1) Can a copy of the contract for the period 1996-2002, valued at \$4.1 million, be made available; if not, why not.
- (2) What was AQIS' average staffing level in the period 1996-2002.
- (3) During that time, how many staff were provided with the uniform supplied under the terms of the contract.
- (4) Can a copy of the contract for the period 2002-04, valued at a maximum of \$6 million, be made available; if not, why not.
- (5) What is AQIS' projected average staffing level for the period 2002-04.
- (6) During that time, how many staff are projected to be provided with the uniform supplied under the terms of the contract.

Senator Ian Macdonald—The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) Yes. Copies of the two relevant contracts for this period are at Attachment A and Attachment B, which are available from the Senate Table Office.
- (2) The Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) average staffing level for the period 1996-2002 was:

1996/1997	1997/1998	1998/1999	1999/2000	2000/2001	2001/2002
2,335	2,552	2,314	1,984	1,989	2,623

Of these the following were entitled to a quarantine uniform:

1996/1997	1997/1998	1998/1999	1999/2000	2000/2001	2001/2002
633	737	730	856	1,222	1,577

During this period Quarantine officers have made up an increasing proportion of AQIS staff.

(3)

1996/1997	1997/1998	1998/1999	1999/2000	2000/2001	2001/2002
633	737	730	856	1,222	1,577

- (4) Yes. A copy of the contract is at Attachment C.
- (5) AQIS' projected staffing levels for 2002-04 is estimated at 2,680 per annum.
- (6) It is estimated that approximately 1,870 staff per annum will be provided with the quarantine uniform under the terms of the contract at Attachment C, which are available from the Senate Table Office.

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry: Breach of Constitution
(Question No. 985)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, upon notice, on 3 December 2002:

With reference to evidence given to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee during the estimates hearing on 20 November 2002 that the department's accounts were qualified by the Australian National Audit Office in the 1999-2000 financial year because a payment made in that year breached the Australian Constitution:

- (1) What are the full details of the payment.
- (2) When did the breach occur.
- (3) What section of the Constitution did the action breach.
- (4) On what date did the department become aware of the breach; if applicable, who brought the breach to the department's attention.
- (5) On what date was the breach brought to the attention of the Minister and/or his office.
- (6) What action did the department take in response to this breach.

Senator Ian Macdonald—The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has provided the following answer to the honorable senator's question:

- (1) The total amount involved was \$3,699,045. The breach resulted from the inadvertent disbursement of industry levies, which were in excess of the amounts collected. The amounts were recovered through deductions from subsequent disbursements and there was no loss to the Commonwealth.
- (2) In 1999-2000 during the implementation phase of a new financial management information system.
- (3) Section 83 of the Constitution.
- (4) The ANAO formally advised the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (AFFA) when the audit of the 1999-2000 financial statements was finalised and signed on 15 September 2000.
- (5) The ANAO formally advised the Minister when the audit of the 1999-2000 financial statements was finalised and signed. The Internal Audit Report addressed to the Minister was dated 18 September 2000.
- (6) AFFA instigated and have completed key areas of activity to rectify identified problems and minimise risk. This included:
 - the implementation of manual processes and controls to accurately account for levies transactions;
 - the development of a levies specific automated financial system;
 - ensuring an adequate audit trail is maintained; and
 - the training of levies staff to operate the new system and the manual controls and reconciliations.

Drought
(Question No. 988)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, upon notice, on 4 December 2002:

- (1) Is it the case that the EC guidelines agreed at the Agriculture and Resource Management Council of Australia and New Zealand meeting, in March 1999, do not require the states to provide substantial financial support in a region subject to an EC application before an EC declaration can be made.
- (2) Is it the case that the Commonwealth has imposed changes to the EC guidelines requiring disclosure of State drought expenditure without reaching agreement with any State on this change.

Senator Ian Macdonald—The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) and (2) Yes.

The request that the details of State drought expenditures be provided for areas subject to Exceptional Circumstances (EC) applications was made in the context of the Commonwealth's decision to provide interim EC support as soon as a *prima facie* EC case has been established. The Commonwealth takes the view that with such a major extension in Commonwealth drought assistance, it is not unreasonable to ask the States to disclose their sum total of support for drought-affected farmers in EC application areas. The information would help to ensure that States make a reasonable effort to assist affected farmers from their own resources before seeking Commonwealth help. At the 5 September 2002 meeting of the Primary Industries Standing Committee, the States agreed to share information about the State and Territory drought assistance measures. To date however, the States have been reluctant to provide detailed information.

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry: Secretary
(Question No. 989)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, upon notice, on 4 December 2002:

- (1) (a) What is the term of the current contract of the Secretary of the department; and (b) when did it commence.
- (2) Has the Commonwealth entered into a previous contract, or contracts, with Mr Taylor as Secretary; if so, can details be provided of the relevant terms.
- (3) Does the current contract contain an entitlement for reunion travel; if so, what is the maximum entitlement per year.
- (4) (a) What are the details of the cost of reunion travel, by year, in the term of the current contract; and (b) can a detailed breakdown of these costs be provided, including: (a) air fares; (b) taxi fares; (c) parking charges; and (d) any other components.
- (5) If different, can a detailed breakdown of all costs incurred in relation to reunion travel since the secretary's appointment on 17 January 2000 be provided.

Senator Ian Macdonald—The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) (a) Five years. (b) 17 January 2000.
- (2) No.
- (3) In accordance with the Prime Minister's Determination made under Section 61 of the Public Service Act 1999, the Secretary is entitled to a maximum allowance of \$6600 per year for reunion travel.
- (4) (a) – (d) The detailed breakdown of reunion travel by year is as follows:

	17 Jan 2000 to 16 Jan 2001	17 Jan 2001 to 16 Jan 2002	17 Jan 2002 to 9 Jan 2003
Airfares	5090.28	3564.84	5789.52
Taxi fares	1320.00	1080.00	562.00
TOTAL	6410.28	4644.84	6351.52

- (5) The breakdown of costs incurred in relation to reunion travel since 17 January 2000 is the same as the table above.

Forestry: Logging
(Question No. 993)

Senator Brown asked the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation, upon notice, on 5 December 2002:

With reference to the answer to the Question on Notice No. 500 (Senate *Hansard*, 23 October 2002, p. 5808):

- (1) Why is the Tasmanian Forest Practices Board (TFPB) data on logging from 1996-2001 'incorrect'.
- (2) What evidence is available that the figures in the question, provided by the TFPB, are incorrect; if no evidence is available, what dispute does the Minister have with the contention in part (2) of the question.
- (3) With reference to part (4) of the answer to question no. 500 what credit does the Government give to the methods which calculate sustainable yield without data on logging rates being provided.
- (4) What was the 5-year cut of Eucalyptus regnans stated in the first Tasmanian 5-year review.

Senator Ian Macdonald—The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

- (1) and (2) In my response of 23 October 2002, I noted the Tasmanian Forest Practices Board Annual Report for 2000-01 does not provide data on how much Eucalyptus regnans has been logged since 1996. As such, I indicated that the proposition behind Senator Brown's question at the time was incorrect.
- (3) As also stated in my response of 23 October 2002, the Commonwealth has accredited the methods used by the Tasmanian Government for calculating sustainable yields of wood products. The first five-yearly review of future sustainable yields from Tasmania's State forests was completed in May 2002 by Forestry Tasmania. As part of the review process, external independent auditors from the Australian National University School of Resources, Environment and Society were commissioned to undertake an audit and concluded, amongst other things, that the data and methodology used in calculating the sustainable yields from Tasmania's forests are suitable and are mostly as good as, or better than, contemporary Australian forest practice.
- (4) The 5-year cut of Eucalyptus regnans was not stated in the first five-year review of future sustainable yields, published in May 2002.

Aviation: Ansett Australia
(Question No. 999)

Senator Sherry asked the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations, upon notice, on 9 December 2002:

- (1) (a) Why has the Government listed a contingent liability of \$104 million relating to the Special Employee Entitlements Scheme for Ansett Group Employees in the 2002-03 Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook; and (b) on what specific future events is this liability contingent.
- (2) (a) What is the amount of the contingent revenue relating to the scheme referred to in the mid-year outlook; and (b) on what specific future events is the revenue contingent.
- (3) Why was the scheme not listed at all as a contingent liability, quantifiable or unquantifiable, in the 2002-03 Budget papers.
- (4) Why has the scheme only become a contingent liability since the 2002-03 Budget.

Senator Alston—The Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) (a) The Department for Employment and Workplace Relations has listed the contingent liability because additional expenses may arise during 2002-03 as a result of a number of outstanding issues in the ongoing administration of the Special Employee Entitlements Scheme for Ansett group employees. The 2002-03 Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook provides the first opportunity to reflect the department's estimate of a contingent liability based on advice relating to the possible outcome of future events in what is a complex corporate insolvency.
- (b) The listing of the contingent liability recognises a potential tax liability associated with the administration of the scheme, the size of which is dependent on outstanding court action and/or other related outcomes or advice. In the event that this contingency is realised, the

Commonwealth will reimburse SEES Pty Ltd for any tax liability it incurs. Hence any such tax liability will be budget neutral and will not be a consideration in the duration of the ticket levy, which is for the sole purpose of enabling specified employee entitlements to be paid.

- (2) (a) Reference to contingent revenue in respect of the Special Employee Entitlements Scheme for Ansett Group Employees recognises that the Commonwealth has rights under the Corporations Act 2001. Its rights include recovery of advances made for the outstanding entitlements of former employees, based on the Commonwealth's priority under the Act, against any re-aliased assets from the winding up of Ansett by the administrators.
- (b) The specific future event(s) is the distribution of monies that may result from the realisation of assets as part of the winding up of Ansett.
- (3) After the 2002-03 Budget there were changes to the estimates of expenses for possible future outcomes relating to the Scheme that gave rise to the need for the contingent liability, which were reported at the first opportunity, being 30 June 2002.
- (4) The Scheme is not of itself a contingent liability.

Trade: Beef Sales to Japan

(Question No. 1006)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, upon notice, on 9 December 2002:

- (1) (a) When did the Minister first become aware of plans by the United States (US) to conduct a consumer marketing campaign to re-build market share for American beef within Japan following the Japanese Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) outbreak of 2001; and (b) how was he advised.
- (2) When did the first advertisements for US beef produce actually appear in the Japanese media.
- (3) Is the Minister aware of the amount of funding, in US dollars, actually expended to date by US beef interests, including the US Government, on the consumer marketing campaign to re-build market share for American beef within Japan following the BSE outbreak in Japan during 2001.
- (4) Is the Minister aware of the planned duration of the consumer marketing campaign to re-build market share for American beef within Japan following the BSE outbreak of 2001.
- (5) What monitoring is the Commonwealth undertaking of the activities of competitors to Australian beef producers to grow or rebuild their market share within the Japanese beef market in the wake of the BSE outbreak of 2001.
- (6) What was the total US market share of the Japanese beef market on a weekly basis for the period 15 September to 15 November 2002, compared with the same period last year.
- (7) What were the results of consumer awareness testing for US beef produce on a weekly basis for the period 15 September to 15 November 2002, compared with the same period last year.
- (8) What were the results of consumer confidence testing into the perception of the safety of US beef produce for the period 15 September to 15 November 2002, compared with the same period last year.
- (9) What were the weekly growth in sales of US beef produce for the period 15 September to 15 November 2002, compared with the same period last year.

Senator Ian Macdonald—The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) (a) The Minister became aware of the United States (US) plans to launch a consumer marketing campaign in Japan, about February or March 2002. (b) Through industry and the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (AFFA) channels.
- (2) AFFA does not have this detail.
- (3) The Minister is aware that the US Meat Export Federation announced in March 2002 that it expected a total of nearly \$US 8.4 million to be available from combined industry and US government sources for the campaign.
- (4) No.
- (5) MLA is responsible for monitoring the promotional activities of competitors.

- (6) MLA has the responsibility for monitoring the changing market share of Australia's competitors in Japan.
- (7) MLA has the responsibility for monitoring activities such as this.
- (8) See answer to part (7).
- (9) MLA has responsibility for monitoring sales by Australia's competitors in Japan.

Trade: Beef Sales to Japan**(Question No. 1007)**

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, upon notice, on 9 December 2002:

- (1) How much funding has the Commonwealth expended to date to re-build market share, via a marketing campaign for Australian beef produce known as 'Aussie Beef', within Japan following the Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) outbreak of 2001.
- (2) In formulating the amount of Commonwealth funding for the Aussie Beef campaign, what analysis was conducted to ensure the sum budgeted for expenditure would be adequate.
- (3) (a) Which advertising agency is conducting the Aussie Beef campaign; (b) how was the advertising agency selected; and (c) when did the campaign planning begin at the advertising agency.
- (4) On what day did the first advertisement for the Aussie Beef campaign appear in the Japanese media.
- (5) Can the media schedule for the Aussie Beef campaign be supplied.
- (6) What are the specific marketing and sales objectives of this marketing campaign.
- (7) Was the Minister required to approve the Aussie Beef campaign concept; if so, when did the Minister: (a) receive the concept; and (b) approve the concept.
- (8) In the event that officers within the department were authorised to approve the Aussie Beef campaign concepts: (a) what were the positions of those officers; and (b) when did they do so.
- (9) How is the effectiveness of the Aussie Beef marketing campaign being monitored.
- (10) (a) How often does the Minister receive a report on the campaign's effectiveness; and (b) how does the Minister receive this.
- (11) (a) How often does the department receive a report on the campaign's effectiveness; and (b) how is this received.
- (12) How often do the Minister and officers from the department meet with the advertising agency to discuss the progress of the Aussie Beef campaign against the stated marketing and sales objectives.
- (13) What records are kept of these discussions.
- (14) What are the results to date of consumer awareness testing for Aussie Beef since the Aussie Beef campaign commenced in the Japanese media, compared with the same period last year.
- (15) What are the results to date of consumer confidence testing of the perception of the safety of Aussie Beef since the Aussie Beef campaign commenced in the Japanese media, compared with the same period in 2001.
- (16) What weekly growth has there been in Aussie Beef sales since the Aussie Beef campaign commenced in the Japanese media, compared with the same period in 2001.
- (17) What have the weekly market share results for Aussie Beef been since the Aussie Beef campaign commenced in the Japanese media, compared with the same period last year.
- (18) When is the Aussie Beef campaign due to finish.
- (19) Is the department preparing to extend the campaign into the next financial year; if not, will this decision be based upon: (a) budgetary restrictions; or (b) the achievement of a stated marketing objective.

Senator Ian Macdonald—The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) The Government has made a grant of \$5 million towards Meat and Livestock Australia Ltd's Aussie Beef marketing campaign in Japan.

- (2) Advice from Meat and Livestock Australia Ltd (MLA) and the Australian Meat Processor Corporation Ltd indicated that a Commonwealth contribution of \$5 million, together with industry monies, would provide sufficient funds for the campaign.
- (3) (a), (b) and (c) The Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (AFFA) does not have this detail. MLA is responsible for managing the campaign including advertising.
- (4) Refer to the answer to part (3).
- (5) Refer to the answer to part (3).
- (6) Refer to the answer to part (3).
- (7) No.
- (8) Officers within AFFA were not required to approve the campaign concepts.
- (9) MLA is responsible for monitoring the effectiveness of the campaign against milestones.
- (10) (a) The Minister will receive a report on the campaign's effectiveness every 6 months from MLA.
(b) The Minister receives the report from MLA.
- (11) Refer to the answer to part (10).
- (12) MLA is responsible for managing the campaign and monitoring its effectiveness.
- (13) Refer to the answer to part (12).
- (14) MLA has the responsibility for monitoring and testing Japanese consumer confidence and awareness.
- (15) Refer to the answer to part (14).
- (16) MLA has the responsibility for monitoring Australian beef sales in Japan on a weekly basis.
- (17) Refer to the answer to part (16).
- (18) MLA advises the actual cessation date for the campaign is flexible, but that it is expected to finish by December 2003.
- (19) MLA has the responsibility for managing the campaign and its time horizon.

South Australia: National Radioactive Waste Repository**(Question No. 1013)**

Senator Allison asked the Minister representing the Minister for Science, upon notice, on 11 December 2002:

Is it the case that a public relations contract is proposed to be let, with a budget of \$300 000, with the aim of persuading South Australians to accept nuclear waste; if so: (a) what is the date by which the contract will be awarded or, if already awarded, to whom has it been let; (b) from which budget is this contract being funded; (c) can a copy of the brief given to the public relations company be provided together with a program of events, publications, etc.; and (d) what are the key messages of the campaign.

Senator Alston—The Minister for Science has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

A public relations contract has been let with an indicative budget of \$220,000. The aim of the contract is to increase knowledge and understanding among people living in South Australia about the rationale behind the Commonwealth Government's decision to build the national repository for Australia's low level radioactive waste at a site in South Australia.

Market research surveys conducted previously confirm support in the community for radioactive waste to be safely and securely managed. The surveys also confirm that people are interested in finding out more information on the Commonwealth proposal for a national radioactive waste repository. When they become better informed about this issue, their understanding and acceptance of the need for facilities such as the national repository increases.

The Government is pursuing a responsible approach to radioactive waste management and the public deserve to hear the facts without the distortions and inaccuracies often contained in information from opponents of the proposal.

- (a) Hill and Knowlton Australia Pty Ltd have been awarded the public relations contract.

- (b) The contract will be funded from the National Radioactive Waste Repository item within the Department of Education, Science and Training, Outcome 3, 2002-03 Annual Administered Appropriation.
- (c) Decisions on releasing documentation relating to a campaign are not taken until the completion of the campaign.
- (d) The proposed key messages of the campaign cover increasing the target audience's knowledge and understanding of the necessity for safely and responsibly managing small amounts of Australian radioactive waste, and the selection of the safest region for a national repository.

Portfolio Agencies: Contracts**(Question No. 1018)**

Senator Lundy asked the Minister representing the Prime Minister, upon notice, on 10 December 2002:

- (1) Can the following information in the form of a spreadsheet be provided, in both hard copy and electronically, for each contract entered into by the Australian National Audit Office, the Office of National Assessments, the Commonwealth Ombudsman and the Australian Public Service Commission which has not been fully performed or was entered into during the 2001-02 financial year, and that is wholly, or in part, information and communications technology-related with a consideration of \$20 000 or more: (a) a unique identifier for the contract, for example contract number; (b) the contractor name and Australian Business Number or Australian Company Number; (c) the domicile of the parent company; (d) the subject matter of the contract, including whether the contract is substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture, with estimated percentages; (e) the starting date of the contract; (f) the term of the contract, expressed as an ending date; (f) the amount of the consideration in Australian dollars; and (g) the amount applicable to the current budget year in Australian dollars; and (h) whether or not there is an industry development requirement and, if so, details of the industry development requirement (in scope and out of scope).
- (2) With reference to any contracts that meet the above criteria, can a full list of sub-contracts valued at over \$5 000 be provided, including: (a) a unique identifier for the contract, for example contract number; (b) the contractor name and Australian Business Number or Australian Company Number; (c) the domicile of the parent company; (d) the subject matter of the contract, including whether the contract is substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture, with estimated percentages; (e) the starting date of the contract; (f) the term of the contract, expressed as an ending date; (f) the amount of the consideration in Australian dollars; and (g) the amount applicable to the current budget year in Australian dollars; and (h) whether or not there is an industry development requirement and, if so, details of the industry development requirement (in scope and out of scope).

Senator Hill—The Prime Minister has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

I am advised that:

- (1) See attached spreadsheet.

There are no sub-contract arrangements in relation to the contracts advised at (1) above.

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9085

Question 1

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(f)	(g)	(h)
			Subject of contract, including whether the contract is substantially hardware, software, services or a mixture with estimate of percentages			Consideration	Amount applic. to current budget year	Whether or not there is an industry development requirement, and if so, details of the industry development requirement
Id		Domicile of Parent Company		Start Date	End Date	(AUS\$) - GST Inclusive	(AUS\$) - GST Inclusive	
Australian National Audit Office								
CMB 070	90East (Asia Pacific) Pty Ltd	USA	IT Security Review Services	03/09/2001	16/11/2001	\$133,025	\$0	No
	ABN 23 080 372 998							
CMB 093	90East (Asia Pacific) Pty Ltd	USA	Implementation of the IT Security Review Recommendations Services	15/05/2002	15/06/2002	\$35,200	\$0	No
	ABN 23 080 372 998							
CMB 76A	Catalyst Interactive Pty Ltd	Australia	E-induction Software	04/10/2001	08/01/2002	\$38,050	\$0	No
	ACN 99 073 839 059 285							
TRIP	Ernst & Young	Australia	Technology Replacement Implementation Project Software	18/04/2000	31/10/2003	\$1,412,500	\$108,000	No
	ABN 75 288 172 749							
CMB 076	OATC Pty Ltd (trading as DPM)	Australia	PASG Balanced Scorecard Software	02/10/2001	15/11/2001	\$39,600	\$0	No
	ABN 55 054 161 457							
CMB 077	OATC Pty Ltd (trading as DPM)	Australia	ARMS Template Wizard Development Software	02/10/2001	15/11/2001	\$36,300	\$0	No
	ABN 55 054 161 458							
CMB 002	Unisys Australia Limited	USA	Provision of Specified Information Technology Support Services	01/01/2000	30/06/2003	\$4,620,000	\$1,320,000	No
	ABN 90 000 002 088							
CMB 071	Unisys Australia Limited	USA	Server and Storage Upgrade	10/09/2001	30/06/2002	\$680,077	\$0	No
	ABN 90 000 002 089		70% Hardware and 30% Services					
CMB 073	Unisys Australia Limited	USA	Upgrade of SOE to WIN 2000, Office 20 Services	17/09/2001	30/06/2002	\$162,503	\$0	No
	ABN 90 000 002 090							

9086

SENATE

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(f)	(g)	(h)
		Domicile of Parent Company	Subject of contract, including whether the contract is substantially hardware, software, services or a mixture with estimate of percentages			Amount applic. to current		
Id Name and ABN or ACN								
2002-042	Praxia Ltd	USA	Rental of Hardware	Oct 2001	Nov 2004	\$278,660	\$93,360	No
	ABN 84 072 958 911							
2002-032	Exceed Systems Integration	Australia	Develop and implement a Microsoft Windows 2000 server and desktop environment Services	Sept 2001	Dec 2001	\$132,000	\$0	No
	ACN 008647461							
	ABN 29 008 647 461							
Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman								
C2000/2	Data#3 Limited	Australia	Facilities Management Support Services	07/08/2000	06/08/2003	\$305,600	\$112,200	No
	ABN 31010500642							
NSLF0067	IBM Global Financing Aust Ltd	Australia	Lease of Personal Computers and Printers Hardware	23/10/2000	15/10/2004	\$375,100	\$135,345	No
	ABN 27002955571							
C2001/6	The Distillery Pty Ltd	Australia	Software Licensing and Support, and provision of IT Services	01/12/2000	01/04/2004	\$460,900	\$48,180	No
	ABN 69080932467		80% Software and 20% Services					
C2001/13	NEC Business Solutions Ltd	Australia	PABX upgrade and IP trunking for Canberra/Melbourne/Sydney	05/12/2001	05/05/2002	\$137,353	\$27,471	No
	ABN 14004803490		85% Hardware and 15% Services					
1641-AX-B/1	Sun Microsystems Australia Pty Ltd	Australia	Sun Server Maintenance Services	01/10/2001	30/09/2002	\$26,474	\$6,618	No
	ABN 8700314537							

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9087

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(f)	(g)	(h)
		Domicile of Parent Company	Subject of contract, including whether the contract is substantially hardware, software, services or a mixture with estimate of percentages			Consideration (AUS\$) - GST Inclusive	Amount applic. to current budget year	Whether or not there is an industry development requirement, and if so, details of the industry development requirement
Australian Public Service Commission								
IP1/2000	Ipex ITG	Australia	Outsourced provider of IT services - Equal combination - hardware, software and services	26/06/2000	25/06/2005	\$6,000,000	965,800	There is an industry development requirement. It is extensively detailed in an industry development plan. The plan requires the contractor to implement in-scope and out of scope commitments.
	ACN 007 433 623							
SG1/2001	SGE Pty Ltd	Australia	Provision of a secure Internet Gateway, Web browsing, domain name, e-mail and file transfer and support services	01/04/2001	31/03/2003	250,000	\$79,000	No
	ABN 88 090 389 745		60% Services, 20% Hardware and 20% Software					
PX1/2001	Praxia Pty Ltd	USA	Applications development and support for APS Employment Database	02/02/2001	19/11/2003	\$28,000	\$6,000	Yes - by specific reference to the endorsed supplier arrangement
	ACN 006 126 496		Services. 50% Software and 50% Services					
DPI/2001	DPM Consulting (OATC Pty Ltd)	Australia	Customisations and support for APSC's course booking system	17/01/2001	12/09/2002	\$30,000	\$30,000	Yes- by specific reference to the endorsed supplier arrangement
	ABN 55 054 161 456		70% Software and 30% Services					
AD1/2002	Adacel Pty Ltd	Australia	Development and support for Commission finance system Services	01/01/2002	31/12/2003	\$15,600	\$15,600	Yes- by specific reference to the endorsed supplier arrangement
	ACN 079 672 281							
UN1/97	Unisys Australia Pty Ltd	USA	Bureau service for Commission finance system Services	30/10/1997	31/12/2003	\$250,000	\$60,000	No but head contract for a shared systems solution was set up by the former OGIT.
	ABN 900 002 086							

Family and Community Services: Contracts
(Question No. 1020)

Senator Lundy asked the Minister for Family and Community Services, upon notice, on 11 December 2002:

- (1) Can the following information in the form of a spreadsheet be provided, in both hard copy and electronically, for each contract entered into by agencies within the department which has not been fully performed or was entered into during the 2001-02 financial year, and that is wholly, or in part, information and communications technology-related with a consideration of \$20 000 or more: (a) a unique identifier for the contract, for example contract number; (b) the contractor name and Australian Business Number or Australian Company Number; (c) the domicile of the parent company; (d) the subject matter of the contract, including whether the contract is substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture, with estimated percentages; (e) the starting date of the contract; (f) the term of the contract, expressed as an ending date; (f) the amount of the consideration in Australian dollars; and (g) the amount applicable to the current budget year in Australian dollars; and (h) whether or not there is an industry development requirement and, if so, details of the industry development requirement (in scope and out of scope).
- (2) With reference to any contracts that meet the above criteria, can a full list of sub-contracts valued at over \$5 000 be provided, including: (a) a unique identifier for the contract, for example contract number; (b) the contractor name and Australian Business Number or Australian Company Number; (c) the domicile of the parent company; (d) the subject matter of the contract, including whether the contract is substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture, with estimated percentages; (e) the starting date of the contract; (f) the term of the contract, expressed as an ending date; (f) the amount of the consideration in Australian dollars; and (g) the amount applicable to the current budget year in Australian dollars; and (h) whether or not there is an industry development requirement and, if so, details of the industry development requirement (in scope and out of scope).

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

- (1) The following tables set out the information and communications technology-related contracts for the Department of Family and Community Services, Centrelink, the Child Support Agency and the Social Security Appeals Tribunal.
- (2) The Child Support Agency and the Social Security Appeals Tribunal do not have any sub-contracts. The Department of Family and Community Services and Centrelink do not collect information on sub-contracts.

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9089

Department of Family and Community Services

1(c) Domicile of parent company - information not collected

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
45018542	CSI Holdings Pty Ltd trading as CITEC	73220934		Provision of SAP R/3 Bureau Services and related network services	0	0	0	100	16/4/99	15/4/04	5,000,000	912,000	No
–	SAP	003682594		Identify business requirements and issues in regards to the upgrade of departments SAPR/3 system	0	0	100	0	1/9/01	1/11/01	25,355	0	No
FaCS-IS-1007	Softlaw Corporation Limited	67008651223		Development and Maintenance of IIS for Decision Makers	0	9	91	0	20/9/01	30/6/02	220,000	0	No
–	AAPT	22052082416		Telephony service carrier	20	0	80	0	1/4/00	30/4/03	1,980,000	495,000	No
–	Telstra	33051775556		Telephony equipment/rental	90	0	10	0	31/12/00	31/12/03	2,340,000	780,000	No
–	Mercer Communications	32078246741		Voice Communication Services and National Switchboard Services	0	0	100	0	1/1/99	ongoing	861,000	231,000	No
FaCS/IS/1206	CAVAL Collaborative	5498251		Information audit	0	0	100	0	9/5/02	5/8/02	51,480	14,461	No
0156	Amor	90 083 909 317		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	17/6/02	17/12/02	80,080	74,391	No
0005-V5	Candle	43 002 724 334		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/01	31/12/01	74,360	0	No
0016	Candle	43 002 724 334		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	21/7/01	19/10/01	40,656	0	No
0074	Candle	43 002 724 334		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/9/01	28/6/02	50,688	0	No
0016-V1	Candle	43 002 724 334		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	20/10/01	18/10/02	178,464	54,080	No
0027-V5	Candle	43 002 724 334		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	3/11/01	31/10/02	90,376	30,708	No
0005-V6	Candle	43 002 724 334		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/1/02	28/6/02	74,360	0	No
0005-V7	Candle	43 002 724 334		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	31/12/02	74,360	74,360	No
0137	Candle	43 002 724 334		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	31/12/02	45,760	45,513	No
0088-V1	CCS	51 094 789 910		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/01	31/12/01	37,969	0	No
0088-V2	CCS	51 094 789 910		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/1/02	28/6/02	37,969	0	No
0152	CCS	51 094 789 910		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	8/5/02	8/8/02	48,048	20,368	No
0152-V1	CCS	51 094 789 910		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	8/5/02	27/9/02	25,872	16,216	No

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry develop- ment require- ment
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hardware (%)	Soft- ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
0088-V3	CCS	51 094 789 910		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	31/12/02	37,969	37,764	No
0112	Compas	90 008 615 745		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	3/9/01	28/1/02	20,372	0	No
0115	Compas	90 008 615 745		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	10/9/01	7/12/01	34,320	0	No
0115-V1	Compas	90 008 615 745		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	8/12/01	8/3/02	34,320	0	No
0112-V1	Compas	90 008 615 745		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/1/02	30/6/02	28,160	0	No
0115-V2	Compas	90 008 615 745		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	9/3/02	28/6/02	42,240	0	No
0115-V3	Compas	90 008 615 745		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	31/12/02	68,640	68,269	No
0012-V6	CPIC	68 065 560 661		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/01	31/12/01	71,386	0	No
0059	CPIC	68 065 560 661		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/01	31/12/01	72,072	0	No
0012-V7	CPIC	68 065 560 661		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/1/02	28/6/02	71,386	0	No
0126	CPIC	68 065 560 661		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	7/1/02	28/6/02	91,520	0	No
0012-V8	CPIC	68 065 560 661		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	30/9/02	38,438	38,438	No
0098	CPT Global	16 083 090 895		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/01	28/9/01	52,624	0	No
0021-V1	Frontier IT	77 087 743 879		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	26/1/01	27/7/01	41,756	0	No
0047	Frontier IT	77 087 743 879		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	12/6/01	28/9/01	31,680	0	No
0021-V2	Frontier IT	77 087 743 879		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	31/12/01	51,480	0	No
0047-V1	Frontier IT	77 087 743 879		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/9/01	28/6/02	77,220	0	No
0119	Frontier IT	77 087 743 879		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	10/10/01	11/1/02	61,776	0	No
0082-V2	Frontier IT	77 087 743 879		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/1/02	28/6/02	68,640	0	No
0021-V3	Frontier IT	77 087 743 879		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/1/02	28/6/02	53,768	0	No
0119-V1	Frontier IT	77 087 743 879		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	21/1/02	15/3/02	29,920	0	No
0142	Frontier IT	77 087 743 879		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	4/3/02	28/6/02	37,400	0	No
0119-V2	Frontier IT	77 087 743 879		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	16/3/02	30/4/02	26,180	0	No
0082-V3	Frontier IT	77 087 743 879		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	31/12/02	68,640	68,640	No
0047-V2	Frontier IT	77 087 743 879		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	31/12/02	54,912	54,615	No
0021-V4	Frontier IT	77 087 743 879		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	30/4/03	90,992	90,992	No
0082-V1	Frontier IT	77 087 743 879		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/02	31/12/01	57,200	0	No

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9091

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
0144	Green & Gold	82 003 982 072		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	13/3/02	14/6/02	39,600	0	No
0144-V1	Green & Gold	82 003 982 072		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	15/6/02	30/9/02	49,500	42,561	No
0122	ICON	14 007 145 637		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	6/11/01	8/2/02	49,280	0	No
0133	Icon	14 007 145 637		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	18/2/02	9/8/02	82,368	19,155	No
0064-V1	Icon	14 007 145 637		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	11/11/00	10/8/01	90,484	0	No
0064-V2	Icon	14 007 145 637		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	11/8/01	31/7/02	145,860	12,773	No
0149	Icon	14 007 145 637		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	22/4/02	31/7/02	52,140	16,163	No
0031-V1	Locore	85 080 156 921		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	30/12/00	28/12/01	196,768	0	No
0076	Locore	85 080 156 921		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	5/3/01	29/6/01	23,943	0	No
0071-V1	Locore	85 080 156 921		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	9/6/01	28/6/02	205,700	0	No
0076-V1	Locore	85 080 156 921		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/01	31/12/01	40,040	0	No
0020-V5	Locore	85 080 156 921		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/01	28/9/01	39,926	0	No
0009-V5	Locore	85 080 156 921		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	28/6/02	116,688	0	No
0008-V5	Locore	85 080 156 921		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	31/12/01	65,208	0	No
0020-V6	Locore	85 080 156 921		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/9/01	31/12/01	42,997	0	No
0127	Locore	85 080 156 921		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/11/01	28/2/02	43,560	0	No
0031-V2	Locore	85 080 156 921		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/12/01	28/6/02	98,384	0	No
0076-V2	Locore	85 080 156 921		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/1/02	28/6/02	40,040	0	No
0008-V6	Locore	85 080 156 921		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/1/02	28/6/02	65,208	0	No
0020-V8	Locore	85 080 156 921		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/2/02	28/6/02	67,452	0	No
0127-V1	Locore	85 080 156 921		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/3/02	30/9/02	112,200	48,462	No
0076-V3	Locore	85 080 156 921		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	31/12/02	40,040	40,040	No
0009-V6	Locore	85 080 156 921		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	31/12/02	58,344	58,344	No
0008-V7	Locore	85 080 156 921		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	31/12/02	65,208	65,208	No
0071-V2	Locore	85 080 156 921		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	30/4/03	170,368	170,368	No
0020-V9	Locore	85 080 156 921		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	31/12/02	83,512	83,512	No
0031-V3	Locore	85 080 156 921		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	30/6/03	196,768	196,230	No

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry develop- ment require- ment
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hardware (%)	Soft- ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
0140	IT Matters	79 091 027 904		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	4/3/02	6/6/02	64,636	0	No
0139	IT Matters	79 091 027 904		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	7/3/02	6/6/02	31,680	0	No
0155	IT Matters	79 091 027 904		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	13/5/02	13/8/02	45,760	21,885	No
0154	IT Matters	79 091 027 904		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	13/5/02	13/8/02	49,478	23,663	No
0140-V1	IT Matters	79 091 027 904		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	7/6/02	6/9/02	69,608	52,015	No
0106-V1	Kellaway	57 008 643 963		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	2/7/01	31/12/01	83,512	0	No
0106-V2	Kellaway	57 008 643 963		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/1/02	28/6/02	83,512	0	No
0106-V3	Kellaway	57 008 643 963		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	31/12/02	86,724	86,724	No
0055-V2	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	26/1/01	27/7/01	77,792	0	No
0025-V3	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	27/2/01	2/11/01	134,640	0	No
0052-V2	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/4/01	31/12/01	78,824	0	No
0083	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/5/01	31/7/01	41,756	0	No
0107-V1	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/01	28/6/02	194,480	0	No
0054-V1	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/01	28/6/02	212,784	0	No
0025-V5	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/01	28/9/01	53,196	0	No
0011-V5	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/01	31/12/01	94,952	0	No
0095	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/01	28/9/01	58,080	0	No
0055-V3	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	28/7/01	28/1/02	80,515	0	No
0066	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	28/7/01	28/1/02	41,447	0	No
0101	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	30/7/01	31/10/01	35,464	0	No
0096	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/8/01	31/10/01	44,550	0	No
0083-V1	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/8/01	28/1/02	84,348	0	No
0109	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	20/8/01	31/12/01	37,620	0	No
0110	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	3/9/01	30/11/01	30,096	0	No
0114	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	4/9/01	30/11/01	25,740	0	No
0025-V6	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/9/01	31/12/01	54,340	0	No
0101	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	30/10/01	31/1/01	35,464	0	No

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9093

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry develop- ment require- ment
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hardware (%)	Soft- ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
0096-V3	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/11/01	31/1/01	36,608	0	No
0026-V4	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	5/11/01	31/1/02	42,900	0	No
0124	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	19/11/01	15/2/02	40,040	0	No
0110-V1	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/12/01	28/2/02	32,604	0	No
0117	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	22/12/01	28/6/02	33,264	0	No
0114-V2	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/1/02	28/2/02	20,592	0	No
0052-V3	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/1/02	29/3/02	22,771	0	No
0025-V7	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/1/02	29/3/02	50,336	0	No
0011-V6	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/1/02	28/6/02	102,388	0	No
0109-V1	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/1/02	28/6/02	53,768	0	No
0103	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	2/1/02	29/3/02	44,880	0	No
0083-V2	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/1/02	30/4/02	40,612	0	No
0055-V4	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/1/02	30/6/02	80,515	0	No
0066-V1	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/1/02	30/6/02	41,447	0	No
0096-V4	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/2/02	30/4/02	36,608	0	No
0101-V1	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/2/02	28/6/02	82,478	0	No
0027-V5	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/2/02	28/6/02	85,800	0	No
0134	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	11/2/02	31/5/02	25,344	0	No
0124-V1	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	16/2/02	16/5/02	40,590	0	No
0132	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	18/2/02	28/6/02	67,760	0	No
0135	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	25/2/02	31/5/02	34,320	0	No
0114-V3	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/3/02	31/7/02	50,336	10,266	No
0110-V2	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/3/02	28/6/02	44,132	0	No
0143	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	13/3/02	12/6/02	36,960	0	No
0148	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	25/3/02	28/6/02	22,176	0	No
0052-V4	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	30/3/02	30/9/02	43,186	21,593	No
0025-V8	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	30/3/02	28/6/02	50,336	0	No

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry develop- ment require- ment
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hardware (%)	Soft- ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
0147	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	2/4/02	28/6/02	45,650	0	No
0096-V5	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/5/02	31/10/02	76,032	51,103	No
0083-V3	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/5/02	31/10/02	124,960	83,990	No
0124-V2	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	17/5/02	14/2/03	128,700	107,957	No
0153	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	20/5/02	16/8/02	47,762	25,509	No
0143-V1	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	13/6/02	12/9/02	43,120	35,065	No
0132-V1	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	28/2/03	121,968	121,468	No
0101-V2	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	31/3/03	126,720	126,720	No
0107-V2	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	30/9/02	52,360	51,797	No
0054-V2	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	30/4/03	180,048	180,048	No
0011-V7	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	31/12/02	102,388	102,388	No
0117-V3	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	31/12/02	32,032	31,859	No
0147-V1	Mastech	20 080 574 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	30/9/02	47,476	46,966	No
0120	Minifie Pty Ltd	35 080 315 019		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	22/10/01	19/4/02	102,960	0	No
0120-V1	Minifie Pty Ltd	35 080 315 019		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	20/4/02	31/5/02	23,760	0	No
0145	Omaha IT	50 050 494 196		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	19/3/02	18/3/03	156,728	112,379	No
0105-V1	Patacat	74 008 581 600		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	2/7/01	31/12/01	90,376	0	No
0105-V2	Patacat	74 008 581 600		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/1/02	28/6/02	90,376	0	No
0130	Patacat	74 008 581 600		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	14/1/02	12/4/02	43,296	0	No
0105-V3	Patacat	74 008 581 600		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	31/12/02	90,376	90,376	No
0087-V1	Paxus	35 004 609 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/01	31/12/01	35,464	0	No
0089-V1	Paxus	35 004 609 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/01	31/12/01	77,792	0	No
0079-V1	Paxus	35 004 609 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/01	31/12/01	64,064	0	No
0053	Paxus	35 004 609 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/01	31/12/01	91,520	0	No
0039-V3	Paxus	35 004 609 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	28/9/01	20,878	0	No
0104	Paxus	35 004 609 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	2/7/01	31/12/01	88,088	0	No
0118-V3	Paxus	35 004 609 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/8/01	31/12/02	43,560	15,503	No

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9095

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
0113	Paxus	35 004 609 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	4/9/01	30/11/01	35,376	0	No
0116	Paxus	35 004 609 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	26/9/01	31/5/02	145,728	0	No
0039-V4	Paxus	35 004 609 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/9/01	28/6/02	67,782	0	No
0113-V1	Paxus	35 004 609 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/12/01	28/2/02	23,584	0	No
0087-V2	Paxus	35 004 609 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/1/02	28/6/02	38,896	0	No
0089-V2	Paxus	35 004 609 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/1/02	28/6/02	77,792	0	No
0079-V2	Paxus	35 004 609 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/1/02	28/6/02	69,784	0	No
0104-V1	Paxus	35 004 609 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/1/02	28/6/02	88,088	0	No
0118	Paxus	35 004 609 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	4/2/02	31/5/02	33,660	0	No
0131	Paxus	35 004 609 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	4/2/02	30/4/02	23,760	0	No
0116-V1	Paxus	35 004 609 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/6/02	30/8/02	52,624	35,667	No
0087-V3	Paxus	35 004 609 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	31/12/02	38,896	38,686	No
0039-V5	Paxus	35 004 609 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	31/12/02	45,188	45,188	No
0089-V3	Paxus	35 004 609 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	31/12/02	80,080	80,080	No
0079-V3	Paxus	35 004 609 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	30/4/03	118,096	118,096	No
0104-V2	Paxus	35 004 609 616		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	31/12/02	88,088	88,088	No
0080	Software Impro	85 008 655 418		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	22/3/01	31/7/01	64,064	0	No
0102-V2	Southern Cross	71 008 626 131		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	2/7/01	28/9/01	48,048	0	No
0102-V3	Southern Cross	71 008 626 131		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/9/01	29/3/02	96,096	0	No
0032-V1	Southern Cross	71 008 626 131		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/12/01	30/11/02	169,312	71,167	No
0141	Southern Cross	71 008 626 131		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	11/3/02	28/6/02	29,568	0	No
0102-V4	Southern Cross	71 008 626 131		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	30/3/02	30/9/02	96,096	48,048	No
0022-V5	Spherion	35 005 705 546		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/1/01	28/6/02	80,080	0	No
0018-V4	Spherion	35 005 705 546		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/1/01	28/6/02	84,656	0	No
0035-V2	Spherion	35 005 705 546		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	6/1/01	27/7/01	89,232	0	No
0022-V3	Spherion	35 005 705 546		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	13/1/01	13/7/01	80,808	0	No
0018-V3	Spherion	35 005 705 546		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/01	31/12/01	82,940	0	No

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry develop- ment require- ment
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hardware (%)	Soft- ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
0078	Spherion	35 005 705 546		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/01	28/6/02	173,888	0	No
0090	Spherion	35 005 705 546		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/01	31/8/01	22,402	0	No
0022-V4	Spherion	35 005 705 546		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	14/7/01	31/12/01	73,920	0	No
0035-V3	Spherion	35 005 705 546		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	30/7/01	28/12/01	83,054	0	No
0121	Spherion	35 005 705 546		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	12/11/01	10/5/02	57,200	0	No
0035-V4	Spherion	35 005 705 546		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/12/01	28/6/02	91,520	0	No
0136	Spherion	35 005 705 546		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	18/2/02	14/6/02	56,003	0	No
0146	Spherion	35 005 705 546		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	19/3/02	18/6/02	40,040	0	No
0121-V2	Spherion	35 005 705 546		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	31/12/02	62,920	62,580	No
0022-V6	Spherion	35 005 705 546		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	31/12/02	80,080	80,080	No
0018-V5	Spherion	35 005 705 546		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	30/4/03	143,264	143,264	No
0035-V5	Spherion	35 005 705 546		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	31/12/02	91,520	91,520	No
0078-V1	Spherion	35 005 705 546		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	30/6/03	173,888	173,413	No
0036-V6	Stratagem	82 008 603 996		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	30/12/00	28/12/01	224,224	0	No
0043	Stratagem	82 008 603 996		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	31/3/01	31/7/01	78,320	0	No
0063-V2	Stratagem	82 008 603 996		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/01	31/12/01	50,107	0	No
0019-V3	Stratagem	82 008 603 996		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/01	31/12/01	74,360	0	No
0057	Stratagem	82 008 603 996		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/01	31/12/01	70,928	0	No
0099	Stratagem	82 008 603 996		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	16/7/01	31/10/01	31,680	0	No
0043-V1	Stratagem	82 008 603 996		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/8/01	28/1/02	124,080	0	No
0072	Stratagem	82 008 603 996		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/8/01	31/1/02	48,048	0	No
0099-V1	Stratagem	82 008 603 996		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/11/01	28/6/02	74,448	0	No
0036-V7	Stratagem	82 008 603 996		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/12/01	31/12/02	247,104	123,889	No
0063-V3	Stratagem	82 008 603 996		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/1/02	28/6/02	51,480	0	No
0019-V5	Stratagem	82 008 603 996		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/2/02	28/6/02	74,360	0	No
0063-V4	Stratagem	82 008 603 996		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	31/12/02	51,480	51,480	No
0019-V6	Stratagem	82 008 603 996		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	31/12/02	74,360	74,360	No

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9097

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
0111	Testright	16 078 929 521		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	11/9/01	15/3/02	100,672	0	No
0111	TestRight	16 078 929 521		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	11/9/01	15/3/02	100,672	0	No
0111-V1	Testright	16 078 929 521		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	16/3/02	28/6/02	58,080	0	No
0111-V1	TestRight	16 078 929 521		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	16/3/02	28/6/02	58,080	0	No
0070	Wizard	47 008 617 561		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	2/1/01	28/9/01	123,728	0	No
0063-V2	Wizard	47 008 617 561		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	2/6/01	31/5/02	205,920	0	No
0086-V1	Wizard	47 008 617 561		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/01	31/12/01	77,792	0	No
0050-V3	Wizard	47 008 617 561		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/01	31/12/01	77,792	0	No
0070-V1	Wizard	47 008 617 561		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/9/01	29/3/02	84,656	0	No
0128	Wizard	47 008 617 561		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	10/12/01	8/3/02	41,184	0	No
0086-V2	Wizard	47 008 617 561		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/1/02	28/6/02	77,792	0	No
0050-V4	Wizard	47 008 617 561		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	1/1/02	28/6/02	77,792	0	No
0128-V1	Wizard	47 008 617 561		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	9/3/02	28/6/02	50,688	0	No
0128-V2	Wizard	47 008 617 561		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	31/12/02	82,368	82,368	No
0086-V3	Wizard	47 008 617 561		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	31/12/02	77,792	77,792	No
0050-V5	Wizard	47 008 617 561		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	31/12/02	77,792	77,792	No
0063-V4	Wizard	47 008 617 561		IT Contractor Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	31/12/02	85,800	85,800	No
SGE	90 East	090 389 745		Purchase & maintenance of Internet Services and Secure Gateway Environment (FaCS)	0	0	100	0	1/6/01	31/5/02	673,024	210,620	No
IT1056	Acumen	67 094 078 396		IT Outsourcing consultancy	0	0	100	0	7/5/01	30/6/03	498,000	338,706	No
IS1235	Aquion	57 094 985 136		WRQ Reflection Emulator licences & maint	0	100	0	0	27/2/02	26/2/03	93,470	93,470	No
IS0714	BDW	75 304 286 095		Legal Services for IT Outsourcing	0	0	100	0	10/5/01	10/5/03	232,393	71,950	No
IS1259	brio	33 075 333 596		Purchase & Maintenance of Brio Software	0	100	0	0	30/3/02	30/3/03	127,278	52,800	No
IS1095	CES Computers	82 008 626 239		Desktop PC Replacement	100	0	0	0	19/11/01	18/11/04	1,732,195	0	No
IS1233	Citadel	062 896 048		alignment of maint for Webtrends Swr	0	100	0	0	11/2/02	11/2/04	26,006	22,154	No
SR0955	Citadel	062 896 048		support agreement	0	100	0	0	24/2/00	11/2/02	71,000	0	No
IS0688	Com Tech	38 082 932 607		Cisco maintenance 8x5x4 - FaCS	100	0	0	0	1/7/00	30/6/02	153,747	0	No

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hardware (%)	Software (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
IS0689	Com Tech	38 082 932 607		Cisco maintenance 24x7x4 - FaCS	100	0	0	0	1/7/00	30/6/02	147,476	0	No
IS0731	Com Tech	38 082 932 607		Cisco maintenance 24x7x4 - SSAT	100	0	0	0	1/11/00	30/6/02	95,885	0	No
IS0954	Com Tech	38 082 932 607		Cisco maintenance NBD/PO - FaCS	100	0	0	0	1/7/01	30/6/02	119,941	0	No
IS1435	Commonwealth Bank/Computer Fleet	48 123 123 124		Lease of Dell Desktop PC & portables equipment	100	0	0	0	12/3/02	ongoing	0	0	No
IS0890	Corrs Chambers Westgarth	89 690 832 091		Consultancy Services	0	0	100	0	1/5/01	30/6/02	33,160	0	No
IS1280	CPT Global	16 083 090 895		Capacity Management system - Design & implement	0	0	100	0	18/2/02	30/8/02	471,638	0	No
IS1282	Dataflex	95 008 623 489		Replacement of portable computers	100	0	0	0	13/5/02	13/5/05	313,016	313,016	No
IS0867	Deakin Consulting	88 060 991 157		STANDING ORDER -Project Management Unit - Design & implementation	0	0	100	0	8/6/01	8/6/02	423,581	0	No
IS1394	Deakin KM	88 060 991 157		Quickplace & Sametime feasibility report	0	0	100	0	29/5/02	30/6/02	22,000	22,000	No
IS1188	Dell	46 003 855 561		Purchase of Desktop PC equipment	100	0	0	0	20/12/01	28/2/05	363,009	291,368	No
	Dell	46 003 855 561		Lease of Desktop PC equipment	100	0	0	0	20/12/01	28/2/05	3,154,040	61,391	No
IS1234	Dimension Data	65 003 371 239		Implementation of Intrusion Detection Solution	0	0	0	100	22/2/02	cont	458,656	0	No
IS1289	Gartner	69003708601		Client Advisory Services	0	0	100	0	1/3/02	1/3/04	234,530	155,354	No
RM6	Gartner	69003708601		consultancy services	0	0	100	0	1/7/00	1/3/02	90,603	0	No
IS0953	Hewlett Packard	004 394 763		Maintenance of Server Equipment	100	0	0	0	1/8/01	31/7/02	111,075	9,241	No
IS0993	Hewlett Packard	004 394 763		Priority Plus maintenance - HP (SSAT)	100	0	0	0	1/11/01	1/11/02	74,829	31,178	No
RM2	Hewlett Packard	004 394 763		Priority Plus maintenance - HP	100	0	0	0	1/8/99	30/7/01	65,000	0	No
IS0686	IBM	79 000 024 733		Purchase of IBM Supported software & Consultancy service (Brio)	0	100	0	0	10/12/00	10/12/01	380,129	0	No
IS0872	IBM	79 000 024 733		Priority Service Program	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	30/6/02	183,999	0	No
IS0719	Info Mgmt Solutions	73 951 894 344		Records management contract services	0	0	100	0	20/4/01	20/4/03	84,480	68,730	No
IS0629	Mapinfo / ERSIS	59 010 624 325		Purchase & maintenance of Mapinfo software	0	100	0	0	1/11/00	31/3/03	611,969	34,746	No

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9099

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
Marin Research	Marin Research	N/A		Project Gateway	0	100	0	0	22/6/98	24/9/02	53,793	13,448	No
IS0687	Meta Group	095 412 221		Client Advisory Services	0	0	100	0	1/2/01	1/2/02	189,000	0	No
IS1283	Meta Group	095 412 221		Client Advisory Services	0	0	100	0	1/6/02	1/6/04	270,600	112,933	No
MS/EA	Microsoft through Aspect	005 083 870		Microsoft enterprise agreement FaCS & SSAT	0	100	0	0	1/10/99	30/6/02	2,694,585	0	No
ORACLE	ORACLE	80003074468		Oracle software purchase & maintenance	0	100	0	0	1/10/99	ongoing	450,015	85,238	No
IS1380	Preemptive	66722629		Preemptive Mail Swr & Maint	0	100	0	0	24/6/02	ongoing	53,300	53,300	No
IS0375	Presence Online	072 468 449		Aprix Software	0	100	0	0	20/1/00	23/9/02	40,000	3,333	No
RAC022-08-order 0753	PriceWaterhouse Coopers	86 090 608 361		2000 SOE review	0	0	100	0	15/10/01	15/10/02	33,000	0	No
SAS 27569	SAS institute	13002287247		Purchase & maintenance of SAS NT server licencing	0	100	0	0	31/7/01	30/7/03	172,948	172,948	No
IS0649	Software AG	090 139 503		Adabas	0	100	0	0	18/12/00	4/12/01	48,926	0	No
SunAK00008890	Sun	87003145337		Data Warehouse - hardware 24x7x4 and TARDIS hardware 24x7x4	100	0	0	0	1/7/98	ongoing	146,573	17,333	No
Symantec	Symantec	43003967333		symantec software & maintenance	0	100	0	0	12/5/00	ongoing	162,106	64,318	No
TransACT	TransACT	069 381 960		Telecommunications lease - TOP to Homeworld	0	0	100	0	20/4/99	ongoing	413,623	35,525	No
IS1225	TSA	16 006 712 296		Infoseek Licensing	0	100	0	0	1/2/02	30/6/04	26,493	16,967	No
IS1361	TSA	16 006 712 296		Klarity Trial	0	0	100	0	1/5/02	31/12/02	44,920	28,075	No
Lotus	Wizard	055 976 335		Purchase & maintenance of Lotus Components licences	0	100	0	0	1/7/99	30/6/02	726,785	0	No

Centrelink

1(c) Domicile of parent company - this information is not captured by Centrelink's contract register

1(g) The amount applicable to the current budget year in \$A - for I&T contracts this information is not captured by Centrelink's contract register

1(h) Industry development requirement - for I&T contracts this information is not captured by Centrelink's contract register

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services of a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry develop- ment require- ment
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard- ware (%)	Soft- ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
CONS02/0062	JRC International Pty Ltd	41-003-365-099		Barcode Scanners	100	0	0	0	18/4/02	30/5/02	25,219		
EXTS01/0016	Achieving Results Pty Ltd	39-072-829-924		Preparation and Facilitator Services for a 2 day workshop at Carrington, Bungendore NSW	0	0	100	0	5/7/01	6/7/01	20,000		
EXTS02/0150	STRATEGEM	82-008-603-996		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	4/2/02	4/8/02	85,800		
EXTS02/0151	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	6/5/02	5/11/02	84,656		
EXTS02/0153	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	22/5/02	20/11/02	78,936		
EXTS02/0156	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	6/5/02	3/11/02	85,228		
EXTS02/0157	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	3/3/02	3/9/02	82,368		
EXTS02/0159	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	22/1/02	22/7/02	85,800		
EXTS02/0160	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	28/1/02	28/7/02	92,664		
EXTS02/0161	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	27/12/01	26/6/02	92,664		
EXTS02/0168	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	27/2/02	26/8/02	80,652		

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9101

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hardware (%)	Software (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/0173	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	8/5/02	29/11/02	99,000		
EXTS02/0180	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	7/1/02	7/7/02	80,000		
EXTS02/0184	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	2/2/02	2/8/02	40,000		
EXTS02/0185	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	7/1/02	7/7/02	80,080		
EXTS02/0186	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	21/2/01	21/8/01	75,000		
EXTS02/0188	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	6/5/02	9/8/02	50,622		
EXTS02/0189	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	15/5/02	14/11/02	80,080		
EXTS02/0191	OOSW CONSULTING	71-069-645-521		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	21/1/02	21/7/02	80,080		
EXTS02/0192	SOUTHERN CROSS COMPUTING	71-008-626-131		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	4/3/02	3/9/02	91,520		
EXTS02/0193	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	17/5/02	15/11/02	76,648		
EXTS02/0197	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	14/1/02	14/7/02	85,800		
EXTS02/0198	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	14/5/02	13/11/02	84,656		
EXTS02/0200	Icon Recruitment Pty Ltd	14-007-145-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/3/02	30/8/02	90,948		
EXTS02/0201	EKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	4/2/02	4/8/02	78,936		
EXTS02/0204	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	7/1/02	7/7/02	90,480		
EXTS02/0208	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	16/2/02	16/8/02	86,944		

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/0216	KELLAWAY	57-008-643-963		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/4/02	30/9/02	74,360		
EXTS02/0217	Icon Recruitment Pty Ltd	14-007-145-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/3/02	29/8/02	43,472		
EXTS02/0219	OMAHA IT SERVICES	50-050-494-196		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	8/4/02	7/10/02	89,232		
EXTS02/0220	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	17/5/02	16/11/02	75,504		
EXTS02/0222	DIVERSITI	54-003-366-783		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	13/8/01	13/8/02	76,000		
EXTS02/0223	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/6/02	30/11/02	65,208		
EXTS02/0225	QUASAR PROFESSIONALS	29-063-618-548		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	3/12/01	3/6/02	90,480		
EXTS02/0227	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	23/5/02	24/11/02	77,792		
EXTS02/0229	CPIC	68-065-560-661		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	6/5/02	28/6/02	21,824		
EXTS02/0231	CPIC	68-065-560-661		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	29/4/02	28/10/02	83,512		
EXTS02/0233	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	12/2/02	12/8/02	88,088		
EXTS02/0235	COMPAS	90-008-615-745		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/4/02	30/10/02	88,088		
EXTS02/0238	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	28/5/02	25/11/02	85,800		
EXTS02/0241	EKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	4/3/02	6/9/02	75,504		
EXTS02/0243	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	27/2/02	27/8/02	99,528		
EXTS02/0244	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	6/12/01	7/6/02	84,000		
EXTS02/0245	OMAHA IT SERVICES	50-050-494-196		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	21/1/02	21/7/02	87,240		
EXTS02/0247	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	17/5/02	17/7/02	30,272		
EXTS02/0251	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	25/3/02	16/8/02	68,376		

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9103

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/0252	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	7/4/02	6/10/02	86,516		
EXTS02/0254	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	10/3/02	13/9/02	89,232		
EXTS02/0256	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	22/5/02	23/11/02	81,796		
EXTS02/0257	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/3/02	29/9/02	81,224		
EXTS02/0261	Eurolink Australia	84-003-432-442		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	6/5/02	28/6/02	27,456		
EXTS02/0266	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	17/5/02	16/11/02	76,648		
EXTS02/0267	KELLAWAY	57-008-643-963		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	16/2/02	28/6/02	61,864		
EXTS02/0269	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	21/4/02	18/10/02	94,380		
EXTS02/0272	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	26/3/02	26/9/02	86,372		
EXTS02/0273	Icon Recruitment Pty Ltd	14-007-145-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	13/5/02	10/11/02	73,216		
EXTS02/0274	Icon Recruitment Pty Ltd	14-007-145-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	2/4/02	30/9/02	86,372		
EXTS02/0277	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	27/3/02	27/9/02	80,080		
EXTS02/0278	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	17/5/02	15/11/02	80,080		
EXTS02/0279	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/4/02	30/9/02	86,944		

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/0280	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/1/02	30/6/02	67,600		
EXTS02/0281	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/1/02	1/7/02	90,480		
EXTS02/0282	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	15/3/02	14/6/02	43,000		
EXTS02/0283	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	7/5/02	6/11/02	80,080		
EXTS02/0289	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	17/5/02	19/7/02	24,640		
EXTS02/0292	CANDLE AUSTRALIA	43-002-724-334		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	14/4/02	13/11/02	88,088		
EXTS02/0294	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	19/3/02	18/9/02	75,504		
EXTS02/0296	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/2/02	1/8/02	78,936		
EXTS02/0303	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	7/1/02	6/7/02	75,000		
EXTS02/0304	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	21/1/02	21/7/02	85,800		
EXTS02/0305	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	2/2/02	2/8/02	40,000		
EXTS02/0306	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	12/2/02	12/8/02	94,952		
EXTS02/0308	STRATAGEM	82-008-603-996		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	15/4/02	13/10/02	90,948		
EXTS02/0322	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	8/5/02	29/11/02	97,020		
EXTS02/0328	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/5/02	29/10/02	82,368		

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9105

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/0343	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	20/5/02	22/11/02	84,656		
EXTS02/0346	IONA Technologies Asia Pacific Pty Ltd	14-073-081-268		Licence & Support for ORBacus	0	0	0	100	9/4/01	7/5/03	62,452		
EXTS02/0348	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/12/01	28/6/02	69,000		
EXTS02/0350	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	22/5/02	22/8/02	76,648		
EXTS02/0353	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	4/2/02	4/8/02	83,200		
EXTS02/0354	Icon Recruitment Pty Ltd	14-007-145-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	14/1/02	12/7/02	81,000		
EXTS02/0357	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	28/1/02	28/7/02	74,932		
EXTS02/0359	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	15/5/02	11/9/02	61,952		
EXTS02/0361	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	17/5/02	18/12/02	78,364		
EXTS02/0362	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	27/5/02	25/11/02	48,620		
EXTS02/0366	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/3/02	27/9/02	76,648		
EXTS02/0373	QUASAR PROFESSIONALS	29-063-618-548		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	4/3/02	4/9/02	86,944		

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/0376	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	6/5/02	3/11/02	85,800		
EXTS02/0377	SPHERION TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	20/12/01	19/6/02	95,680		
EXTS02/0379	OOSW CONSULTING	71-069-645-521		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	15/4/02	14/7/02	59,488		
EXTS02/0383	SOUTHERN CROSS COMPUTING	71-008-626-131		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	3/4/02	2/7/02	41,712		
EXTS02/0384	COMPAS	90-008-615-745		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	9/4/02	8/10/02	89,232		
EXTS02/0387	Icon Recruitment Pty Ltd	14-007-145-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	4/2/02	4/8/02	91,520		
EXTS02/0389	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	25/3/02	24/9/02	72,644		
EXTS02/0394	Icon Recruitment Pty Ltd	14-007-145-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	18/5/02	17/11/02	94,952		
EXTS02/0396	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	6/5/02	5/11/02	76,648		
EXTS02/0399	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	19/3/02	18/9/02	87,516		
EXTS02/0401	OOSW CONSULTING	71-069-645-521		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	19/4/02	30/6/02	30,800		
EXTS02/0403	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	22/5/02	21/11/02	76,648		
EXTS02/0404	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	2/4/02	1/10/02	92,664		
EXTS02/0408	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/2/02	31/7/02	24,300		

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9107

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/0409	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/3/02	29/9/02	78,936		
EXTS02/0410	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	13/5/02	12/11/02	83,512		
EXTS02/0414	COMPAS	90-008-615-745		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	8/1/02	8/7/02	98,800		
EXTS02/0415	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	29/1/02	29/7/02	85,800		
EXTS02/0417	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	4/3/02	3/9/02	94,000		
EXTS02/0428	OMAHA IT SERVICES	50-050-494-196		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/5/02	29/11/02	99,814		
EXTS02/0430	OMAHA IT SERVICES	50-050-494-196		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	3/6/02	2/12/02	78,936		
EXTS02/0432	STRATAGEM	82-008-603-996		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	29/4/02	27/10/02	76,648		
EXTS02/0435	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	8/4/02	7/10/02	83,512		
EXTS02/0437	INTEGRE	74-091-620-807		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	20/3/02	14/9/02	73,920		
EXTS02/0438	CANDLE AUSTRALIA	43-002-724-334		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	6/5/02	28/6/02	26,400		
EXTS02/0442	QUASAR PROFESSIONALS	29-063-618-548		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	4/3/02	6/9/02	92,664		
EXTS02/0445	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	27/4/02	25/10/02	82,940		
EXTS02/0449	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	12/3/02	9/9/02	87,936		
EXTS02/0451	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	25/3/02	24/9/02	83,512		
EXTS02/0454	eKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	20/3/02	19/9/02	78,936		
EXTS02/0455	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/4/02	30/9/02	74,360		

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/0458	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	28/1/02	28/7/02	94,952		
EXTS02/0462	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	4/2/02	4/8/02	86,944		
EXTS02/0465	KELLAWAY	57-008-643-963		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/3/02	31/8/02	95,066		
EXTS02/0467	eKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	22/4/02	18/10/02	96,096		
EXTS02/0468	CANDLE AUSTRALIA	43-002-724-334		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	26/3/02	25/9/02	96,096		
EXTS02/0469	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	22/5/02	21/11/02	77,792		
EXTS02/0471	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	26/1/02	26/7/02	96,096		
EXTS02/0472	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	2/4/02	30/9/02	85,800		
EXTS02/0474	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	27/5/02	29/11/02	99,000		
EXTS02/0475	SCOTT-MERRICK ASSOCIATES	65-079-947-149		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	17/4/02	28/6/02	39,600		
EXTS02/0476	OMAHA IT SERVICES	50-050-494-196		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	7/1/02	7/7/02	74,360		
EXTS02/0478	DELOITTE CONSULTING	99-496-318-412		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	16/7/01	10/8/02	20,000		
EXTS02/0481	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/2/02	1/8/02	98,956		
EXTS02/0482	KELLAWAY	57-008-643-963		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	7/1/02	7/7/02	67,080		
EXTS02/0484	PARKSIDE CONSULTING	27-083-007-121		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	23/4/02	23/7/02	31,680		
EXTS02/0485	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	22/2/02	22/8/02	97,240		
EXTS02/0488	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/4/01	1/7/01	25,000		

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9109

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/0489	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	17/5/02	16/11/02	78,936		
EXTS02/0490	Spherion	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/5/02	29/10/02	82,368		
EXTS02/0493	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	25/2/02	25/8/02	88,088		
EXTS02/0494	STRATAGEM	82-008-603-996		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	22/5/02	22/11/02	90,948		
EXTS02/0495	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	27/5/02	26/8/02	38,544		
EXTS02/0496	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	15/6/02	13/12/02	72,000		
EXTS02/0499	OMAHA IT SERVICES	50-050-494-196		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	24/6/02	24/12/02	80,080		
EXTS02/0500	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	6/5/02	5/11/02	83,512		
EXTS02/0501	OMAHA IT SERVICES	50-050-494-196		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	5/12/01	4/6/02	80,000		
EXTS02/0502	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	26/5/02	25/7/02	28,864		
EXTS02/0511	CANDLE AUSTRALIA	43-002-724-334		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	16/6/02	15/12/02	97,240		
EXTS02/0513	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	13/6/02	12/12/02	72,072		
EXTS02/0527	ATAC			System Software	0	100	0	0	23/12/96	17/7/02	31,372		
EXTS02/0615	SILICON GRAPHICS	39-00-677-07-89		System Hardware	100	0	0	0	25/7/95	31/8/01	29,367		
EXTS02/0649	ekCONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/02	31/12/02	83,512		
EXTS02/0651	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	20/5/02	19/11/02	93,808		
EXTS02/0654	ekCONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	27/5/02	16/11/02	64,350		
EXTS02/0657	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	25/5/02	22/11/02	98,384		

9110

SENATE

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/0752	PRICE WATERHOUSE COOPERS	70-130-025-000		Staff Development - Provision of crisis management training for the Centrelink senior executive.	0	0	100	0	9/11/01	30/11/01	71,693		
EXTS02/0754	DACG	91-067-462-202		Staff Development - Implementation of Infolink Learning Centre	0	0	100	0	6/1/01	30/11/01	64,180		
EXTS02/0759	Achieving Results Pty Ltd	39-072-829-924		Staff Development	0	0	100	0	5/7/01	6/7/01	20,000		
EXTS02/0760	JRP IT SERVICES	86-090-022-709		Development of an IT Cost model	0	0	100	0	5/9/01	26/1/02	20,000		
EXTS02/0768	DELOITTE CONSULTING	99-496-318-412		Development of an innovation facilitation model	0	0	100	0	8/9/01	31/10/02	20,735		
EXTS02/0794	CPMC	620-798-0044-5		Primavera and Sure Track	0	100	0	0	29/8/97	28/8/04	30,000		
EXTS02/0799	AST OPERATIONS Australia	58-080-287-663		Syncsort, ProcSyncsort - System Utility - Canberra/Sydney	0	100	0	0	1/11/01	30/10/08	56,749		
EXTS02/0819	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	3/6/02	2/12/02	96,096		
EXTS02/0822	Eurolink Australia	84-003-432-442		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	19/6/02	18/12/02	72,072		
EXTS02/0823	STRATAGEM	82-008-603-996		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	19/6/02	18/12/02	84,656		
EXTS02/0836	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/5/02	29/11/02	97,240		
EXTS02/0837	OOSW CONSULTING	71-069-645-521		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	11/6/02	10/12/02	99,528		
EXTS02/0840	CANDLE AUSTRALIA	43-002-724-334		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	27/5/02	30/8/02	33,748		
EXTS02/0841	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	17/6/02	17/12/02	91,520		
EXTS02/0851	CANDLE AUSTRALIA	43-002-724-334		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	13/6/02	12/12/02	80,080		
EXTS02/0856	EKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	4/6/02	3/12/02	80,652		
EXTS02/0857	OMAHA IT SERVICES	50-050-494-196		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	5/6/02	4/12/02	84,656		
EXTS02/0926	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	10/6/02	6/12/02	85,800		

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9111

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/0927	ITERATIVE CONSULTING	44-097-071-120		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	22/5/02	16/8/02	70,000		
EXTS02/0940	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	19/6/02	18/12/02	85,800		
EXTS02/0942	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	19/6/02	18/12/02	75,504		
EXTS02/0945	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	19/6/02	18/12/02	83,512		
EXTS02/0946	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	19/6/02	18/12/02	90,376		
EXTS02/1029	SCOTT-MERRICK ASSOCIATES	65-079-947-149		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	24/6/02	31/10/02	39,600		
EXTS02/1061	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	27/6/02	24/12/02	92,664		
EXTS02/1064	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	24/6/02	23/12/02	82,368		
EXTS02/1065	STRATAGEM	82-008-603-996		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	28/6/02	27/12/02	87,516		
EXTS02/1069	STRATAGEM	82-008-603-996		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/02	31/12/02	90,948		
EXTS02/1072	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	24/6/02	24/12/02	80,080		
EXTS02/1075	STRATAGEM	82-008-603-996		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/02	31/12/02	96,066		
EXTS02/1081	SCOTT-MERRICK ASSOCIATES	65-079-947-149		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	24/6/02	18/12/02	85,800		
EXTS02/1113	Allen Systems	Exempt - O/S company		Viasmart/Doc, Edit, Test Insight-Development Tool - Canberra / Sydney (Maintenance only)	0	100	0	0	21/12/97	31/12/01	66,750		
EXTS02/1115	XEROX	Exempt - O/S company		Autograph Suite (Compuset)	0	100	0	0	1/12/00	30/11/02	28,000		

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry develop- ment require- ment
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard- ware (%)	Soft- ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/1126	CANDLE Corporation	45-003-557-471		Management PAC for NT, Management PAC for Solaris, MQ Series Fundamentals CBT	0	0	0	100	28/8/00	27/8/07	22,464		
EXTS02/1127	UBIQUITY	35-007-178-574		Dorana	0	0	0	100	30/6/00	29/6/07	25,000		
EXTS02/1150	JRC INTERNATIONAL	41-003-365-099		System Services	0	0	100	0	1/5/02	29/6/02	22,261		
EXTS02/1156	COMPUWARE	23-063-641-510		Ecosystems Consultancy services	0	0	100	0	14/6/02	30/6/02	31,158		
EXTS02/1387	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	24/6/02	24/12/02	65,208		
EXTS02/1786	Candle Australia	43-002-724-334		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/01	28/9/01	22,880		
EXTS02/1787	CANDLE AUSTRALIA	43-002-724-334		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	29/9/01	27/3/02	48,048		
EXTS02/1791	CANDLE AUSTRALIA	43-002-724-334		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	13/6/01	14/12/01	97,240		
EXTS02/1792	CANDLE AUSTRALIA	43-002-724-334		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	15/12/01	14/6/02	97,240		
EXTS02/1793	CANDLE AUSTRALIA	43-002-724-334		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	16/6/02	15/12/02	97,240		
EXTS02/1848	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	15/6/02	15/12/02	92,664		
EXTS02/1851	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/4/01	29/10/01	76,000		
EXTS02/1852	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	19/9/01	18/3/02	91,520		
EXTS02/1853	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/10/01	26/4/02	75,400		
EXTS02/1858	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	13/6/02	12/6/03	72,072		
EXTS02/1860	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	3/7/01	31/12/01	90,500		
EXTS02/1861	Candle Australia	43-002-724-334		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	25/8/01	22/2/02	90,000		

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9113

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/1863	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/1/02	1/7/02	90,480		
EXTS02/1869	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	19/2/01	31/7/01	72,000		
EXTS02/1872	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	5/11/01	5/5/02	76,960		
EXTS02/1874	Deloitte Consulting	99-496-318-412		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/12/01	21/12/01	25,641		
EXTS02/1876	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	6/5/02	5/11/02	84,656		
EXTS02/1877	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/10/01	31/3/02	67,600		
EXTS02/1888	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	24/6/02	23/12/02	82,368		
EXTS02/1889	Deloitte Consulting	99-496-318-412		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	25/3/02	7/6/02	90,629		
EXTS02/1890	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	21/5/01	22/7/01	23,000		
EXTS02/1891	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	23/7/01	20/1/02	69,700		
EXTS02/1893	Deloitte Consulting	99-496-318-412		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/12/01	21/12/01	25,641		
EXTS02/1894	Deloitte Consulting	99-496-318-412		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/12/01	21/12/01	20,790		
EXTS02/1897	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	8/3/01	8/9/01	82,000		
EXTS02/1898	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	9/9/01	9/3/02	82,000		
EXTS02/1900	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	3/3/02	3/9/02	82,368		

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/1901	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	22/11/01	21/5/02	75,000		
EXTS02/1902	DA Consulting Group	91-067-462-202		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	31/8/01	24/12/01	98,010		
EXTS02/1904	DA Consulting Group	91-067-462-202		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	31/8/01	24/12/01	98,010		
EXTS02/1906	DA Consulting Group	91-067-462-202		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	17/9/01	24/12/01	84,700		
EXTS02/1908	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	15/5/02	14/11/02	80,080		
EXTS02/1910	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	31/1/02	97,760		
EXTS02/1911	DA Consulting Group	91-067-462-202		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/11/01	31/12/01	48,400		
EXTS02/1913	EKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	24/6/02	22/12/02	80,652		
EXTS02/1915	DA Consulting Group	91-067-462-202		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	25/6/01	31/8/01	70,598		
EXTS02/1916	DA Consulting Group	91-067-462-202		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	27/8/01	31/10/01	48,400		
EXTS02/1920	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	24/7/01	31/1/02	75,000		
EXTS02/1924	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	7/1/02	7/7/02	80,000		
EXTS02/1926	EKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	4/6/01	2/12/01	80,652		
EXTS02/1928	EKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	3/12/01	2/6/02	80,652		
EXTS02/1929	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	20/5/02	17/11/02	89,804		
EXTS02/1931	COMPUTER CONTRACTING SERVICES	51-094-789-910		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	23/4/01	21/10/01	91,520		
EXTS02/1932	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/5/02	29/10/02	82,368		
EXTS02/1950	EKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	29/12/01	66,000		

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9115

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/1954	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	25/2/02	26/5/02	37,180		
EXTS02/1955	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	27/5/02	25/11/02	48,620		
EXTS02/1956	Eurolink Australia	84-003-432-442		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/1/01	30/7/01	79,508		
EXTS02/1961	EKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/02	31/12/02	98,956		
EXTS02/1963	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	26/3/01	23/9/01	65,000		
EXTS02/1964	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	24/9/01	24/3/02	66,100		
EXTS02/1965	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	25/3/02	24/9/02	72,644		
EXTS02/1967	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	28/1/02	28/7/02	74,932		
EXTS02/1968	Icon Recruitment Pty Ltd	14-007-145-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	17/11/01	17/5/02	94,952		
EXTS02/1970	Icon Recruitment Pty Ltd	14-007-145-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	14/5/01	16/11/01	94,952		
EXTS02/1972	Icon Recruitment Pty Ltd	14-007-145-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	13/11/01	12/5/02	73,216		
EXTS02/1974	Icon Recruitment Pty Ltd	14-007-145-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	14/5/01	11/11/01	73,216		
EXTS02/1975	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	29/12/01	69,000		
EXTS02/1979	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	28/1/03	87,120		

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/1980	Icon Recruitment Pty Ltd	14-007-145-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	2/10/01	1/4/02	86,372		
EXTS02/1984	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	9/7/01	6/1/02	65,000		
EXTS02/1987	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	29/10/01	31/5/02	82,000		
EXTS02/1988	Icon Recruitment Pty Ltd	14-007-145-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	14/5/01	17/8/01	57,200		
EXTS02/1989	Icon Recruitment Pty Ltd	14-007-145-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	12/11/01	11/5/02	97,240		
EXTS02/1992	Icon Recruitment Pty Ltd	14-007-145-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	14/5/01	11/11/01	97,240		
EXTS02/1997	HCL Technologies (Australia) Pty Ltd	72-081-196-983		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	31/3/01	29/9/01	70,928		
EXTS02/2000	FRONTIERIT Recruitment Consulting Pty Ltd	77-087-743-879		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	23/4/01	22/7/01	54,340		
EXTS02/2004	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	2/10/01	1/4/02	85,000		
EXTS02/2005	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	18/6/01	21/8/01	33,000		
EXTS02/2007	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	22/8/01	22/2/02	80,000		
EXTS02/2009	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	5/3/01	2/9/01	91,520		
EXTS02/2011	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	3/9/01	3/3/02	86,000		
EXTS02/2014	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	13/11/01	12/5/02	76,000		

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9117

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/2021	FRONTIERIT Recruitment Consulting Pty Ltd	77-087-743-879		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	10/9/01	10/3/02	80,423		
EXTS02/2028	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	13/6/02	13/12/02	92,664		
EXTS02/2032	COMPAS	90-008-615-745		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	16/7/01	13/1/02	92,000		
EXTS02/2036	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	11/12/00	9/12/01	75,000		
EXTS02/2037	COMPAS	90-008-615-745		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/10/01	29/4/02	81,000		
EXTS02/2039	COMPAS	90-008-615-745		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/5/01	29/10/01	81,000		
EXTS02/2040	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	5/4/01	4/10/01	75,000		
EXTS02/2042	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	12/6/01	31/1/02	71,800		
EXTS02/2044	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/3/01	29/8/01	74,000		
EXTS02/2048	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	3/12/01	2/3/02	37,960		
EXTS02/2053	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	8/6/02	7/12/02	83,512		
EXTS02/2054	Quasar Professionals	29-063-618-548		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	3/9/01	3/3/02	86,944		
EXTS02/2058	Patriot Alliance	29-063-618-548		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	4/6/02	4/12/02	99,528		
EXTS02/2063	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	29/12/01	97,000		
EXTS02/2064	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	7/1/02	6/5/02	52,910		
EXTS02/2067	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	20/8/01	30/11/01	32,000		
EXTS02/2068	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/12/01	30/5/02	59,300		
EXTS02/2073	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/4/01	28/10/01	75,000		
EXTS02/2078	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	12/11/01	5/5/02	77,000		

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/2081	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	29/1/01	29/7/01	71,000		
EXTS02/2084	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	24/4/01	22/10/01	82,500		
EXTS02/2092	Quasar Professionals	29-063-618-548		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	28/4/01	31/8/01	55,440		
EXTS02/2094	Quasar Professionals	29-063-618-548		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/9/01	1/3/02	92,664		
EXTS02/2097	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	15/5/01	28/9/01	56,000		
EXTS02/2098	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	29/9/01	29/3/02	73,900		
EXTS02/2100	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	11/10/01	10/4/02	84,000		
EXTS02/2101	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	21/5/01	18/11/01	92,000		
EXTS02/2102	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	19/11/01	19/5/02	91,520		
EXTS02/2106	Wizard Information Services	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/9/01	30/3/02	79,100		
EXTS02/2108	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	24/5/01	21/11/01	82,368		
EXTS02/2117	EKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	9/4/01	8/10/01	74,000		
EXTS02/2121	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	28/5/01	25/11/01	86,000		
EXTS02/2123	EKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/9/01	31/5/02	92,100		
EXTS02/2124	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	26/11/01	25/5/02	86,000		
EXTS02/2125	EKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/4/01	31/8/01	50,000		
EXTS02/2129	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/7/01	25/1/02	91,000		
EXTS02/2131	Icon Recruitment Pty Ltd	14-007-145-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	28/10/01	28/2/02	30,096		

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9119

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hardware (%)	Software (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/2133	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	23/5/01	14/12/01	83,000		
EXTS02/2134	Icon Recruitment Pty Ltd	14-007-145-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	28/7/01	27/10/01	21,736		
EXTS02/2135	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	15/12/01	14/6/02	72,000		
EXTS02/2136	Icon Recruitement Pty Ltd	14-007-145-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	28/4/01	27/7/01	21,164		
EXTS02/2137	EKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	29/1/03	95,040		
EXTS02/2139	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	9/4/01	7/10/01	84,000		
EXTS02/2142	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	10/9/01	10/3/02	78,000		
EXTS02/2144	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	15/1/01	15/7/01	84,000		
EXTS02/2161	OMAHA IT SERVICES	50-050-494-196		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/6/01	29/11/01	91,000		
EXTS02/2162	OMAHA IT SERVICES	50-050-494-196		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/11/01	30/5/02	91,000		
EXTS02/2163	Kellaway	57-008-643-963		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	8/6/01	30/8/01	46,904		
EXTS02/2164	OMAHA IT SERVICES	50-050-494-196		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	25/3/02	24/6/02	36,960		
EXTS02/2165	Kellaway	57-008-643-963		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	31/8/01	29/8/02	95,066		
EXTS02/2169	OMAHA IT SERVICES	50-050-494-196		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	6/6/01	4/12/01	80,000		
EXTS02/2170	Kellaway	57-008-643-963		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	17/2/01	17/8/01	80,080		
EXTS02/2171	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	5/2/01	5/8/01	73,000		
EXTS02/2172	OMAHA IT SERVICES	50-050-494-196		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	4/6/02	30/8/02	26,928		
EXTS02/2173	Kellaway	57-008-643-963		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	18/8/01	15/2/02	84,656		

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/2177	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	28/8/00	26/8/01	81,000		
EXTS02/2179	Manpower Services (Australia) Pty Ltd	15-071-884-994		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	22/9/01	39,864		
EXTS02/2188	Manpower Services (Australia) Pty Ltd	15-071-884-994		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	2/7/01	30/12/01	94,380		
EXTS02/2189	Manpower Services (Australia) Pty Ltd	15-071-884-994		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	31/12/01	30/6/02	94,380		
EXTS02/2191	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	26/9/01	26/3/02	72,800		
EXTS02/2197	Manpower Services (Australia) Pty Ltd	15-071-884-994		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	20/8/01	17/2/02	60,632		
EXTS02/2198	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	14/8/01	11/2/02	80,100		
EXTS02/2204	Kellaway	57-008-643-963		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/2/01	1/8/01	83,512		
EXTS02/2205	Kellaway	57-008-643-963		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	2/8/01	31/1/02	83,512		
EXTS02/2206	Kellaway	57-008-643-963		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	28/6/01	31/12/01	77,792		
EXTS02/2212	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	12/2/01	12/8/01	72,000		
EXTS02/2216	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	19/11/01	19/5/02	76,960		

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9121

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/2219	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	6/8/01	3/2/02	83,200		
EXTS02/2221	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	8/1/01	8/7/01	76,000		
EXTS02/2222	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	9/7/01	6/1/02	76,000		
EXTS02/2223	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/7/01	28/10/01	43,500		
EXTS02/2224	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	29/10/01	28/4/02	86,840		
EXTS02/2225	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	31/1/00	30/7/00	71,000		
EXTS02/2230	SOUTHERN CROSS COMPUTING	71-008-626-131		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	10/8/01	2/11/01	64,800		
EXTS02/2232	SOUTHERN CROSS COMPUTING	71-008-626-131		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	3/11/01	30/11/01	21,600		
EXTS02/2235	SOUTHERN CROSS COMPUTING	71-008-626-131		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	6/7/00	4/7/01	76,000		
EXTS02/2237	SOUTHERN CROSS COMPUTING	71-008-626-131		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	3/4/02	2/7/02	41,712		
EXTS02/2246	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	16/2/02	16/5/02	40,040		
EXTS02/2253	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	2/5/01	30/11/01	82,000		

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry develop- ment require- ment
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard- ware (%)	Soft- ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/2254	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/12/01	31/5/02	77,792		
EXTS02/2256	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	25/9/01	25/3/02	78,600		
EXTS02/2281	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	24/11/01	24/5/02	89,440		
EXTS02/2284	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	5/11/01	15/2/02	66,144		
EXTS02/2285	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	16/2/02	16/5/02	49,192		
EXTS02/2290	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	17/1/01	17/7/01	86,000		
EXTS02/2298	STRATAGEM	82-008-603-996		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	29/10/01	28/4/02	69,680		
EXTS02/2302	STRATAGEM	82-008-603-996		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/01	27/12/01	79,600		
EXTS02/2303	STRATAGEM	82-008-603-996		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	28/12/01	27/6/02	79,560		
EXTS02/2306	STRATAGEM	82-008-603-996		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/9/01	1/3/02	31,200		
EXTS02/2309	STRATAGEM	82-008-603-996		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	5/2/01	5/8/01	75,920		
EXTS02/2312	STRATAGEM	82-008-603-996		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	6/8/01	3/2/02	78,000		
EXTS02/2326	TMP WORLDWIDE	21-002-888-762		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	24/5/01	21/11/01	80,000		
EXTS02/2327	TMP WORLDWIDE	21-002-888-762		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	22/11/01	21/5/02	79,040		
EXTS02/2329	TELUS			IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	28/8/01	27/2/02	34,400		
EXTS02/2333	PARKSIDE CONSULTING	27-083-007-121		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	13/8/01	31/1/02	24,000		
EXTS02/2334	PARKSIDE CONSULTING	27-083-007-121		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/2/02	1/6/02	31,460		
EXTS02/2335	PARKSIDE CONSULTING	27-083-007-121		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	6/8/01	30/11/01	20,500		
EXTS02/2336	PARKSIDE CONSULTING	27-083-007-121		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/12/01	28/2/02	33,300		
EXTS02/2354	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	20/6/02	19/12/02	57,200		
EXTS02/2405	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-564-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	11/6/02	10/12/02	83,512		

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9123

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/2486	Cole Software LCC	Exempt - O/S company		Lease of XDC/SE S2.0 Software (Assembler Code Debugger)	0	100	0	0	1/1/02	31/12/02	42,000		
EXTS02/2564	Annexus	31-069-357-802		I&T Consultancy Services	0	0	100	0	3/9/01	31/8/02	40,000		
EXTS02/2612	Ovum	92-065-393-973		Access, copying and use of certain services and data (IT and e-Commerce Research Service)	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	30/6/02	38,950		
EXTS03/0008	SMS Consulting Group Ltd	17-006-515-028		I&T Procurement Strategic Alignment Consultancy	0	0	100	0	3/9/01	30/11/01	89,375		
EXTS02/1147	ACCENTURE	49 096 776 895		Customer Online Services (managed under COL contract)	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	8/11/02	415,462		
EXTS02/1141	Acer Computer Australia	78 003 872 768		Supply of Desktop Computers	100	0	0	0	10/4/02	9/4/03	28,540,000		
EXTS02/1140	Acer Computer Australia	78 003 872 768		Supply of Notebook Computers	100	0	0	0	27/2/02	26/2/04	2,800,000		
EXTS02/1796	ANSWERZ	32-054-533-596		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	10/7/00	8/7/01	208,000		
EXTS02/2495	Answerz	32-054-533-596		Implementation of Security Monitoring of Centrelink's External Gateway Environment (Intrusion Detection System) - Contract Amendment signed 4/10/2002 with new completion date of 30/9/2003 - Contract values \$55,000 + \$45,000 Gazetted amount \$4	0	0	100	0	4/6/01	3/6/02	100,000		
EXTS02/0152	ANSWERZ	32-054-533-596		IT Contract Service	0	0	100	0	9/7/01	7/7/02	210,000		
EXTS02/0443	ASTECH BUSINESS SOLUTIONS	28-082-376-529		IT Contract Service	0	0	100	0	11/3/02	9/6/02	107,250		
EXTS02/0528	BHP INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	now CSC 18008476944		System Hardware	100	0	0	0	15/4/98	3/7/02	166,533		
EXTS02/1094	BMC	20-437-313-439		Control B,D, M & T, Enterprise Control Station - System Utility - Canberra / Sydney	0	100	0	0	31/10/96	31/1/02	4,085,866		

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/0791	BMC Software Australia	20-437-313-439		CMF/Monitor - System Utility - Canberra/Sydney	0	100	0	0	1/5/97	1/5/04	1,000,500		
EXTS02/1143	BMC Software Australia	20-437-313-439		Control B, D, M & T, Enterprise Control Station- System Utility - Canberra/Sydney	0	100	0	0	1/2/02	31/1/09	5,200,000		
EXTS02/1868	Candle Australia	43-002-724-333		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	10/7/00	8/7/01	159,000		
EXTS02/1859	Candle Australia	43-002-724-333		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	27/3/01	25/3/02	175,000		
EXTS02/1794	CANDLE AUSTRALIA	43-002-724-333		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	15/5/01	13/5/02	176,176		
EXTS02/0224	CANDLE AUSTRALIA	43-002-724-333		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	9/7/01	7/7/02	166,000		
EXTS02/0470	CANDLE AUSTRALIA	43-002-724-333		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/2/02	2/8/02	114,400		
EXTS02/0268	CANDLE AUSTRALIA	43-002-724-333		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	23/2/02	23/8/02	100,000		
EXTS02/1788	CANDLE AUSTRALIA	43-002-724-333		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/01	31/1/03	136,400		
EXTS02/1155	CANDLE CORPORATION	45-003-557-471		Testing of Mainframe and Centrelink Online Electronic Service Delivery System	0	0	100	0	31/5/01	5/7/02	115,050		
EXTS02/0792	CANDLE CORPORATION	45-003-557-471		Omegamon II for CICS (Candle Corp) due to mainframe upgrade - Canberra/Sydney	0	0	0	100	1/7/97	30/6/06	8,000,000		
EXTS02/0779	CASHCARD AUSTRALIA	74002405754		EBT Account System Services	0	0	100	0	21/6/01	21/6/03	500,000		
EXTS02/0778	CASHCARD AUSTRALIA	74002405754		For the provision of ATM/EFTPOS Facilities for EBTCards	0	0	0	100	21/6/01	2/8/03	1,700,000		
EXTS02/0165	CIBOURNE	19-062-881-350		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/4/01	22/4/02	226,512		
EXTS02/1875	CIPHER SOFTWARE METRICS	47-008-626-908		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	31/3/01	28/9/01	104,000		
EXTS02/0240	CIPHER SOFTWARE METRICS	47-008-626-908		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	29/9/01	1/10/02	105,000		

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9125

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/1723	Class Technology	90-003-818-040		Provision of Object-Oriented training and mentoring services	0	0	100	0	14/7/01	14/7/02	250,000		
EXTS02/2157	COMPAS	90-008-615-745		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	14/8/00	12/8/01	148,000		
EXTS02/2151	COMPAS	90-008-615-745		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	21/8/00	19/8/01	156,000		
EXTS02/1887	COMPAS	90-008-615-745		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	8/11/00	6/11/01	163,000		
EXTS02/1883	COMPAS	90-008-615-745		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	9/1/01	7/1/02	198,000		
EXTS02/2035	COMPAS	90-008-615-745		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	10/4/01	8/4/02	163,000		
EXTS02/2152	COMPAS	90-008-615-745		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	20/8/01	4/5/02	156,000		
EXTS02/1845	COMPAS	90-008-615-745		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/6/01	30/5/02	217,360		
EXTS02/0260	COMPAS	90-008-615-745		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	24/9/01	30/6/02	145,000		
EXTS02/0416	COMPAS	90-008-615-745		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	14/1/02	30/6/02	100,672		
EXTS02/0321	COMPAS	90-008-615-745		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	12/7/01	10/7/02	165,000		
EXTS02/0300	COMPAS	90-008-615-745		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	13/8/01	12/8/02	156,000		
EXTS02/0388	COMPAS	90-008-615-745		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	5/11/01	4/11/02	195,000		
EXTS02/0456	COMPAS	90-008-615-745		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	7/11/01	6/11/02	171,000		
EXTS02/0380	COMPAS	90-008-615-745		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	31/5/02	30/5/03	217,360		
EXTS02/1157	COMPUTER ASSOCIATES	20-001-146-345		Implementation of Centrelink's - Centrelink Network Operations Centre	0	0	0	100	24/6/02	7/7/02	297,455		
EXTS02/0546	COMPUTER ASSOCIATES	20-001-146-345		System Services	0	0	100	0	24/6/02	1/11/02	152,988		
EXTS02/1139	COMPUTER ASSOCIATES	20-001-146-345		Lease of CA - Unicenter Software	0	100	0	0	31/5/02	26/5/03	347,545		
EXTS02/1105	COMPUTER ASSOCIATES	20-001-146-345		Preferred Customer Program (Netmaster Suite)-Telecom-Leased-Canberra	0	100	0	0	1/10/98	30/3/04	13,726,480		
EXTS02/1133	COMPUTER ASSOCIATES	20-001-146-345		License and Support of CA Software	0	0	0	100	30/4/01	30/4/04	8,386,480		

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/0463	COMPUTER CONTRACTING SERVICES	51-094-789-910		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	22/10/01	21/7/02	125,000		
EXTS02/1722	Computer Corporation of America	Exempt - Overseas Company		Provision of Model 204 training	0	0	100	0	4/6/02	4/6/04	150,000		
EXTS02/1008	Computer Corporation of America (International) Ltd	Exempt - Overseas Company		System Software	0	100	0	0	21/6/02	30/7/02	2,898,000		
EXTS02/0793	Computer Corporation of America (International) Ltd	Exempt - Overseas Company		Model 204 Suite - Database Manager - Canberra/Sydney	0	100	0	0	15/5/97	14/5/04	10,062,345		
EXTS02/0797	COMPUWARE	23-063-641-510		Strobe-System Utility - Canberra/Sydney	0	100	0	0	1/1/97	31/12/04	487,000		
EXTS02/1134 & A	COMPUWARE	23-063-641-510		MVS Abendaid, MVS Abendaid SPF, SPF Fileaid, Fileaid/Batch, Fileaid/Ext. Ed. & Hiperstation - Canberra/Sydney	0	100	0	0	30/4/01	29/4/08	16,669,663		
EXTS02/0789	CSC	18-008-476-944		Network Replacement Project	0	0	0	100	1/9/93	30/9/02	140,000,000		
EXTS02/0551	DATAFLEX	95-008-623-489		Supply of Personal Computers	100	0	0	0	12/1/01	11/7/01	2,000,000		
EXTS02/0795	Dell Computer Pty Ltd	46-003-855-561		Supply of Office Servers	100	0	0	0	18/2/99	31/8/01	17,000,000		
EXTS02/1878	Deloitte Consulting	99-496-318-412		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	7/7/01	30/11/01	487,179		
EXTS02/0761	Deloitte Consulting	99-496-318-412		I&T Benchmarking Services	0	0	100	0	1/4/01	31/12/01	399,179		
EXTS02/1871	Deloitte Consulting	99-496-318-412		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	3/6/02	4/10/02	131,824		
EXTS02/1881	Deloitte Consulting	99-496-318-412		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	3/6/02	4/10/02	131,824		
EXTS02/1885	Deloitte Consulting	99-496-318-412		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	3/6/02	4/10/02	131,824		
EXTS02/1934	DIVERSITI	54-003-366-783		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/4/01	28/10/01	116,116		
EXTS02/1930	Diversiti	54-003-366-783		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/01	26/4/02	205,920		
EXTS02/0249	DIVERSITI	54-003-366-783		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	27/4/02	27/10/02	102,960		

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9127

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/0234	DIVERSITI	54-003-366-783		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	29/10/01	28/10/02	232,232		
EXTS02/1129	Dominion Systems	98063567439		Licence and support of Empower software	0	0	0	100	15/8/96	14/8/04	2,668,000		
EXTS02/1942	e-bility	11-083-241-463		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	18/12/00	16/12/01	203,632		
EXTS02/1941	e-bility	11-083-241-463		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	17/12/01	16/6/02	101,816		
EXTS02/1935	eKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/8/00	30/7/01	139,360		
EXTS02/1939	eKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	7/8/00	5/8/01	141,000		
EXTS02/1966	eKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	21/8/00	19/8/01	156,000		
EXTS02/2006	eKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	27/11/00	25/11/01	135,200		
EXTS02/2010	eKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	16/7/01	13/1/02	101,816		
EXTS02/1944	eKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	5/2/01	3/2/02	143,520		
EXTS02/2128	eKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	23/4/01	21/4/02	175,000		
EXTS02/2008	eKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	26/11/01	26/5/02	148,720		
EXTS02/1372	eKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	25/6/01	23/6/02	146,700		
EXTS02/0199	eKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/01	28/6/02	149,800		
EXTS02/2118	eKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	29/6/02	151,900		
EXTS02/1958	eKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	29/6/02	180,000		
EXTS02/2132	eKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	29/6/02	189,400		
EXTS02/2122	eKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	29/6/02	195,000		
EXTS02/0378	eKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/12/01	29/6/02	125,840		
EXTS02/0371	eKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	9/7/01	7/7/02	148,720		
EXTS02/0338	eKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	16/7/01	14/7/02	139,360		
EXTS02/0313	eKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	14/1/02	14/7/02	101,816		
EXTS02/0398	eKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	31/7/01	29/7/02	144,560		
EXTS02/0327	eKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	20/8/01	18/8/02	164,400		
EXTS02/0172	eKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	27/8/01	25/8/02	152,880		
EXTS02/0271	eKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	9/10/01	7/10/02	146,640		

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/1062	eKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	29/1/03	149,800		
EXTS02/0167	eKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	22/5/02	31/3/03	146,080		
EXTS02/0148	eKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/6/02	30/5/03	134,992		
EXTS02/0310	eKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/02	30/6/03	207,064		
EXTS02/0820	eKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/02	30/6/03	217,360		
EXTS02/0395	eKONSULTING	15-086-357-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	6/8/01	4/8/02	147,700		
EXTS02/0796	EMC Corporation	57-007-508-769		Lease of DASD for the Agency	0	0	0	100	26/6/97	31/1/03	793,260		
EXTS02/0239	Eurolink Australia	84-003-432-442		IT Contract Service	0	0	100	0	31/7/01	30/7/02	162,791		
EXTS02/1128	FORTE SOFTWARE	57-072-143-401		License and Support of Forte Software + ECXPERT	0	0	0	100	28/6/99	27/6/06	560,000		
EXTS02/2024	FRONTIERIT Recruitment Consulting Pty Ltd	77-087-743-879		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	12/2/01	12/8/01	109,252		
EXTS02/2022	FRONTIERIT Recruitment Consulting Pty Ltd	77-087-743-879		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	11/9/00	9/9/01	156,728		
EXTS02/2023	FRONTIERIT Recruitment Consulting Pty Ltd	77-087-743-879		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	13/8/01	10/2/02	109,252		
EXTS02/0473	FRONTIERIT Recruitment Consulting Pty Ltd	77-087-743-879		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	23/7/01	21/7/02	217,360		
EXTS02/0175	FRONTIERIT Recruitment Consulting Pty Ltd	77-087-743-879		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	11/2/02	11/8/02	103,532		
EXTS02/0765	Gartner Group	69-003-708-601		Research Advisory Services	0	0	100	0	1/4/01	2/7/02	660,000		
EXTS02/0777	GBM LOGIC	14-416-913-735		System Services	0	0	100	0	24/9/01	24/9/03	600,000		
EXTS02/1114	GETRONICS	69-001-002-731		Hardware Maintenance	0	0	100	0	1/1/99	31/12/02	8,210,874		
EXTS02/0164	HCL Technologies (Australia) Pty Ltd	72-081-196-983		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	29/9/01	30/9/02	129,000		
EXTS02/0802	IBM Australia Ltd	79-000-024-733		Supply, installation & maintenance of DASD for the agency	0	0	0	100	1/1/98	31/12/01	14,820,927		

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9129

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/1122	IBM Australia Ltd	79-000-024-733		Lease of Front End Processors (FEP)	100	0	0	0	31/12/01	30/6/02	2,133,630		
EXTS02/1086	IBM Australia Ltd	79-000-024-733		ECL CPU for contingency (cost includes all associated systems software until June 98)	0	0	0	100	31/12/96	31/12/02	89,237,030		
EXTS02/2116	Icon Recruitment Pty Ltd	14-007-145-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	10/7/00	8/7/01	171,600		
EXTS02/1982	Icon Recruitment Pty Ltd	14-007-145-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	3/10/00	30/9/01	172,744		
EXTS02/2127	Icon Recruitment Pty Ltd	14-007-145-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	15/1/01	13/1/02	160,160		
EXTS02/2114	Icon Recruitment Pty Ltd	14-007-145-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	9/7/01	3/2/02	105,600		
EXTS02/1985	Icon Recruitment Pty Ltd	14-007-145-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	18/8/01	31/5/02	184,008		
EXTS02/0505	Icon Recruitment Pty Ltd	14-007-145-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/6/02	1/12/02	116,688		
EXTS02/0263	Icon Recruitment Pty Ltd	14-007-145-637		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	12/5/02	11/5/03	194,480		
EXTS02/2474	IEDEX	42-073-559-369		Performance Development Program Extension	0	0	100	0	1/6/02	30/6/03	101,250		
EXTS02/0339	INDEPENDENT SYSTEMS INTEGRATORS	96-003-152-225		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	21/5/01	18/5/03	526,240		
EXTS02/2623-B	Information Technology Systems Inc	Exempt - Overseas Company		Softspy Model 204 (Interactive Execution Facility/Interactive Debugging Extensions/Interactive Performance Tuning Extensions)	0	100	0	0	22/3/02	21/3/03	326,843		
EXTS02/0585	INTERMINE			System Software	0	100	0	0	3/10/01	17/7/02	1,395,704		

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/2272	IT Contract Services	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	4/2/02	4/8/02	107,536		
EXTS02/1151	JRC INTERNATIONAL	41-003-365-099		System Services	0	0	100	0	17/5/02	29/6/02	104,650		
DOAS02/0207	JRC International Pty Ltd	41-003-365-099		Provision of Barcode Scanners	100	0	0	0	17/5/02	29/6/02	104,650		
EXTS02/2196	Kellaway	57-008-643-963		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	31/3/02	116,688		
EXTS02/1137	Landmark Systems Pacific Pty Ltd	53-065-980-627		License of Athene Software	0	100	0	0	4/10/01	3/10/06	117,546		
EXTS02/0800	LEVI RAY & SHOUP	30-952-106-420		VPS Software	0	100	0	0	31/12/98	30/12/05	1,226,000		
EXTS02/1092	LEXMARK	86-050-148-466		Lease of Office Printers (Click Charge)	100	0	0	0	8/9/93	30/6/03	21,000,000		
EXTS02/1136	LOTUS DEVELOPMENT	24-002-791-559		Master Services Agreement	0	0	0	100	1/7/00	30/6/02	686,332		
EXTS02/2185	Manpower Services (Australia) Pty Ltd	15-071-884-994		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	3/7/00	1/7/01	176,176		
EXTS02/2195	Manpower Services (Australia) Pty Ltd	15-071-884-994		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	5/11/01	5/5/02	108,680		
EXTS02/2182	Manpower Services (Australia) Pty Ltd	15-071-884-994		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	23/9/01	30/6/02	124,344		
EXTS02/0448	Manpower Services (Australia) Pty Ltd	15-071-884-994		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	6/5/02	5/5/03	217,360		
EXTS02/2119	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	4/7/00	2/7/01	181,896		
EXTS02/1990	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	19/7/99	18/7/01	291,000		
EXTS02/2126	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	31/7/00	29/7/01	171,600		
EXTS02/1993	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	7/8/00	5/8/01	177,000		

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9131

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/2061	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	28/8/00	26/8/01	127,000		
EXTS02/2141	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	11/9/00	9/9/01	155,000		
EXTS02/2091	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	29/9/00	27/9/01	152,000		
EXTS02/1873	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	2/10/00	30/9/01	135,200		
EXTS02/2115	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	10/10/00	8/10/01	188,000		
EXTS02/2130	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	23/10/00	21/10/01	149,000		
EXTS02/2013	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	6/11/00	4/11/01	152,000		
EXTS02/2077	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	13/11/00	11/11/01	128,000		
EXTS02/1995	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	13/11/00	11/11/01	158,000		
EXTS02/2070	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	13/11/00	11/11/01	177,000		
EXTS02/2012	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	31/12/01	100,000		
EXTS02/1948	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	10/1/00	6/1/02	270,000		
EXTS02/1862	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	22/1/01	20/1/02	156,000		
EXTS02/2082	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	23/1/01	21/1/02	156,000		

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/2083	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/1/01	27/1/02	176,000		
EXTS02/2145	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	16/7/01	17/2/02	105,000		
EXTS02/2056	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	26/2/01	24/2/02	161,000		
EXTS02/2086	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	26/2/01	24/2/02	205,920		
EXTS02/2050	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	28/2/01	26/2/02	147,000		
EXTS02/1884	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	3/3/01	1/3/02	173,000		
EXTS02/1847	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	16/3/01	14/3/02	163,000		
EXTS02/2138	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	20/3/01	18/3/02	138,000		
EXTS02/2143	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	29/3/01	27/3/02	115,000		
EXTS02/1999	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	31/3/01	29/3/02	140,000		
EXTS02/1923	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	31/3/01	29/3/02	144,000		
EXTS02/2112	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	8/4/01	6/4/02	100,000		
EXTS02/1912	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	22/4/01	20/4/02	172,000		
EXTS02/1856	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/4/01	28/4/02	138,000		

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9133

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/2072	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/4/01	28/4/02	214,500		
EXTS02/1849	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	14/5/01	14/5/02	183,100		
EXTS02/2066	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	18/5/01	16/5/02	138,000		
EXTS02/1909	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	18/5/01	16/5/02	140,000		
EXTS02/2085	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	18/5/01	16/5/02	140,000		
EXTS02/1895	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	18/5/01	16/5/02	144,000		
EXTS02/2071	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	18/5/01	16/5/02	144,000		
EXTS02/2113	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	18/5/01	16/5/02	144,000		
EXTS02/1943	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	18/5/01	16/5/02	214,000		
EXTS02/1940	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	23/5/01	21/5/02	140,000		
EXTS02/2002	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	23/5/01	21/5/02	140,000		
EXTS02/2150	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	23/5/01	21/5/02	142,000		
EXTS02/2079	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	23/5/01	21/5/02	144,000		
EXTS02/2069	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	24/5/01	22/5/02	142,000		

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/1981	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	31/5/01	29/5/02	177,000		
EXTS02/0390	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	12/6/01	10/6/02	151,840		
EXTS02/2055	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	28/6/01	26/6/02	184,000		
EXTS02/0311	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/01	28/6/02	206,960		
EXTS02/0262	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	29/6/02	120,000		
EXTS02/0255	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	29/6/02	166,400		
EXTS02/2093	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	30/6/02	195,000		
EXTS02/2120	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	3/7/01	1/7/02	183,040		
EXTS02/0419	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	7/1/02	7/7/02	110,000		
EXTS02/0176	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	17/7/00	13/7/02	366,000		
EXTS02/0340	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	19/7/01	17/7/02	154,960		
EXTS02/0293	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	26/1/02	26/7/02	100,100		
EXTS02/0158	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/7/01	28/7/02	143,520		
EXTS02/0276	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	2/7/01	31/7/02	165,360		

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9135

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/0453	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/8/01	31/7/02	135,000		
EXTS02/0288	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	6/8/01	4/8/02	191,000		
EXTS02/0215	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	27/8/01	25/8/02	137,280		
EXTS02/0307	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	19/3/02	18/9/02	915,520		
EXTS02/0179	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/1/01	20/9/02	145,000		
EXTS02/0209	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	28/9/01	27/9/02	182,000		
EXTS02/0237	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	2/10/01	30/9/02	180,960		
EXTS02/0431	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	8/10/01	6/10/02	171,000		
EXTS02/0460	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	9/10/01	11/10/02	196,976		
EXTS02/0178	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	23/10/01	21/10/02	164,320		
EXTS02/0211	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	29/10/01	27/10/02	149,760		
EXTS02/0213	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	29/4/02	28/10/02	106,964		
EXTS02/0218	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	7/5/02	8/11/02	105,820		
EXTS02/0411	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	12/11/01	10/11/02	158,080		

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/0347	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	12/11/01	12/11/02	185,000		
EXTS02/0312	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	17/10/01	30/11/02	207,000		
EXTS02/0508	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	26/6/02	26/12/02	100,672		
EXTS02/2402	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	28/12/02	113,828		
EXTS02/0149	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	15/1/01	12/1/03	297,440		
EXTS02/0195	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	25/2/02	24/2/03	187,200		
EXTS02/0434	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	29/4/02	30/4/03	151,008		
EXTS02/0290	MASTECH ASIA PACIFIC	20-080-454-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	22/5/02	7/5/03	160,160		
EXTS02/1123	MASTERSOFT INTERNATIONA			Licence and Support of Nadis Post Software	0	0	0	100	1/7/97	1/7/02	400,320		
EXTS02/0767	Meta Group Australia Holdings	41-095-412-221		Retainer Advisory Services	0	0	100	0	1/6/01	30/6/02	165,000		
EXTS02/1135	MICROSOFT	68-003-871-412		License of Windows Operating Systems	0	100	0	0	1/10/01	30/9/04	7,500,000		
CONS02/0091	National 1 Ltd	44-088-164-872		Space barcode protection strips	100	0	0	0	29/5/02	31/8/02	121,000		
EXTS02/1093	NCR (TERADATA)	61-000-003-592		Supply and maintenance of high speed matching equipment (annual maintenance only)	0	0	0	100	30/6/92	30/6/03	1,176,410		

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9137

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/2153	NETWORK CONSULTING & COMPUTING	29-176-219-543		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	12/5/01	10/5/02	187,500		
EXTS02/0194	NETWORKING CONSULTING & COMPUTING	29-176-219-543		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	11/5/02	10/11/02	102,960		
EXTS02/1095	NOVELL	58-003-666-000		IntranetWare, NetWare for SAA, IntranetWare Print Services, Lan Workplace Pro, NetWare Management Agent, NetWare LANalyzer Agent & NetWare Navigator - Canberra / Sydney (Maintenance for all & upgrades for IntranetWare & NetWare for SAA) - per	0	0	0	100	1/9/97	31/8/02	3,753,762		
EXTS02/2176	OMAHA IT SERVICES	50-050-494-196		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/2/01	1/8/01	103,000		
EXTS02/2283	OMAHA IT SERVICES	50-050-494-196		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	21/8/00	19/8/01	112,000		
EXTS02/2154	OMAHA IT SERVICES	50-050-494-196		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	21/8/00	19/8/01	173,000		
EXTS02/2159	OMAHA IT SERVICES	50-050-494-196		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	2/1/01	31/12/01	149,000		
EXTS02/2178	OMAHA IT SERVICES	50-050-494-196		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	2/8/01	31/1/02	113,256		
EXTS02/2241	OMAHA IT SERVICES	50-050-494-196		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	6/3/01	4/3/02	198,000		
EXTS02/2287	OMAHA IT SERVICES	50-050-494-196		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	20/8/01	31/5/02	157,000		
EXTS02/0155	OMAHA IT SERVICES	50-050-494-196		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/2/02	1/8/02	113,256		
EXTS02/0352	OMAHA IT SERVICES	50-050-494-196		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	20/8/01	19/8/02	182,000		
EXTS02/0230	OMAHA IT SERVICES	50-050-494-196		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	5/3/02	4/9/02	108,680		
EXTS02/0264	OMAHA IT SERVICES	50-050-494-196		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	17/9/01	15/9/02	180,000		
EXTS02/0839	OMAHA IT SERVICES	50-050-494-196		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	11/6/02	10/12/02	106,392		
EXTS02/2301	OOSW CONSULTING	71-069-645-521		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	3/7/00	1/7/01	184,000		

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/2294	OOSW CONSULTING	71-069-645-521		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	25/9/00	23/9/01	177,000		
EXTS02/2297	OOSW CONSULTING	71-069-645-521		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/11/00	4/11/01	239,200		
EXTS02/2310	OOSW CONSULTING	71-069-645-521		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	22/1/01	20/1/02	145,600		
EXTS02/2295	OOSW CONSULTING	71-069-645-521		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	20/3/01	18/3/02	183,000		
EXTS02/2248	OOSW CONSULTING	71-069-645-521		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	29/3/01	27/3/02	173,000		
EXTS02/2311	OOSW CONSULTING	71-069-645-521		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	31/5/01	29/5/02	240,000		
EXTS02/2300	OOSW CONSULTING	71-069-645-521		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	12/6/01	10/6/02	181,000		
EXTS02/2293	OOSW CONSULTING	71-069-645-521		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	27/6/01	24/6/02	186,000		
EXTS02/0342	OOSW CONSULTING	71-069-645-521		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/01	28/6/02	225,000		
EXTS02/2299	OOSW CONSULTING	71-069-645-521		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	30/6/02	146,000		
EXTS02/0163	OOSW CONSULTING	71-069-645-521		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	2/7/01	30/6/02	193,000		
EXTS02/2307	OOSW CONSULTING	71-069-645-521		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	2/7/01	30/6/02	193,000		
EXTS02/0483	OOSW CONSULTING	71-069-645-521		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	19/3/02	18/9/02	103,000		
EXTS02/0477	OOSW CONSULTING	71-069-645-521		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	24/9/01	23/9/02	179,000		
EXTS02/0480	OOSW CONSULTING	71-069-645-521		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	5/11/01	3/11/02	252,000		
EXTS02/0316	OOSW CONSULTING	71-069-645-521		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/5/02	29/11/02	131,560		
EXTS02/0447	OOSW CONSULTING	71-069-645-521		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	3/12/01	2/12/02	166,400		
EXTS02/0317	OOSW CONSULTING	71-069-645-521		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	25/6/02	25/12/02	101,816		
EXTS02/1073	OOSW Consulting	71-069-645-521		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	28/12/02	123,552		
EXTS02/0250	OOSW CONSULTING	71-069-645-521		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	28/3/02	27/3/03	190,000		
EXTS02/2330	OPTICON	31-060-674-580		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	27/7/00	27/7/01	186,000		
EXTS02/0299	OPTICON	31-060-674-580		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	27/7/01	27/7/02	196,000		
EXTS02/1138	ORACLE Corporation Australia	80-003-074-468		License of Oracle Server Software	0	100	0	0	29/2/00	28/2/07	151,308		
EXTS02/2332	PARKSIDE CONSULTING	27-083-007-121		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	2/10/00	30/9/01	177,000		

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9139

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/0190	PARKSIDE CONSULTING	27-083-007-121		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/10/01	30/9/02	176,800		
EXTS02/1936	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	24/7/00	22/7/01	117,000		
EXTS02/1971	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	21/8/00	19/8/01	160,160		
EXTS02/1976	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	4/9/00	2/9/01	132,000		
EXTS02/1957	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	25/9/00	23/9/01	129,000		
EXTS02/1870	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	6/11/00	4/11/01	154,000		
EXTS02/1886	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	2/1/01	31/12/01	129,000		
EXTS02/1922	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	5/2/01	31/12/01	113,000		
EXTS02/1953	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	29/1/01	27/1/02	137,000		
EXTS02/1899	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	29/1/01	27/1/02	173,000		
EXTS02/1914	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/4/01	30/3/02	132,000		
EXTS02/1983	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	16/10/00	30/4/02	225,000		
EXTS02/1951	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	9/5/01	7/5/02	171,000		
EXTS02/1905	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	14/11/01	14/5/02	145,600		

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/1927	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	21/5/01	19/5/02	165,000		
EXTS02/1880	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	26/11/01	26/5/02	191,360		
EXTS02/1857	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	14/6/01	12/6/02	131,100		
EXTS02/0344	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	23/7/01	21/7/02	122,800		
EXTS02/1938	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	23/7/01	21/7/02	122,800		
EXTS02/0285	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	20/2/01	18/8/02	214,300		
EXTS02/0332	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	20/8/01	18/8/02	151,900		
EXTS02/1973	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	20/8/01	18/8/02	151,900		
EXTS02/1917	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	20/8/01	18/8/02	214,300		
EXTS02/0381	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	3/9/01	1/9/02	135,200		
EXTS02/1977	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	3/9/01	1/9/02	135,200		
EXTS02/1960	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	24/9/01	22/9/02	143,520		
EXTS02/0351	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	24/9/01	22/9/02	143,600		
EXTS02/0461	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	20/5/02	31/10/02	102,960		

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9141

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/0653	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	27/5/02	26/11/02	105,248		
EXTS02/1882	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	27/5/02	26/11/02	105,248		
EXTS02/0345	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	3/10/01	1/12/02	195,000		
EXTS02/1921	PATACAT COMPUTING	74-008-581-600		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	3/12/01	1/12/02	195,000		
EXTS02/2090	Patriot Alliance	29-063-618-548		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	4/4/02	3/4/03	196,768		
EXTS02/2099	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	17/7/00	15/7/01	191,000		
EXTS02/2001	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	11/9/00	9/9/01	146,000		
EXTS02/2029	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	2/1/01	31/12/01	170,560		
EXTS02/2046	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	31/1/02	112,900		
EXTS02/1996	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	9/4/01	1/2/02	127,280		
EXTS02/2031	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	9/4/01	1/2/02	128,140		
EXTS02/2041	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	28/2/01	26/2/02	181,000		
EXTS02/2149	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	26/3/01	24/3/02	146,000		
EXTS02/2052	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	26/3/01	24/3/02	156,000		
EXTS02/2034	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	29/5/01	27/5/02	156,000		
EXTS02/2038	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	10/12/01	9/6/02	147,680		
EXTS02/0177	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	14/6/01	12/6/02	168,480		
EXTS02/1994	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	18/6/01	16/6/02	166,400		
EXTS02/0248	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/1/02	1/7/02	170,560		
EXTS02/0367	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	16/7/01	14/7/02	199,700		
EXTS02/0265	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/7/01	28/7/02	197,600		
EXTS02/2095	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/7/01	28/7/02	197,600		
EXTS02/0341	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/8/01	28/8/02	156,000		

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/0374	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	11/9/01	9/9/02	152,900		
EXTS02/0181	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	18/9/00	15/9/02	304,000		
EXTS02/0214	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	5/10/01	4/10/02	147,680		
EXTS02/2103	PAXUS AUSTRALIA	35-004-609-616		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	20/5/02	22/11/02	100,672		
EXTS02/1096	PENNEX			PE Process/Library, Manager & Project/Manager	0	100	0	0	19/6/97	18/6/04	120,000		
EXTS02/1098	POINT TECHNOLOGY	76-084-870-735		Licence of Aviva Software	0	100	0	0	30/6/98	29/6/05	1,600,000		
EXTS02/0773	PROTOCOL Development Systems	19-062-955-060		Maintenance for Accesslink	0	0	0	100	1/6/00	1/12/01	1,049,998		
EXTS02/2551	Protocom Development Systems	19-062-955-060		Provision of Software Support and Development Services	0	0	100	0	1/1/02	31/12/02	522,500		
EXTS02/1099	PROTOCOL Development Systems	19-062-955-060		Licence of Secure Console	0	100	0	0	30/6/98	29/6/05	200,000		
EXTS02/2059	Quasar Professionals	29-063-618-548		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/7/00	28/7/01	166,400		
EXTS02/2060	Quasar Professionals	29-063-618-548		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	28/8/00	26/8/01	161,000		
EXTS02/2051	Quasar Professionals	29-063-618-548		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	4/9/00	2/9/01	150,000		
EXTS02/2057	Quasar Professionals	29-063-618-548		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	29/11/00	27/11/01	180,960		
EXTS02/2089	Quasar Professionals	29-063-618-548		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	5/4/01	3/4/02	178,880		
EXTS02/0258	QUASAR PROFESSIONALS	29-063-618-548		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	29/7/01	27/7/02	176,800		
EXTS02/0302	QUASAR PROFESSIONALS	29-063-618-548		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	27/8/01	25/8/02	168,500		
EXTS02/0385	QUASAR PROFESSIONALS	29-063-618-548		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	4/4/02	4/4/03	196,768		
EXTS02/1142	RICOH	30 000 593 171		Supply of 3-in-1 Imaging Devices	100	0	0	0	29/5/02	28/5/03	700,000		

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9143

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/1100	SAS	13-002-287-247		SAS/Base Access to DB2, AF, ETS, FSP, Graph, Share, Stat, Connect & SAS/C - Canberra / Sydney	0	100	0	0	1/3/97	30/12/04	6,615,432		
EXTS02/2147	SHERIDAN MANAGEMENT SERVICES	27-002-138-632		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	16/4/01	14/4/02	184,000		
EXTS02/0187	SHERIDAN MANAGEMENT SERVICES	27-002-138-632		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	22/1/02	22/7/02	102,960		
EXTS02/0203	SHERIDAN MANAGEMENT SERVICES	27-002-138-632		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	15/4/02	15/10/02	100,672		
EXTS02/1103	SIRIUS	Exempt - Overseas Company		Fast/Unload, Fast Reload, Janus, Trusted Login, Performance Enhancements V2, Fast/Backup, Fast/Cram, Sir Aud, SireXref, SirPro, SirFile, SirScan, SirMon, SirFact, SirLib, SirTune, Sir2000 Field Migration Facility, Sir2000 User Language Tools,	0	100	0	0	1/4/97	1/2/02	1,498,228		
EXTS03/0008-A	SMS Consulting Group Ltd	17-006-515-028		I&T Procurement Strategic Alignment Consultancy	0	0	100	0	28/11/01	31/5/02	260,975		
EXTS03/0008-B	SMS Consulting Group Ltd	17-006-515-028		I&T Procurement Strategic Alignment Consultancy	0	0	100	0	31/5/02	31/12/02	475,475		
EXTS02/1131	SOFTLAW	67-008-651-223		Supply and maintenance of the Statute software product (Annual Support fee only)	0	100	0	0	1/10/97	30/9/02	1,510,000		
EXTS02/0295	Softlaw Corporation Pty Ltd	67-008-651-223		Supply of Decision Support System for Family Assistance Operations	0	0	0	100	25/2/00	30/6/02	20,293,659		

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/1104	SOFTWARE DESIGN ASSOCIATES	78-622-865-599		Licence of PDSMAN software (renegotiation from site licence to Enterprise Licence	0	100	0	0	30/6/98	1/7/02	420,000		
EXTS02/0242	SOUTHERN CROSS COMPUTING	71-008-626-131		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	29/6/02	160,000		
EXTS02/0320	SOUTHERN CROSS COMPUTING	71-008-626-131		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	29/6/02	167,000		
EXTS02/2239	SOUTHERN CROSS COMPUTING	71-008-626-131		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	29/6/02	167,000		
EXTS02/2236	SOUTHERN CROSS COMPUTING	71-008-626-131		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	5/7/01	3/7/02	160,200		
EXTS02/1132	SPACE TIME RESEARCH	98-006-559-191		Licence and Support of Superstar Software	0	0	0	100	6/5/00	30/4/03	547,000		
EXTS02/2249	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	3/7/00	1/7/01	149,760		
EXTS02/2271	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	31/7/00	29/7/01	127,000		
EXTS02/2259	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	7/8/00	5/8/01	159,000		
EXTS02/2277	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	8/9/00	6/9/01	136,000		
EXTS02/2255	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	26/9/00	24/9/01	153,000		
EXTS02/2276	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	16/10/00	14/10/01	174,000		
EXTS02/2267	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	13/11/00	11/11/01	154,000		
EXTS02/2280	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	25/11/00	23/11/01	180,000		
EXTS02/2282	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	28/12/00	26/12/01	169,000		
EXTS02/2274	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	2/1/01	31/12/01	204,000		
EXTS02/2251	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	5/2/01	3/2/02	159,000		
EXTS02/2257	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	27/2/01	25/2/02	187,000		
EXTS02/2242	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	3/3/01	1/3/02	208,000		
EXTS02/2292	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	19/3/01	17/3/02	167,000		

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9145

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/2273	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/4/01	28/4/02	200,000		
EXTS02/2279	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	8/5/01	6/5/02	146,000		
EXTS02/2268	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	13/11/01	13/5/02	153,920		
EXTS02/0372	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	11/6/01	9/6/02	206,000		
EXTS02/0355	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	29/6/02	187,200		
EXTS02/0210	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	2/7/01	30/6/02	161,200		
EXTS02/0236	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	31/12/01	30/6/02	101,000		
EXTS02/2288	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	31/12/01	30/6/02	101,000		
EXTS02/2275	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/1/02	1/7/02	101,920		
EXTS02/0457	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/7/01	28/7/02	126,900		
EXTS02/0298	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	6/8/01	4/8/02	165,400		
EXTS02/0400	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	4/2/02	4/8/02	107,536		
EXTS02/0205	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	7/9/01	6/9/02	158,100		
EXTS02/0228	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	15/10/01	14/10/02	183,040		
EXTS02/0466	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	29/4/02	31/10/02	107,536		
EXTS02/0661	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/6/02	29/11/02	142,000		
EXTS02/2244	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	10/6/02	10/12/02	113,256		
EXTS02/2258	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	20/6/02	19/12/02	105,248		
EXTS02/0503	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	26/6/02	25/12/02	191,400		
EXTS02/2410	Spherion	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	26/6/02	26/3/03	105,248		
EXTS02/2401	Spherion	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/02	30/6/03	205,920		
EXTS02/2291	SPHERION	35-005-705-546		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	18/7/01	15/7/03	342,000		
EXTS02/1121	Sterling Commerce (Australia) Pty Ltd	20-078-743-665		Licence and Support of Direct Connect Software	0	0	0	100	30/3/00	29/7/37	147,000		
EXTS02/1106	STORAGE TECHNOLOGY OF AUSTRALIA	79-001-515-582		Lease of Hardware	100	0	0	0	9/11/99	8/11/01	2,346,610		

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/0623	STORAGE TECHNOLOGY OF AUSTRALIA	79-001-515-582		System Hardware	100	0	0	0	24/12/99	11/1/02	4,080,387		
EXTS02/0627	STORAGETEK	79 001 515 582		System Hardware	100	0	0	0	1/7/97	30/6/04	44,142,058		
EXTS02/2315	STRATAGEM	82-008-603-996		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	17/7/00	15/7/01	164,000		
EXTS02/2314	STRATAGEM	82-008-603-996		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	16/4/01	14/4/02	166,000		
EXTS02/2323	STRATAGEM	82-008-603-996		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	23/4/01	21/4/02	166,000		
EXTS02/0253	STRATAGEM	82-008-603-996		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	18/6/01	16/6/02	154,000		
EXTS02/0284	STRATAGEM	82-008-603-996		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/6/01	28/6/02	198,640		
EXTS02/2322	STRATAGEM	82-008-603-996		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	29/6/02	146,000		
EXTS02/2321	STRATAGEM	82-008-603-996		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	29/6/02	155,000		
EXTS02/2304	STRATAGEM	82-008-603-996		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	29/6/02	166,000		
EXTS02/2318	STRATAGEM	82-008-603-996		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	29/6/02	175,000		
EXTS02/0202	STRATAGEM	82-008-603-996		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	16/1/01	14/7/02	171,600		
EXTS02/2316	STRATAGEM	82-008-603-996		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	16/7/01	14/7/02	171,600		
EXTS02/0246	STRATAGEM	82-008-603-996		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	15/10/01	13/10/02	178,880		
EXTS02/2324	STRATAGEM	82-008-603-996		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	29/6/02	29/12/02	109,252		
EXTS03/0111	Sun Microsystems Australia Pty Ltd	87-003-145-337		Hardware and Software Support Services for UNIX Equipment. (List of hardware and Software included with contract)	0	0	0	100	1/8/01	31/7/02	2,029,940		

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9147

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hardware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/1949	Sun Microsystems Australia Pty Ltd	87-003-145-337		Development and maintenance of a web content management system for Centrelink. Software included: Supplier - Divine Inc-> Content Server Enterprise Edition, Catalog Centre, Analysis connector (Marketing Studio), Content Centre, XML Exchange	0	0	0	100	5/4/02	31/3/03	3,334,574		
EXTS02/1109	SUPPORT SOLUTIONS	20-077-362-540		License and Maintenance of Quantum S/W	0	100	0	0	1/4/99	31/3/06	240,000		
EXTS02/0314	TAC Pacific (Aust) Pty Ltd	19-008-059-345		Maintain BMCS	0	0	0	100	11/1/99	10/1/03	171,160		
EXTS02/1717	The Art of Service	19-095-825-308		Provision of ITIL training services	0	0	100	0	1/5/02	1/5/03	150,000		
EXTS02/0775	THE PERIPHERAL PEOPLE (TPP)	77-002-600-599		Accesslink Equipment & Supplies	0	0	0	100	18/8/96	19/8/01	6,345,489		
EXTS02/0821	TOWER TECHNOLOGY	65-003-176-850		System Software	0	100	0	0	18/6/02	17/6/03	550,685		
EXTS02/1111	UBIQUITY	35-007-178-574		SMFUTIL-System Utility - Canberra / Sydney (Maintenance only)	0	100	0	0	1/12/01	30/11/08	327,505		
EXTS02/2319	UNIVERSAL RECRUITMENT	56-067-606-989		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	30/3/02	145,100		
EXTS02/0212	UNIVERSAL RECRUITMENT	56-067-606-989		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	31/3/02	30/9/02	106,493		
EXTS02/2217	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	3/7/00	1/7/01	168,500		
EXTS02/2226	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	31/7/00	29/7/01	142,000		

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/2183	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	31/7/00	29/7/01	161,200		
EXTS02/2209	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	31/7/00	30/7/01	170,000		
EXTS02/2193	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	25/9/00	23/9/01	158,000		
EXTS02/2190	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	10/3/01	25/9/01	146,000		
EXTS02/2181	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	28/9/00	26/9/01	151,000		
EXTS02/2187	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	31/10/00	29/10/01	168,000		
EXTS02/2210	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	7/5/01	4/11/01	101,000		
EXTS02/2214	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	13/2/01	11/2/02	165,000		
EXTS02/2200	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	17/2/01	15/2/02	158,000		

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9149

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/2202	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	23/2/01	21/2/02	177,000		
EXTS02/2207	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	13/3/01	11/3/02	144,000		
EXTS02/2203	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	20/3/01	18/3/02	160,000		
EXTS02/2166	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	7/5/01	5/5/02	148,000		
EXTS02/2211	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	5/11/01	5/5/02	100,360		
EXTS02/2218	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	4/6/01	2/6/02	174,800		
EXTS02/0226	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	24/6/01	23/6/02	185,200		
EXTS02/0407	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	28/6/01	26/6/02	187,200		
EXTS02/0349	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	2/7/01	30/6/02	168,500		

9150

SENATE

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/0174	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	21/7/01	19/7/02	245,440		
EXTS02/0329	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	23/7/01	21/7/02	176,800		
EXTS02/2227	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	23/7/01	21/7/02	176,800		
EXTS02/0479	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/7/01	28/7/02	149,800		
EXTS02/0259	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/7/01	28/7/02	161,200		
EXTS02/0452	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/7/01	28/7/02	180,000		
EXTS02/0162	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	6/8/01	4/8/02	145,600		
EXTS02/0319	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	18/8/01	11/8/02	154,000		
EXTS02/0171	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	27/8/01	25/8/02	166,400		

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9151

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
EXTS02/0275	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	24/9/01	22/9/02	166,400		
EXTS02/0436	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	27/9/01	25/9/02	150,800		
EXTS02/0286	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	30/10/01	29/10/02	177,000		
EXTS02/0291	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	6/5/02	3/11/02	110,396		
EXTS02/0464	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	8/4/02	8/11/02	118,800		
EXTS02/1063	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	27/6/02	24/12/02	102,960		
EXTS02/0318	WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	22/2/01	19/2/03	367,000		
EXTS02/2378	Wizard Information Services	47-008-617-561		IT Contract Services	0	0	100	0	24/6/02	23/6/03	203,632		

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement	
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date				
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)	
EXTS02/0113	Telstra Corporation Ltd	33-051-775-556		Telephone Access Service (service); Handsets (hardware); Interactive Voice Response Hardware (hardware); Timed Local Calls (service); Long Distance Calls (Call Centres only) (service); Calls to Mobiles (Call Centres only) (service); Voice Mail (service); Service Management Centre (service); Maintenance of Services & Equipment (service)	25	0	75	0	1/1/01	31/12/03	138,000,000	#####	Yes *	
EXTS02/0112	AAPT Ltd	22-052-082-416		Outgoing Long Distance Calls (service); Outgoing International Calls (service); Outgoing Calls to Mobile Phones (service); Mobile Phone Services (Equipment, Accessories, Network Access, Call Plans); Facilities Management of Mobile Phones (service)	2	0	98	0	18/4/00	17/4/03	20,000,000	6,600,000	Yes *	
SODS01/0042	Speechworks (BVI) Ltd	43-983-873-161		Interactive Voice Response (IVR) Application for Natural Language Speech Recognition Technology (Call Centres only) (software); Maintenance & Support (service)	0	90	10	0	12/7/02	11/7/05	878,240	790,416	Yes *	
SODS024/1529	Optus Networks P/L	92-008-570-330		Videoconferencing Terminal Equipment (hardware); Facilities Management Services (service); Maintenance of Services & Equipment (service); Carriage of Calls (service); Bridging Service (service)	15	0	85	0	24/12/02	23/12/07	1,000,000	200,000	Yes *	

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9153

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services of a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
SCM21	Optus Networks P/L	92-008-570-330		Network Satellite for Business TV (hardware); Management of Services (service)	40	0	60	0	14/8/01	14/8/06	5,755,000	1,300,000	Yes *

* All of Centelink's communication contracts contain a certain component of Industry Development both in-scope at the time of the evaluation of tenders and out-of-scope as a natural occurrence of Centelink's requirement for new and evolving technologies to meet business and customer requirements.

Child Support Agency

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services of a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount Applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
GITC3 125	Candle Australia Limited	43 002 724 334	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	30/6/02	159,600	0	No
GITC3 134	Candle Australia Limited	43 002 724 334	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	30/6/02	172,200	0	No
GITC3 122	Diskecho Pty Ltd	60 054 957 363	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	30/6/02	210,000	0	No
GITC3 121	Southern Cross Computing Pty Ltd	71 008 626 131	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	30/6/02	149,100	0	No
GITC3 124	Spherion Recruitment Solutions Pty Ltd	35 055 705 546	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	30/6/02	184,800	0	No
GITC3 120	Wizard Information Services Pty Ltd	47 008 617 561	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	30/6/02	159,600	0	No
GITC3 126	Wizard Information Services Pty Ltd	47 008 617 561	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	30/6/02	182,700	0	No
GITC3 127	Wizard Information Services Pty Ltd	47 008 617 561	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	30/6/02	157,500	0	No
GITC3 133	Mastech Asia Pacific Pty Ltd	20 080 574 616	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	3/7/01	31/12/01	88,200	0	No

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount Applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
GITC3 136	Iocore Asia Pacific Pty Ltd	85 080 156 921	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	9/7/01	8/7/02	191,100	3,640	No
GITC3 112	Pennic Pty Ltd	62 074 062 383	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	15/7/01	14/7/03	520,000	264,000	No
GITC3 130	Iocore Asia Pacific Pty Ltd	85 080 156 921	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	24/7/01	23/7/02	172,200	13,246	No
GITC3 135	Candle Australia Limited	43 002 724 334	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	1/8/01	31/7/02	172,200	14,350	No
GITC3 142	Fieldden Hummer Consulting	24 093 809 235	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	25/9/01	24/9/02	197,570	44,453	No
GITC3 140	Candle Australia Limited	43 002 724 334	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	1/10/01	30/9/02	200,970	50,243	No
GITC3 141	Candle Australia Limited	43 002 724 334	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	1/10/01	30/9/02	176,400	44,100	No
GITC4 003a	IBM Australia Ltd	79 000 024 733	US	Hardware 60% Software support 40%	60	40	0	0	26/11/01	30/11/02	76,232	31,764	No
GITC4 002	Paxus Australia Pty Limited	35 004 609 616	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	15/12/01	14/12/02	203,700	93,363	No
CSA 127	Fieldden Hummer Consulting	24 093 809 235	Australia	Accountancy/IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	19/12/01	31/3/02	38,063	0	No
GITC4 003	Mastech Asia Pacific Pty Ltd	20 080 574 616	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	1/1/02	30/6/02	88,200	0	No
GITC4 004	Techpoint Consulting Pty Ltd	63 075 561 778	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	1/1/02	31/12/03	157,500	78,750	No
GITC4 006	Greythorn Pty Ltd	57 071 352 031	UK	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	2/1/02	30/4/02	63,000	0	No
GITC4 011	Dunkley Consulting Pty Ltd	81 095 461 939	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	22/1/02	30/6/02	102,500	0	No
GITC4 008	Candle Australia Limited	43 002 724 334	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	5/2/02	4/2/03	174,678	104,807	No
GITC4 012	Candle Australia Limited	43 002 724 334	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	28/2/02	30/6/02	51,800	0	No
GITC4 014	Candle Australia Limited	43 002 724 334	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	1/4/02	31/3/03	174,300	130,725	No
GITC4 022	CPT Global Limited	16 083 090 895	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	1/4/02	31/3/03	299,000	224,250	No
GITC4 013	Iocore Asia Pacific Pty Ltd	85 080 156 921	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	1/4/02	31/3/03	231,000	173,250	No
GITC4 015	Southern Cross Computing Pty Ltd	71 008 626 131	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	18/4/02	17/10/02	80,850	47,163	No
GITC4 016	Compas Pty Ltd	90 008 615 745	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	19/4/02	18/4/03	149,100	118,038	No

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

SENATE

9155

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture			Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount Applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement	
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard-ware (%)	Soft-ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
GITC4 006	Greythorn Pty Ltd	57 071 352 031	UK	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	1/5/02	31/7/02	47,250	15,750	No
GITC4 019	Wizard Information Services Pty Ltd	47 008 617 561	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	1/5/02	30/4/03	157,500	131,250	No
GITC4 017	Partners in Computing Pty Ltd	29 074 594 880	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	15/5/02	14/8/02	47,250	23,625	No
GITC4 024	Candle Australia Limited	43 002 724 334	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	22/5/02	21/5/03	170,100	151,673	No
GITC4 020	Partners in Computing Pty Ltd	29 074 594 880	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	22/5/02	21/5/03	174,300	155,418	No
GITC4 018	Candle Australia Limited	43 002 724 334	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	24/5/02	23/5/03	177,450	158,226	No
GITC4 021	Computer Consultants International Pty Ltd	60 181 138 105	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	1/6/02	31/5/03	180,600	165,550	No
GITC4 025	Wizard Information Services Pty Ltd	47 008 617 561	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	7/6/02	6/6/03	165,900	154,840	No
GITC4 034	CPT Global Limited	16 083 090 895	Australia	Consultancy	0	0	100	0	11/6/02	30/6/02	25,000	0	No
GITC4 035	Gartner Group Pty Ltd	69 003 708 601	US	Consultancy	0	0	100	0	11/6/02	10/9/02	25,398	16,932	No
GITC4 023	Paxus Australia Pty Limited	35 004 609 616	Australia	IT Contractor	0	0	100	0	12/6/02	11/6/03	178,500	168,088	No
CSA 128	Optus Networks Pty Ltd	92 008 570 330	Singapore	Telco Supplier	0	0	100	0	11/1/02	10/1/04	3,892,000	1,600,000	No*
CSA 063	NEC Business Solutions Ltd	14 004 803 490	Japan	Telco Supplier (20% Hardware & 80% Services)	20	0	80	0	9/8/01	30/6/06	59,870,000	12,400,000	No*
	Core Agreement between ATO & CSA		Australia	Intranet Publishing 49.70% SAP Interface 6.68% SAP Financials 43.62%	0	0	0	100	1/7/01	30/6/03	643,800	281,900	No

NB: (*) contracts were entered into under NOIE head agreements for the provision of telephony services and so no separate industry development plan was required.

Social Security Appeals Tribunal

1(c) Domicile of parent company - information not collected

Unique identifier Number	Contractor Information			Subject matter of the contract	Whether substantially for hardware, soft- ware, services or a mixture				Contract Duration		Value \$A	Amount applicable to 2002-03 budget year \$A	Industry development requirement
	Contractor name	ABN or ACN	Domicile of parent company		Hard- ware (%)	Soft- ware (%)	Services (%)	Mixture (%)	Start date	End Date			
1(a)	1(b)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(d)	1(e)	1(f)	1(f)	1(g)	1(h)
–	3 Dimensional Consulting P/L	91089039430		Development of and technical support of AMSWIN (SSAT case management system)	0	0	100	0	1/7/01	30/6/02	100,000	70,960	No
–	Dell Computers			Purchase of 120 desktop computers	100	0	0	0	1/5/02	1/5/02	240,000	240,000	No
–	Dataflex P/L	95008623489		Purchase of 22 laptop computers	100	0	0	0	30/6/02	30/6/02	96,745	96,745	No

Defence: Air Traffic Controllers
(Question No. 1024)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister for Defence, upon notice, on 11 December 2002:

Further to the advice given to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee in the estimates hearing on 20 November 2002 that Air Marshal Houston and Airservices Australia had agreed to work towards the provision by Airservices Australia of air traffic control services at Townsville and Darwin airports:

- (1) (a) When will the consultation phase commence and conclude; and (b) which defence agencies and organisations will be included in that consultation.
- (2) Does this decision relate to previous reports of a shortage of defence air traffic controllers; if so, can the Minister assure the public that sufficient defence resources exist to safely cover the functions until the proposed changes occur or, if defence resources are not sufficient, will interim measures be put in place.
- (3) Is the decision to transfer functions from the department to Airservices Australia a ministerial or an agency level decision.
- (4) Will any other airport or aviation functions be involved in the transfer of functions at Darwin and/or Townsville airports, or any other locations; if so, which services and locations.

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

- (1) (a) The consultation phase will commence in January 2003 and conclude in 2003. (b) The following will be included in the consultation: the Royal Australian Air Force, the Royal Australian Army, the Department of Transport and Regional Services, Civil Aviation Safety Authority, Regional airspace users Advisory Committee, and local aviation groups.
- (2) Sufficient Defence resources exist to safely cover existing functions.
- (3) The decision to conduct the study was made by myself and the Deputy Prime Minister, the Hon John Anderson MP, taking into account advice from our respective departments.
- (4) The review will focus on integrating civil and military air traffic management systems at Darwin and Townsville. This focus could broaden in time.

Foreign Affairs: Burma
(Question No. 1030)

Senator Nettle asked the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs, upon notice, on 11 December 2002:

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the rape of an estimated 625 women and girls in the past 5 years in Burma by Burmese military personnel.
- (2) Has the Minister raised this issue of rape by military personnel with the Burmese State Peace and Development Council; if not: (a) why did the Minister not raise the issue during the course of his requests for the release of Burmese political prisoners; and (b) now that the Minister is aware of the issue, when will he be raising it with the State Peace and Development Council.

Senator Hill—The Minister for Foreign Affairs has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) I am aware of the reports of the rape of women in Burma by military personnel.
- (2) Although I did not make a specific reference to reports about the rape of women during my October 2002 visit to Burma, I raised Australia's concerns about the poor human rights situation in my meetings. The Government has urged the Burmese authorities to support an international investigation of the rape allegations. The Australian Embassy in Rangoon will continue to make representations on this issue.

Medicare: Cards
(Question No. 1032)

Senator Chris Evans asked the Minister for Health and Ageing, upon notice, on 12 December 2002:

How many Medicare cards were returned to the Health Insurance Commission in 2001-02 because the person to whom the card was issued had died.

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

The Health Insurance Commission does not maintain information on the number of Medicare cards returned due to a person being deceased.

Japan: Dolphin Deaths
(Question No. 1037)

Senator Nettle asked the Minister representing the Minister for Trade, upon notice, on 13 December 2002:

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the sanctioned slaughter of 20,000 dolphins per year currently taking place in Japanese waters.
- (2) Has the Minister raised the issue of dolphin slaughter in trade negotiations with his Japanese counterpart; if not, can the Minister explain why it has not been raised; if so, has the Minister sought an undertaking from his Japanese counterpart that this practice will be phased out.
- (3) Given Australia's success in the eco-tourism industry, will the Minister be providing Japan with assistance and expertise regarding the establishment of eco-tourism facilities for whale and dolphin watching; if not, why does the Minister believe that eco-tourism is not a practical and viable solution to prevent further Japanese cruelty to dolphins.

Senator Hill—The Minister for Trade has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) The Australia-Japan bilateral relationship is capable of sustaining vigorous debate of such issues, and it does. Given the wide-ranging nature of our relations, the protection of dolphins and other cetaceans is discussed in a range of forums and Australia's views are well-known to the Japanese Government. In December 2002, in the context of high level bilateral environment talks with Japan, Australia reiterated our commitment to the protection and welfare of all cetaceans. Australia is also renowned as one of the most active supporters of recommendations for the conservation of small and large cetaceans in the IWC and other multilateral forums. Japan is in no doubt about Australia's position.
- (3) Australia usually offers this type of assistance to developing countries, especially in our region. Japan has a well-developed eco-tourism industry of its own. Nevertheless, if Japan requested such assistance we would certainly give it positive consideration.

Employment: Working Holiday-Makers
(Question No. 1038)

Senator Sherry asked the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations, upon notice, on 13 December 2002:

With reference to the report, 'The Working Holiday Maker Scheme and the Australian Labour Market,' released by the Government on 24 September 2002:

- (1) Is the Government aware of the statement on page 27 of the report that, 'The most usual rate of pay [of working holiday makers] was about \$10 per hour'.
- (2) What was the federal minimum wage for casual workers in the period during which the relevant working holiday maker survey was conducted.
- (3) What has the Government done to investigate the reasons for any discrepancy between the federal minimum wage for casual workers and the \$10 'most usual' rate of pay for working holiday makers.
- (4) What accounts for any such discrepancy.
- (5) What steps has the Government taken since it received the report to ensure that working holiday makers are not paid below the legal minimum wage.
- (6) Is the Government aware of what proportion of these working holiday makers who were paid \$10 per hour were paid their wages cash in hand.

(7) What steps has the Government taken since it received the report to ensure that those who employ working holiday makers withhold and remit tax when paying their employees' wages.

Senator Alston—The Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

(1) The Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA) and my department jointly funded The Working Holiday Maker Scheme and the Australian Labour Market Report which was released on 24 September 2002.

The Government is aware of the findings of the Report and, in this context, notes that while the most usual rate of pay for working holiday makers was \$10 per hour, average earnings were in fact \$12.46 per hour. This rate is above the current federal minimum wage and the minimum wage rate applicable at the time the survey was conducted in 2002.

(2) The Federal and State workplace relations systems aim to ensure all employees are covered by arrangements providing no less than federal minimum wage. At the time the working holiday maker survey was conducted the federal minimum wage was equivalent to \$10.54 per hour (currently \$11.35 per hour).

(3) and (4) My department's analysis of the findings of the Report shows that a major factor contributing to the discrepancy between the federal minimum wage and the most usual rate of pay for working holiday makers is that the working holiday maker scheme is available to persons aged 18 to 30. As such, some participants may have been paid at junior rates which may be less than the federal minimum wage for adults.

(5) Current migration regulations and procedures require all overseas workers to be employed in accordance with Australian standards and conditions of employment (includes awards, agreements and superannuation) and comply with relevant taxation provisions.

To enforce minimum entitlements for employees, both Federal and State Governments provide advisory and compliance services to investigate complaints and send inspectors out to workplaces. The Office of Workplace Services in my department provides all employees (including working holiday makers) with information and advice on minimum entitlements.

(6) The Report found more than 70 per cent of working holiday makers received salary through cheque or electronic funds transfer (which are subject to standard taxation requirements) with an estimated 25 per cent of working holiday makers receiving cash payments.

(7) All employers of overseas workers (including working holiday makers) are required to comply with Australian taxation laws as administered by the Australian Taxation Office.

Defence: Procurement Review

(Question No. 1040)

Senator Chris Evans asked the Minister for Defence, upon notice, on 16 December 2002:

In relation to the review team to assist with defence procurements, announced on 12 December 2002:

(1) When was the decision made to set up this review team.

(2) What are the terms of reference for the review team.

(3) For how long has the review team been engaged.

(4) (a) Exactly when were the three people on the review team first approached to participate in the review; and (b) what are the terms of the engagement for the three people on the review team, that is, the number of days they will be employed on the review and their remuneration.

(5) Will the review team be providing a report to Government, if so, will that report be made public.

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

(1) On 24 November 2002.

(2) The defence procurement review will provide a report to Government to assist with a range of issues associated with major Defence acquisitions including procurement reform; budget, schedule and capability issues; process, structure and accountability arrangements; the impact of industry strategy and personnel issues. The full terms of reference are not intended for public release.

(3) The review is expected to take up to six months.

(4) (a) I am advised that following initial discussions with each of the three members of the review team, each agreed to participate in the review of defence procurements; Mr Kinnaird and Mr Early on 3 December 2002 and Dr Schofield on 12 December 2002.

(b) While the number of days for the review has not been fixed, the estimated value of each of the contracts is \$50,000.

(5) The review team will provide a report to the Government on defence procurement. The report is not intended for public release.

Defence: Frigates
(Question No. 1041)

Senator Chris Evans asked the Minister for Defence, upon notice, on 20 December 2002:

With reference to the Adelaide Class Guided Missile Frigates (FFGs):

(1) When did each of the six FFGs enter service.

(2) (a) What was the cost of each of the FFGs; and (b) what is the estimated current value of each of the FFGs.

(3) Have any of the FFGs had upgrades over their life to date; if so, what was the nature of the upgrades to each of the FFGs.

(4) (a) When was the current combat system software currently fitted to each FFG; and (b) has this software been upgraded at any stage during life of each FFG.

(5) What are the limitations of the combat system software that is currently fitted to the FFGs.

(6) Do the limitations in the current combat system software make the FFGs more vulnerable to attack.

Senator Hill—The answer to the honourable senator's questions is as follows:

(1)

Ship	Commissioned
HMAS Adelaide	15 Nov 1980
HMAS Canberra	21 Mar 1981
HMAS Sydney	29 Jan 1983
HMAS Darwin	21 Jul 1984
HMAS Melbourne	15 Feb 1992
HMAS Newcastle	11 Dec 1993

(2) (a) The information sought in the honourable senator's question is not readily available. To collect and assemble such information solely for the purpose of answering the question would be a major task and I am not prepared to authorise the expenditure and effort that would be required. Factors impacting these costs relate to the variety of procurement sources for the ships and support infrastructure as four ships were built in the USA in the late 1970s -1984 period and the last two were built in Australia in late 1980s to 1993. (b) The written down value of each FFG is as follows:

HMAS Adelaide	\$61m
HMAS Canberra	\$73m
HMAS Sydney	\$111m
HMAS Darwin	\$142m
HMAS Melbourne	\$315m
HMAS Newcastle	\$360m

(3) Yes. During the period 1988-1991 FFGs 01-03 (Adelaide, Canberra and Sydney) completed a upgrade under the Helicopter Modification Program (HMP). The purpose of this program was to install a Recovery, Assist, Securing and Traversing (RAST) system and an extended flight deck for the SH-60B Seahawk helicopter. Fin stabilisers were also fitted during this availability. HMAS Darwin was procured from the US with this work complete and HMAS Ships Melbourne and Newcastle had it completed during construction in Williamstown, Victoria.

(4) (a) The current Combat System architecture and software is essentially that established for the USN FFG-7 class in the late 1970s and installed during build of each ship. (b) Yes. The Combat System software has been continuously improved and upgraded over the period of its service to accommodate operational and hardware changes.

(5) and (6) The current FFG Combat System software is constrained by the computers that it runs on and by the performance of the current radars and other electronic sensors used. The overall combat system performance does not meet current capability requirements.

Veterans' Affairs: Services
(Question No. 1043)

Senator Mark Bishop asked the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs, upon notice, on 20 December 2002:

- (1) With reference to the department's additional estimates for the 2002-03 financial year, what is the estimated net increase in service pension claimants, both age and invalidity, as shown in Appendix 2, by category: (a) WWII; (b) Korea and south-east Asia; (c) Vietnam; (d) Commonwealth and Allied by country of origin; and (e) other, by deployment.
- (2) What were the end of year numbers in payments, in those same categories, for each of the past 3 years.
- (3) (a) What reasons are attributed for this growth; and (b) why were the forward estimates so wrong.
- (4) (a) What precisely were the changes in parameters; and (b) how do they differ from those used in the forward estimates.
- (5) What has been the growth in medical consultations of: (a) general practitioners; (b) specialists; and (c) other, by specialty, which has caused the overspending against the estimate of \$20.5 million, as shown on page 39 of the department's portfolio additional estimates statement for 2002-03.
- (6) What proportion of those services were to: (a) Gold Card holders; and (b) White Card holders.
- (7) (a) What are the elements of the \$16 million overspend shown against 'other medical expenses' on page 39, as well as the attributed expenditure to each; and (b) what are the reasons for the shortfall in funding for each item.
- (8) What have been the causes of the increase of \$22 million above the estimates for residential care, and why was the estimate so far out.
- (9) What analysis, if any, has been done of the impact of the overspend by the Homecare program.
- (10) (a) What is the explanation for the need to increase estimates by \$7 million for pharmaceuticals, as shown at page 39 of the department's portfolio additional estimates statement for 2002-03; and (b) does this projected shortfall include allowance for the 2002-03 Budget savings items; if so, how much.
- (11) Within this increase in usage, which prescribed drugs on the Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme saw the highest proportional increases.
- (12) Given that growth in numbers and/or usage rates are cited as reasons for changes to estimates to the value of \$56 million, as the treatment population declined (see page 41) where specifically was the growth by client group and treatment type.
- (13) On page 45, what elements are included under 'other', with actual cost increases, comprising the increase in estimates of \$285 000.
- (14) (a) How many claims for defective administration have there been in the 2002-03 financial year to date; and (b) what was the cost and reason for each claim in Outcome 1 and all other outcomes.
- (15) Further to the answer to question on notice no. 39 from the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee estimates hearings in February 2002: (a) what sum was spent on defective administration payments in the 2001-02 financial year; (b) what was the distribution of payments by outcome and state; and (c) what was the same distribution for each of the other years listed.

Senator Hill—The Minister for Veterans' Affairs has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) and (2) The programme 'Service Pension' includes payment of Income Support Supplement and Age Pensioners administered by the Department of Veterans' Affairs on behalf of the Department of Family and Community Services in addition to payments made to Service Pensioners and their dependants.

Estimates of expenditure use forecasts of client numbers over the course of the financial year. These projections are not split by conflict. The actual client numbers as at 30 June 2002 and the forecast numbers as at 30 June 2003 are shown in the following table.

Payment type	Actual numbers as at 30 June 2002	Forecast numbers for 30 June 2003	Forecast change over year
Service Pension	155,099	146,100	-8,999
Service Pension Spouses/ Widow(er)s/ De facto	124,419	119,200	-5,219
Income Support Supplement	83,741	85,000	1,259
Age Pensioners administered by the DVA on behalf of FaCS.	7,462	7,200	-262

The table below shows a split by conflict for the previous three years.

Service Pension and Partners	June 2000		June 2001		June 2002	
	Partners	Veteran	Partners	Veteran	Partners	Veteran
Service Pension Conflict						
Australian – World War I	145	17	124	9	104	5
Australian – World War II	87,809	113,937	83,321	106,806	76,915	98,741
Australian – WWII Mariner	1,160	1,593	1,125	1,514	1,067	1,434
Australian – Korea/Malaya	5,435	7,441	5,598	7,690	5,582	7,658
Australian – Strategic Reserve	515	681	1,278	1,713	1,559	2,057
Australian – Vietnam	12,014	15,558	13,287	17,978	15,131	20,163
Australian – Cambodia	0	0	0	0	0	1
Australian – Gulf War	1	6	7	11	7	12
Australian – Somalia Service	0	0	0	0	0	1
Australian – Namibia	0	0	0	0	0	0
Australian – East Timor	0	0	0	0	2	2
Comm & Allied – World War I	52	3	42	1	41	0
Comm & Allied – World War II	19,960	21,559	20,210	21,192	19,896	20,264
Comm & Allied – WWII Mariner	1,034	1,153	974	1,105	974	1,068
Comm & Allied – Korea/Malaya	1,837	2,088	1,858	2,127	1,884	2,119
Comm & Allied – Vietnam	1,174	1,903	1,216	1,509	1,257	1,574
Income Support Supplement	Total	76,000	Total	79,491	Total	83,741
Age Pensioners administered by DVA on behalf of FaCS	Total	8,355	Total	7,872	Total	7,462

- (3) (a) The increase in the revised estimate for service pension was a result of two factors, an increase of \$12.7m as a result of increased parameters and \$88.1m as a result of an increase in average rates of pension, largely due to changes in the composition of married and single pensioners. (b) Modelling pension projections is a dynamic process and depends on a number of interacting variables including forecast increases in pension rates and average rates, forecast client numbers, including the married/single composition and forecast parameter changes. Revisions to the estimates are considered a normal part of the budget process.
- (4) (a) Parameters (ie price and wage indices) are updated by Treasury on several occasions through the year and the Department of Finance and Administration requires agencies to update estimates of expenditure using the revised parameters. The actual parameters are classified by the Treasury as 'Protected' and the Department of Veterans' Affairs is not in a position to release them. (b) The parameters used in the Additional Estimates were the parameters current at the time the Additional Estimates were prepared, but different to those forecast at the time of preparation of the 2002-03 Budget.
- (5) (a), (b) and (c) The increase of \$20.5m in the estimate for 'Consultations and Services by Medical Practitioners' was a result of the following factors:

	Parameter \$m	Growth \$m	Transfer # \$m	\$m
Consultations by LMOs	0.158	1.661	0.000	1.819
Consultations by Specialists	0.053	-2.721	0.000	-2.668
Services by Medical Practitioners	0.539	12.914	7.933	21.385
TOTAL	0.750	11.853	7.933	20.536

Note #: Transfer in of the estimate for the 2002-03 Budget item 'Visudyne Therapy' from 'Veterans' Pharmaceutical Services' (which was originally classified as a drug rather than a medical procedure).

The specialties that contribute most to growth in the category 'Services by Medical Practitioners' (Services provided by both LMOs and Specialists) are:

Pathology;
Anaesthetics; and
Diagnostic Imaging.

- (6) (a) and (b) Typically, approximately 97% of the expenditure in category of 'Consultations and Services by Medical Practitioners' relates to Gold Card holders.
- (7) (a) and (b) There are nine components to 'Other Medical Expenses' and the increase in the estimate is due to the following factors:

Component	Reason for Increase	Sub-total \$m	Total \$m
Community Nursing	Parameter adjustment		0.078
Dental Services	Parameter adjustment Estimate revised to reflect the revised schedule of Dental Services fees.	0.078 1.802	1.880
Non Institutional Care	Parameter adjustment Greater than estimated service usage in 2001-02 which is estimated to continue in 2002-03	0.124 2.497	2.621
Rehabilitation Appliances	Parameter adjustment Greater than estimated service usage in 2001-02 which is estimated to continue in 2002-03.	0.152 0.817	0.969
Vietnam Veterans' Counselling Services	Parameter adjustment		0.021
In Home Respite	Parameter adjustment		0.027
Carer and Volunteer Support	Parameter adjustment		0.001
Expenses of travelling for medical treatment	Parameter adjustment Payments to the Victorian State Government for the costs of veteran ambulance travel which previously have been met by that Government.	0.131 10.300	10.431
Home Help	No change		0.000
TOTAL			16.028

- (8) The Department of Health and Ageing (DHA) prepares the estimates for residential care subsidies on a whole of government basis. As part of the Additional Estimates process the percentage of the total residential care subsidy attributed to veterans increased from 11% to 12% which led to the increase of \$22.8m in 2002-03. There is no additional cost from a whole of government perspective as the funding was transferred from DHA.
- (9) The Veterans' Home Care estimate increased by \$57,000 in Additional Estimates as a result of increased parameters.
- (10) (a) The increase of \$7.156m in 'Veterans' Pharmaceutical Services' is due to the following factors:

Reason for increase	\$m
Parameter adjustment	0.747
Growth in numbers and/or usage rates	6.005
2002-03 Measures	8.337
Transfer of Visudyne to 'Consultations and Services by Medical Practitioners'	-7.933
TOTAL	7.156

(b) The '2002-03 Measures' figure includes the impact of the change in implementation date as a result of legislation not being passed for the measure 'Sustaining the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme – realigning patient co-payments and safety nets'. It also includes the listing of Singular & Spiriva on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (page 38 of the Department of Veterans' Affairs Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements 2002-03).

The revised estimate includes the 2002-03 Budget savings as estimated in the 2002-03 Portfolio Budget Statements except for the measure 'Sustaining the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme – realigning patient co-payments and safety nets'. The savings for this measure were reduced from \$14.318m to \$7.03m in 2002-03. The revised estimate includes an allowance for the 2002-03 Budget measures of \$17.086m.

(11) The drugs that saw the highest proportional increases were:

Simvastatin and Atorvastatin that are used to lower cholesterol;
 Clopidogrel that is a new generation blood anti-coagulant to prevent heart attack and stroke; and
 Omeprazole and Pantoprazole which are used in the treatment of peptic ulcers and gastro-oesophageal reflux disease.

(12) The increase in the revised estimate of \$56.1m in Outcome 2 attributed to the category 'growth in numbers and/or usage rates' was in the following items:

Item	\$m	Reason
Consultations and Services by Medical Practitioners	11.853	Increase in Services provided by Medical Practitioners (see answer to part 5, "Growth").
Other medical expenses	15.416	See reasons for non-parameter increases in answer to part 7.
Veterans' pharmaceutical services	6.005	Increase in usage (see answer to part 10, "Growth").
Residential Care	22.789	Increase in percentage of veterans for whom a residential care subsidy is paid from 11% to 12% (see answer to part 8).
TOTAL	56.063	

(13) The increase of \$285,000 is represented by an increase in administered expenses of \$300,000 related to the renovation of the Brisbane Shrine of Remembrance. This has been partially offset by a reduction in departmental expenses of \$15,000 arising from a decrease in Capital Use Charge funding.

(14) (a) There are 10 claims lodged since July 2002 to date that have been or are being considered as claims for defective administration. In one case the claim was denied. Consideration of the other nine has not been completed. (b) No payments have been made in respect of the above claims.

(15) (a) Total payment in 2001-02 was \$50,344.07. (b) and (c) The distribution of payments is outlined in the table below.

State	1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02	
	No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$
ACT	1	5,321.00	2	5,423.50	0	0	1	15,000.00
NSW	0	0	2	8,240.90	2	1,002.43	1	300.00
Victoria	0	0	1	1,680.00	0	0	0	0
Queensland	4	9,556.90	6	9,561.12	5	12,470.90	6	19,526.12
South Australia	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3,426.85

State	1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02	
	No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$
Western Australia	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	12,091.10
Tasmania	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	5	14,877.90	11	24,905.52	7	13,473.33	12	50,344.07

**Industry, Tourism and Resources: Roam Consulting
(Question No. 1058)**

Senator Brown asked the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources, upon notice, on 7 January 2003:

Has Roam Consulting done any work for the department or its agencies in the past 5 years; if so:

- (a) when;
- (b) what was the brief;
- (c) what were the main findings;
- (d) what was the cost; and
- (e) can a copy of any report be provided.

Senator Minchin—The Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

According to its records, no work has been done by Roam Consulting for the department or its agencies in the past 5 years.

**Science: Cooperative Research Centres
(Question No. 1060)**

Senator Brown asked the Minister representing the Minister for Science, upon notice, on 7 January 2003:

Do the criteria for new Cooperative Research Centres (CRC) require the focus to be on filling gaps and avoiding duplication; if so, how does the Minister justify the allocation of funding to three new mining and mining-related CRCs and none to the Renewable Energy CRC.

Senator Alston—The Minister for Science has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

The Guidelines for Applicants – 2002 Selection Round and General Principles for Centre Operations specified in the eligibility criteria that:

“...Applicants may submit proposals in areas that complement existing CRCs. However, it should be noted that the preference is for proposals that fill major gaps in the research fields currently funded by the CRC Program...” (paragraph 2.1.2)

The section on the selection criteria stated:

“Applicants may submit proposals in areas that complement existing CRCs. It may be appropriate for two complementary CRCs to exist in related areas of science and engineering, each with its own particular strengths. Such CRCs may be able to develop cooperative linkages between each other on a formal basis. However, it should be noted that there would be strong preference for proposals that fill major gaps in the research currently funded under the CRC Program...” (paragraph 2.5.5)

The selection process for new CRCs is merit based and highly competitive. The focus is on selecting CRCs which best meet the nine published selection criteria. To this end, applications are assessed by referees, independent assessors and expert panels. On the basis of the advice provided, the independent CRC Committee recommends to the Minister for Science the applications which best meet the selection criteria. The entire process is overseen by a probity auditor to ensure that all applicants are treated fairly.

This was the process used in the 2002 selection round, and at the end of that process, the Minister for Science accepted the recommendations of the CRC Committee without change.

The mining and mining-related CRCs referred to by the honourable Senator competed on equal terms with all other applicants in the 2002 selection round. They were assessed against the same eligibility and selection criteria. The industry sector within which they would operate was not a selection criterion. They all ranked highly in the order of merit and were recommended for funding by the CRC Committee. The Australian CRC for Renewable Energy did not rank highly in the order of merit and was not recommended for funding by the CRC Committee.

Forestry: Plantations**(Question No. 1070)**

Senator Brown asked the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage, upon notice, on 7 January 2003:

- (1) (a) Do plantation growers in Tasmania obtain a financial advantage compared with those in other states from being able to clear native vegetation to establish plantations; (b) has this benefit been quantified; and (c) how much is it.
- (2) (a) Why is it that native forests can be cleared in Tasmania but not in any other state; and (b) what is the environmental and economic justification.
- (3) Have other plantation growers complained about the situation in Tasmania; if so, who and when.
- (4) (a) Is the Minister aware that 42 000 hectares of Tasmanian native forest on public and private land was cleared for plantations in the 2000-01 financial year and that Gunns Ltd alone has around 70 000 hectares of native forest on its own land which it intends to clear for plantations; and (b) what action will be taken to stop this destruction.
- (5) What area of plantations was established under managed investment schemes for each state in each of the following financial years: (a) 2000-01; and (b) 2001-02.
- (6) (a) Does the Government have any policy against using tax concessions to encourage the clearing of native vegetation; and (b) is the 13-month prepayment provision for plantations such a concession.

Senator Hill—The Minister for the Environment and Heritage has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) (a) I am advised that plantation growers in Tasmania do not obtain financial advantage, compared to those in other States, from being able to clear native vegetation to establish plantations. (b) Not applicable. (c) Not applicable.
- (2) Native forests can be cleared in other States and Territories to varying degrees, where clearing complies with jurisdictional legislation for the protection of environmental values. In Tasmania the Forests Practices Act 1985 provides legislative protection for natural and heritage values affected by existing and future forest operations, on either private or public land. Tasmania's Resource Planning and Development Commission recently concluded its inquiry on progress with implementation of the Tasmanian Regional Forest Agreement, in accordance with the 5-yearly review provisions of that agreement. The Final Recommendations Report of the Inquiry on the Progress with Implementation of the Tasmanian Regional Forest Agreement (1997) provides the most recent overview of the policies and regulatory regimes in place to safeguard environmental values and control clearing of native vegetation across all tenures in Tasmania.
- (3) Not to my knowledge.
- (4) (a) The Tasmanian Forest Practices Board Annual Report 2000-2001 reports that 13,643 hectares of native forest was cleared during 2000-2001. I am not aware of the specifics in relation to the amount of native forest on land held by the private company Gunns Ltd. (b) I would expect that Gunns Ltd would carry out all of its operations within the bounds set by existing regulatory frameworks.
- (5) The Environment and Heritage portfolio does not collect data concerning management investment schemes in the forest industry. (a) Not applicable. (b) Not applicable.
- (6) (a) It is not the intention of the Australian taxation system to encourage activities that are detrimental to the environment. (b) I am advised that the 13-month prepayment for plantations is not a tax concession. Rather the prepayment provision recognises the long-term nature of plantation forestry and may allow investors in timber plantation investment schemes to claim deductible

contributions earlier rather than later. The prepayment rule does not provide any additional taxation deduction for these investors.

Forestry: Plantations
(Question No. 1071)

Senator Brown asked the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation, upon notice, on 7 January 2003:

- (1) (a) Do plantation growers in Tasmania obtain a financial advantage compared with those in other states from being able to clear native vegetation to establish plantations; (b) has this benefit been quantified; and (c) how much is it.
- (2) (a) Why is it that native forests can be cleared in Tasmania but not in any other state; (b) what is the environmental and economic justification.
- (3) Have other plantation growers complained about the situation in Tasmania; if so, who and when.
- (4) (a) Is the Minister aware that 42 000 hectares of Tasmanian native forest on public and private land was cleared for plantations in the 2000-01 financial year and that Gunns Ltd alone has around 70 000 hectares of native forest on its own land which it intends to clear for plantations; and (b) what action will be taken to stop this destruction.
- (5) What area of plantations was established under managed investment schemes for each state in each of the following financial years: (a) 2000-01; (b) 2001-02.
- (6) (a) Does the Government have any policy against using tax concessions to encourage the clearing of native vegetation; and (b) is the 13-month prepayment provision for plantations such a concession.

Senator Ian Macdonald—The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

- (1) (a) No plantation growers in any Australian State or Territory obtain a financial advantage from the Commonwealth Government to clear native vegetation to establish plantations.
(b) Not applicable.
(c) Not applicable.
- (2) (a) Native forest may only be cleared in the States and Territories if the activity complies with Commonwealth and State legislation designed to protect threatened or endangered communities or species and cultural and heritage sites.
Tasmania has a comprehensive, integrated and rigorous planning system for forestry practices. The Tasmanian Forests Practices Act 1985 provides legislative protection for natural and heritage values affected by existing and future forest operations, on either private or public land, including harvesting, reforestation, roading and quarrying activities. The Forest Practices Act 1985 covers all aspects of environmental care including: biodiversity; rare and endangered species; geodiversity; cultural heritage; visual landscape; and soil and water care.
(b) Not applicable.
- (3) I am unaware of any complaints from plantation growers regarding the plantation industry in Tasmania.
- (4) (a) No. I note that the Inquiry on the Progress with Implementation of the Tasmanian Regional Forest Agreement (1997), Final Recommendations Report, released in December 2002 states that: During the four years from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 2001, the overall reduction in the native forest estate amounted to approximately 62,831 hectares, mainly as a result of conversion for plantation or agriculture. The Commission accepts that this data is based on gross area approved for future harvesting or clearing for agriculture, and is therefore an overestimation of the extent of change.
(b) See response to 2 (a).
- (5) (a) and (b) There is no established Government mechanism in place for collecting data on the area of plantations established under managed investment schemes.
- (6) (a) The Government has a strong commitment to maintaining Australia's native vegetation. Through the Regional Forest Agreements (RFAs) a balance has been found between pre-

serving biodiversity for future generations and supporting the significant contribution that industry can make to the economy. It is not an aim of the Australian taxation system to encourage activities that are detrimental to the environment. Indeed Subdivision 40-G of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 may allow an immediate tax deduction to be claimed for capital expenditure incurred in preventing or fighting land degradation, including soil conservation measures and operations which prevent or fight such things as salinity and the degradation of natural vegetation.

- (b) The 13-month prepayment provision provides a timing advantage for investors in timber plantation managed investment schemes. Section 8-1 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 allows taxpayers to claim a deduction for those costs involved in gaining or producing their assessable income. This section means that investors can deduct some of the funds that they pay to establish a plantation. The prepayment rule provides that to the extent that investors' contributions are already considered deductible under Section 8-1, and where these contributions relate specifically to seasonally dependent agronomic operations undertaken in establishing the plantation, then investors can claim an immediate deduction for funds committed in one financial year that relate to operations undertaken in the following year. The prepayment rule does not provide any additional taxation deduction for these investors.

Forestry: Standards

(Question No. 1073)

Senator Brown asked the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation, upon notice, on 8 January 2003:

In response to the answer to Question on Notice No. 816 (Senate *Hansard*, 19 November 2002, p. 6809) and the failure to answer part (b) of that question, and noting the Minister's assurance that the Australian Forest Standard (AFS) was "intentionally drafted" for compatibility with international standards: In what specific way is the AFS different (more strident or lax) than international standards?

Senator Ian Macdonald—The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

In a comparison of the Australian Forestry Standard (AFS) with the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) forest certification scheme and the Pan European Forest Certification (PEFC) scheme, the AFS is compatible with the PEFC and there are only three AFS criteria that are different to FSC criteria, these are:

- (1) The AFS does not include a specific criterion equivalent to the FSC criterion that prohibits the use of genetically modified organisms. The reason for the difference is that Australia already has gene technology laws and all forest managers are required to comply with all existing governing legislation.
- (2) The AFS does not prescribe a 'chain of custody' framework because it is a forest management standard, not a product management standard. AFS certified products will be supported by a separate 'chain of custody' framework. The forest and wood products industry in Australia is considering what internationally recognised 'chain of custody' framework they will use.
- (3) The AFS does not prescribe that a proportion of overall plantation forest (appropriate to scale and determined by region) shall be managed so as to restore the site to a natural forest cover. This is because in Australia the proportion of forest set aside as natural forest cover has already been prescribed for individual regions in Australia's Regional Forest Agreements (RFAs) and by State/regional and local planning requirements.

In all other areas the AFS is considered compatible with the FSC. Two specific issues raised by ENGO representatives on the AFS Technical Reference Committee have also been addressed in the final AFS.

These issues were:

- (1) Unlike the FSC the AFS does not have a set date by which certification will not be granted to the forest manager if conversion of natural forest to plantations is undertaken after this date. The AFS states that the forest manager shall not undertake conversion except in exceptional circumstances, such as clearing required by law under powerlines, and also specifies that managers of plantations established after the date of the publication of the AFS will be required to demonstrate conformance with this requirement as part of the certification process.
- (2) Stakeholder consultation as part of the certification process.

A sub-committee of the Technical Reference Committee (TRC) was established to examine how public participation should be facilitated at the forest management plan level. The result was the drafting of separate AFS criterion, which combined requirements for the identification of stakeholders, public input to management planning and good neighbour considerations. Neither the FSC nor the PEFC have separate criterion that specifically addresses public participation.

Science: Chief Scientist

(Question No. 1074)

Senator Brown asked the Minister representing the Minister for Science, upon notice, on 8 January 2003:

With reference to the Chief Scientist, Dr Robin Batterham: (a) what has been his total income from his appointment; (b) what fringe benefits have applied, and what is the value of these; (c) what is his annual wage; and (d) what costs have been paid for Dr Batterham's travel, to what destinations, and for what purpose has each of his paid journeys been made.

Senator Alston—The Minister for Science has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

(a) Total - \$327,155 over three and a half years from 31 May 1999 to 15 January 2003.

(b) Fringe benefits tax is payable in these circumstances:

Meals that have been paid for by the former Department of Industry, Science and Resources (ISR) and the Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST) where the average cost of the meal exceeds the meal allowance rates of the Senior Executive Service.

Meals that have been paid for by the department (ISR or DEST) where the meal included alcohol.

The Chief Scientist has incurred an amount of fringe benefits tax of under \$250 during the three and a half years from 31 May 1999 to 15 January 2003.

(c) The current annual fee for the Chief Scientist is \$90,600, as set by the Remuneration Tribunal.

Please refer to the Remuneration Tribunal website for the current (http://www.remtribunal.gov.au/home/dets/det_2002_10.html) and past (http://www.remtribunal.gov.au/home/archival_determinations.html) annual fees of the Chief Scientist.

(d) The Chief Scientist's travel costs are reimbursed, in line with the Remuneration Tribunal determination, at Tier 1 level. Travel costs include accommodation, meal allowance, air travel and car travel.

The total cost of travel undertaken by the Chief Scientist over the three and a half years has been \$199,379.49 (from 31 May 1999 to 31 December 2002).

Details of the Chief Scientist's domestic travel follow. In respect of international travel he has travelled on six occasions.

Germany: BioTechnica, Hannover (October 1999);

Europe, USA and Canada: consultations held as part of the Science Capability Review (February 2000);

UK, Technology Transfer International and Head, Strategic Industry Research Foundation delegation (July 2000);

China: International High-level Seminar on Technological Innovation (September 2000);

New Zealand: Knowledge Wave Conference (August 2001); and

Malaysia: APEC, International Science and Technology Working Group (October 2001).

The Chief Scientist travels ex Melbourne, his place of residence. His commitments outside Melbourne range from one to four days.

Date(s)	Travel to location(s)	Purpose
January 2003		
28	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
22	Canberra	National Youth Science Forum and official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
15	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
13	Sydney	US-Australia bilateral workshop on artificial photosynthesis
December 2002		
18	Canberra	National Academies Forum and official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
11	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
4	Canberra	PMSEIC and official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
2	Canberra	House of Representatives Inquiry into Business Commitment to R&D and official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
November 2002		
29	Brisbane	Professional Doctorates Conference Ministerial Council on Energy Queensland Science Education Summit
26	Canberra	Cooperative Research Centres committee and official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
22	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
18	Sydney	Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering 2002 Symposium
15	Canberra	Australian Academy of Humanities
13	Adelaide	Australian Research Council
12	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
11	Sydney	New South Wales, Office of Western Sydney
11	Canberra	Academy of Social Sciences
7	Canberra	Co-ordination Committee of Science and Technology and official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
1	Brisbane	Mining 2002
October 2002		
30	Sydney	CSIRO
29	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
23	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
21	Sydney	Australian Association for the Gifted and Talented and the Warren Centre
14	Sydney	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
10	Canberra	National research priorities
8	Sydney	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments

Date(s)	Travel to location(s)	Purpose
September 2002		
16	Canberra	All party committee on population and development and official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
2	Adelaide	National Aged Care Services Conference
August 2002		
30	Canberra	PMSEIC
29	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
29	Sydney	Cooperative Research Centre for Eye Research, CEO Circle dinner and official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
23	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
22	Ballarat	University of Ballarat
20	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
20	Brisbane	Science Meets Parliament
13	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
12	Sydney	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
8	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
1	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
July 2002		
29	Sydney	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
26	Canberra	Coordination Committee on Science and Technology
24	Sydney	University of Sydney
22	Sydney	World Congress on Particle Technology
19	Sydney	Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering
18	Perth	Ritchie Symposium
16	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
9	Canberra	Cooperative Research Centres Committee and official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments.
1	Perth	Australian Research Council and University of West Australia
June 2002		
27	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
26	Adelaide	South Australia Business Vision 2010 Conference
24	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
18	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
6	Brisbane	National research priorities
4	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
May 2002		
29	Canberra	National research priorities and PMSEIC
27	Cairns	Mining and Metallurgical Congress

Date(s)	Travel to location(s)	Purpose
20	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
20	Brisbane	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments and Queensland R&D Strategy Leaders workshop
17	Brisbane	Commonwealth States and Territories Advisory Council on Innovation
16	Canberra	National Institute for Forensic Science
16	Sydney	State Library of New South Wales
15	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments and PMSEIC
13	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments and PMSEIC
10	Canberra	National research priorities
3	Canberra	Academy of Science
April 2002		
22	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments and PMSEIC
17	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments and PMSEIC
15	Sydney	Australian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy
12	Adelaide	South Australian Primary Industries R&D Board
8	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments and PMSEIC
2-3	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments and PMSEIC
March 2002		
26	Canberra	Deputy Vice-Chancellors, Research
15	Canberra	Co-ordination Committee on Science and Technology and official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
11	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments and PMSEIC
7	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments and PMSEIC
5	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments and PMSEIC
1	Sydney	Artificial photosynthesis network
February 2002		
28	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
26-27	Canberra	Australian Research Council and official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
January 2002		
9	Canberra	National Youth Science Forum and official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
December 2001		
18	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
14	Canberra	Coordination Committee on Science and Technology
13	Canberra	Australian Research Council
6	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
5	Brisbane	Australian Institute for Commercialisation

Date(s)	Travel to location(s)	Purpose
4 November 2001	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Education, Science and Training and associated appointments
23	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
20	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
19	Hobart	Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering annual general meeting
15	Sydney	Biotechnology Centres of Excellence workshop
12	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
12	Canberra	Australian Vice-Chancellors Committee dinner
8	Perth	Australia-Israel Chamber of Commerce
8	Sydney	Australian Institute for Commercialisation
5	Sydney	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
October 2001		
31	Canberra	Cooperative Research Centres Committee
23	Brisbane	Australian Research Council
23	Sydney	Fourth Conference on Nuclear Science and Engineering
16	Sydney	2001 Sir Harold Wyndham Memorial Lecture
15	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
September 2001		
20	Adelaide	Commonwealth, State and Territory Advisory Council on Innovation
19	Sydney	Artificial Photosynthesis Network
17	Canberra	Australian Research Council
11	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
10	Sydney	Proteome Systems Ltd
3	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
August 2001		
29	Canberra	Australian Research Council
23	Perth	Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering youth forum
21	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
16	Sydney	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
14	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
7	Canberra	Cooperative Research Centres committee
July 2001		
25	Adelaide	Technology Transfer conference
23	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
16	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
9 June 2001	Canberra	Major National Research Facilities committee
27	Canberra	PMSEIC and official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments

Date(s)	Travel to location(s)	Purpose
26	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
21	Canberra	Coordination Committee on Science and Technology
20	Sydney	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
18	Sydney	Public forum for ABC Radio National
15	Canberra	Major National Research Facilities
14	Hobart	Australian Antarctic Division
6	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
4	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
May 2001		
31	Adelaide	Cluster Conference
30	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
28	Adelaide	Cluster Conference preparation
17	Perth	Cooperative Research Centres Association
16	Brisbane	Superannuation Forum
15	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
15	Sydney	Eureka Prizes Presentation
9	Canberra	Federation of Australian Scientific and Technological Societies forum
9	Sydney	Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering seminar
8	Perth	Superannuation Forum
7	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
3	Sydney	New Scientist seminar
2	Canberra	Australian Academy of Science
April 2001		
30	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
26	Sydney	Australian Stock Exchange
24	Sydney	Council for the Economic Development of Australia
19	Brisbane	Queensland Food and Fibre Science and Innovation Council
17	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
6	Hyatt Coolum, Sunshine Coast	Australian and New Zealand Licensing Executive Society annual conference
4	Canberra	Cooperative Research Centres Committee and official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
2	Adelaide	Superannuation Forum
March 2001		
28	Sydney	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
27	Hobart	Commonwealth, State and Territory Advisory Council on Innovation
20	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
16	Lorne	Australian Computer Society conference

Date(s)	Travel to location(s)	Purpose
February 2001		
15	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
12	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
9	Adelaide	South Australian Innovation Council
7	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
6	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
January 2001		
30	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
29	Sydney	Launch of Backing Australia's Ability
24	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
16	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
8	Canberra	National Youth Science Forum
December 2000		
19	Canberra	Coordination Committee on Science and Technology
12	Canberra	Cooperative Research Centres Committee
7	Sydney	Superannuation Investment Forum
4	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
November 2000		
29	Canberra	PMSEIC
27	Canberra	Australian Research Council
24	Brisbane	Australian Research Management conference
21	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
13	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
October 2000		
31	Canberra	Science Meets Parliament
24	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
20	Canberra	Cooperative Research Centre Committee
19	Sydney	Australian Conservation Foundation book launch
17	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
16	Sydney	Launch: The Chance to Change
11	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
5	Ballarat	Australian Research Council
3	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
September 2000		
26	Canberra	Science Capability Review
11	Hobart	PMSEIC
8	Canberra	Coordination Committee on Science and Technology
August 2000		
30	Hobart	Science Capability Review
29	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
28	Adelaide	Science Capability Review

Date(s)	Travel to location(s)	Purpose
22	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
16	Darwin	Science Capability Review
14	Perth	Science Capability Review
8	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
1	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
July 2000		
18	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
June 2000		
30	Sydney	Business Council of Australia
28	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
23	Canberra	Coordination Committee on Science and Technology
22	Adelaide	Meeting of Deputy Vice-Chancellors and Pro Vice-Chancellors (Research)
14	Adelaide	Innovation Summit Implementation Group meeting with stakeholders
8	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
1	Canberra	PMSEIC
May 2000		
30	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
23	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
23	Sydney	Business and Higher Education Roundtable
17	Brisbane	Co-operative Research Centre Association
16	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
12	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
10	Note: trip cancelled due to heavy fog Sydney	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
3	Canberra	Commonwealth, State and Territory Advisory Council on Innovation
2	Brisbane	Australian Academy of Science
April 2000		
28	Canberra	Queensland University of Technology Vice Chancellors
18	Adelaide	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
March 2000		
29	Canberra	PMSEIC
21	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
10	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
February 2000		
28	Canberra	Coordination Committee on Science and Technology
22	Canberra	Conference of Rural R&D Chairs
16	Canberra	CSIRO
8	Canberra	ARIES Consortium presentation
		Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments

Date(s)	Travel to location(s)	Purpose
3 January 2000	Sydney	Australian Technology Network Conference
17	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
5 December 1999	Canberra	National Youth Science Forum
14	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
10 November 1999	Canberra	Australian Research Council
30	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
25	Canberra	PMSEIC
24	Adelaide	Address to Adelaide University
24	Canberra	PMSEIC
23	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
12	Canberra	Coordination Committee on Science and Technology
9	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
9	Sydney	Australian Vice-Chancellors Committee
2	Gold Coast	Commonwealth, State and Territory Advisory Council on Innovation
October 1999		
25	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
19	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
14 September 1999	Canberra	Australian Research Council
30	Sydney	Australian Engineering Achievers Group
28	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
21	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
10	Canberra	Coordination Committee on Science and Technology
1	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
August 1999		
30	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
24	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
19	Brisbane	PMSEIC
12	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
3	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
July 1999		
28	Canberra	Australian Research Council
20	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
13	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments

Date(s)	Travel to location(s)	Purpose
June 1999		
28	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
24	Canberra	PMSEIC
22	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
11	Canberra	Coordination Committee on Science and Technology
9	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments
1	Canberra	Official duty with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and associated appointments

Science: Chief Scientist

(Question No. 1075)

Senator Brown asked the Minister representing the Minister for Science, upon notice, on 8 January 2003:

On what dates and for what purpose has the Chief Scientist, Dr Robin Batterham, met with: (a) the Prime Minister; (b) the Minister for Science and (c) other Ministers (please specify).

Senator Alston—The Minister for Science has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

(a) Meetings with the Prime Minister

Year	Date of meeting	Purpose of meeting
2002	5 December	Prime Minister's Science, Engineering and Innovation Council (PMSEIC) meeting
	4 December	Brief on PMSEIC issues
	4 December	PMSEIC dinner
	26 November	National research priorities and Higher Education Review
	30 May	Brief on PMSEIC issues
	30 May	PMSEIC dinner
	28 June	PMSEIC meeting
	27 June	Brief on PMSEIC issues
	27 June	PMSEIC dinner
	29 January	Launch of Backing Australia's Ability
2001	30 November	PMSEIC meeting
	29 November	PMSEIC dinner
	27 November	Brief on PMSEIC issues
	1 November	Meet with Dr Neal Lane, US Presidential Science Advisor
	12 October	Science Capability Review
	30 August	Opening of CSIRO Discovery Centre
	2 June	PMSEIC meeting
2000	1 June	PMSEIC dinner
	30 May	Briefing on PMSEIC issues
	26 November	PMSEIC meeting
	25 November	PMSEIC dinner
	24 November	Briefing on PMSEIC issues
	25 June	PMSEIC meeting
	24 June	PMSEIC dinner
	22 June	Brief on PMSEIC issues
1999		

During the years 1999 to 2002, the Chief Scientist attended meetings of the Ministerial Committee Oversighting the Implementation of Backing Australia's Ability and a meeting of the Sustainable Environment Committee of Cabinet.

(b) Meetings with the Minister for Science

Year	Date of meeting	Purpose of meeting
2003	15 January	DEST Science Strategy Meeting
2002	20 December	Prime Minister's Science, Engineering and Innovation Council (PMSEIC) follow up
	5 December	PMSEIC meeting
	4 December	Brief on PMSEIC issues
	4 December	PMSEIC dinner
	28 November	To consider national research priorities
	12 November	Dinner with Lord May
	20 August	National Research Priorities: Expert Advisory Panel
	10 July	Present findings of national research priorities consultative panel
	27 June	National Research Priorities
	18 June	PMSEIC working groups follow up
	31 May	PMSEIC meeting
	30 May	PMSEIC dinner
	30 May	Briefings on PMSEIC issues
	2 and 3 April	DEST science policy retreat
	25 February	General discussion
2001	10 December	Introductory meeting
	28 June	PMSEIC meeting
	27 June	Briefings on PMSEIC issues
	27 June	PMSEIC dinner
	30 May	General discussion
	25 January	Discussion re: Backing Australia's Ability launch
2000	30 November	PMSEIC meeting
	29 November	PMSEIC dinner
	27 November	Briefings on PMSEIC issues
	1 November	Meet with Dr Neal Lane, US Presidential Science Advisor
	1 November	Rio Tinto Science Olympiads Awards dinner
	30 October	Details unavailable
	12 October	Science Capability Review
	12 October	Launch of "Corals of the world"
	30 August	Opening of CSIRO Discovery Centre
	2 June	PMSEIC meeting
	1 June	PMSEIC dinner
	30 May	Briefings on PMSEIC issues
	19 May	Science Capability Review
	29 March	Details unavailable
	16 February	ARIES Consortium presentation
	11 February	National Innovation Summit
	10 February	National Innovation Summit
	9 February	Dinner at National Innovation Summit
	20 January	Marine Science and Capability Review
1999	26 November	PMSEIC meeting
	25 November	PMSEIC dinner
	24 November	Brief on PMSEIC issues
	20 October	Details unavailable
	14 October	Innovation
	7 September	Discussions with Business Council of Australia
	1 September	Details unavailable
	12 August	Details unavailable
	12 August	Science Capability Review
	25 June	PMSEIC meeting
	24 June	PMSEIC dinner
	22 June	Brief on PMSEIC issues
	9 June	Introductory meeting

During the years 1999 to 2002, the Chief Scientist attended meetings of the Ministerial Committee Oversighting the Implementation of Backing Australia's Ability and a meeting of the Sustainable Environment Committee of Cabinet.

(c) Meetings with other Ministers

For information about Ministerial members of the Prime Minister's Science, Engineering and Innovation Council (PMSEIC), please refer to the PMSEIC website <http://www.dest.gov.au/science/PMSEIC>.

Year	Date of meeting	Minister(s)	Purpose of meeting
2002	11 December	The Minister for Defence, Senator the Hon Robert Hill and the Minister for Education, Science and Training, Dr Brendan Nelson MP	Science and industry
	5 December	PMSEIC Ministerial members	PMSEIC meeting
	4 December	The Minister for Transport and Regional Services, the Hon John Anderson, MP	Brief on PMSEIC issues
	4 December	The Minister for Education, Science and Training, the Hon Dr Brendan Nelson, MP	Brief on PMSEIC issues
	4 December	PMSEIC Ministerial members	PMSEIC dinner
	29 November	The Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources, the Hon Ian Macfarlane, MP	Presentation to Ministerial Council on Energy
	12 November	The Minister for Environment and Heritage, the Hon Dr David Kemp, MP	Discuss PMSEIC issues
	1 November	The Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources, the Hon Ian Macfarlane, MP	Launch of the Rio Tinto Foundation for a Sustainable Minerals Industry
	23 October	The Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources, the Hon Ian Macfarlane, MP	Discuss PMSEIC issues
	23 October	The Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, Senator the Hon Richard Alston	Discuss PMSEIC issues
	23 October	The Minister for Transport and Regional Services, the Hon John Anderson, MP	Discuss PMSEIC issues
	23 October	The Minister for Finance, Senator the Hon Nick Minchin	Research outcomes
	8 October	The Minister for Education, Science and Training, the Hon Dr Brendan Nelson, MP	National research priorities and Higher Education Review
	16 September	The Minister for Education, Science and Training, the Hon Dr Brendan Nelson, MP	Dinner with all-party committee on Population and Development
	24 June	The Minister for Education, Science and Training, the Hon Dr Brendan Nelson, MP	Rio Tinto Australian Science Olympiads Awards dinner
	19 June	The Minister for Transport and Regional Services, the Hon John Anderson, MP	PMSEIC follow up
	31 May	PMSEIC Ministerial members	PMSEIC meeting
	30 May	The Minister for Transport and Regional Services, the Hon John Anderson, MP, and the Minister for Education, Science and Training, the Hon Dr Brendan Nelson, MP	PMSEIC briefing
	30 May	PMSEIC Ministerial members	PMSEIC dinner
	29 May	The Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources, the Hon Ian Macfarlane, MP	PMSEIC briefing
	27 March	The Minister for Health and Ageing, Senator the Hon Kay Patterson	PMSEIC briefing

Year	Date of meeting	Minister(s)	Purpose of meeting
2001	12 March	The Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources, the Hon Ian Macfarlane, MP	Industry and energy
	5 March	The Minister for Environment and Heritage, the Hon Dr David Kemp, MP	Science issues
	4 March	The Minister for Ageing, the Hon Kevin Andrews, MP	Stem cells
	13 December	The Minister for Education, Science and Training, the Hon Dr Brendan Nelson, MP	Introductory meeting
	22 August	The Minister for Environment and Heritage, Senator the Hon Robert Hill	Details unavailable
	28 June	PMSEIC Ministerial members	PMSEIC meeting
	27 June	PMSEIC Ministerial members	PMSEIC dinner
	4 June	The Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, Senator the Hon Richard Alston (telephone conference)	Details unavailable
	31 May	The Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs, the Hon Dr David Kemp, MP	Implementation of Backing Australia's Ability
	15 May	The Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs, the Hon Dr David Kemp, MP	Opening of ANU Australian Partnership for Advanced Computing national facility
2000	30 November	PMSEIC Ministerial members	PMSEIC meeting
	29 November	PMSEIC Ministerial members	PMSEIC dinner
	20 November	The Minister for Transport and Regional Services, the Hon John Anderson, MP	Science Capability Review
	1 November	The Minister for Industry, Science and Resources, Senator the Hon Nick Minchin	Rio Tinto Science Olympiads Awards dinner
	12 October	The Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs, the Hon Dr David Kemp, MP	Science Capability Review
	12 October	The Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs, the Hon Dr David Kemp, MP	Science Capability Review
	11 October	The Minister for Defence, the Hon Peter Reith, MP	Science Capability Review
	11 October	The Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, Senator the Hon Richard Alston, and the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, the Hon Warren Truss, MP	Science Capability Review
	6 October	The Minister for Health and Aged Care, the Hon Dr Michael Wooldridge, MP.	Science Capability Review
	2 June	PMSEIC Ministerial members	PMSEIC meeting
1999	1 June	PMSEIC Ministerial members	PMSEIC dinner
	17 May	The Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs, the Hon Dr David Kemp, MP	Science Capability Review
	26 November	PMSEIC Ministerial members	PMSEIC meeting
	25 November	PMSEIC Ministerial members	PMSEIC dinner
	25 June	PMSEIC Ministerial members	PMSEIC meeting
	24 June	PMSEIC Ministerial members	PMSEIC dinner

During the years 1999 to 2002, the Chief Scientist attended meetings of the Ministerial Committee Oversighting the Implementation of Backing Australia's Ability and a meeting of the Sustainable Environment Committee of Cabinet.

Science: Chief Scientist
(Question No. 1076)

Senator Brown asked the Minister representing the Minister for Science, upon notice, on 8 January 2003:

Has the Chief Scientist, Dr Robin Batterham, ever been accompanied by representatives of Rio Tinto when meeting the Prime Minister or other ministers; if so: (a) who were those representatives; (b) when did the meetings take place, where and for what purpose; and (c) what was the outcome of each such meeting?

Senator Alston—The Minister for Science has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

There have been two occasions where the Chief Scientist has been accompanied by representatives of Rio Tinto when meeting the Prime Minister or other ministers:

- (1) Launch of the Rio Tinto Foundation for a Sustainable Minerals Industry (Note: Dr Batterham left after 10 minutes to attend another engagement.)
 - (a) Mr Brian Horwood, Managing Director, Rio Tinto Australia Ltd; Dr Mike Hollitt, General Manager, Strategic Technologies, Rio Tinto Australia Ltd.
 - (b) 1 November 2002 for the launch of the Rio Tinto Foundation for a Sustainable Minerals Industry, in Brisbane, Queensland, at which the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources, the Hon Ian Macfarlane MP was a guest.
 - (c) The Foundation was launched.
- (2) The ninth meeting of the Prime Minister's Science, Engineering and Innovation Council.
 - (a) Dr David Cain, Chief Consultant – Energy, Rio Tinto Australia Ltd.
 - (b) 5 December 2002, Parliament House, as part of the presentation of the findings of the working group on “Beyond Kyoto – innovation and adaptation”.
 - (c) PMSEIC reviewed and discussed the recommendations of the working group.

Indonesia: Mining
(Question No. 1078)

Senator Brown asked the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs, upon notice, on 8 January 2003:

What representations has the Australian Government made regarding the mining industry's operations in Indonesian rainforest reserves (for example, Rio Tinto in the Poboya Protected Forest in Sulawesi) to: (a) the Indonesian Government; (b) Rio Tinto; (c) other Australian mining interests; (d) world environment bodies.

Senator Hill—The Minister for Foreign Affairs has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (a) The Australian Embassy in Jakarta has made representations to the Indonesian Government to highlight the inconsistency between Australian mining companies' rights under their contracts of work and provisions contained in Forestry Law 41 of 1999, both of which had been ratified by Indonesia's Parliament. Details of the Embassy's representations to the Indonesian Government were outlined in the answer to Senate Question No. 717.
- (b) None.
- (c) None.
- (d) None.

Environment: Greenhouse Gas Emissions
(Question No. 1080)

Senator Brown asked the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage, upon notice, on 14 January 2003:

With reference to energy policy and greenhouse gas emissions:

- (1) Does the department have copies of any reports or documents produced by Roam Consulting in the past 5 calendar years; if so in each case: (a) for whom was the report or document prepared; (b) what is the full title and date of the report or document; (c) what was the brief; (d) what were the main findings; and (e) can a copy of the report or document be provided.
- (2) Have any documents prepared by the department or its agencies, including by the Chief Scientist, used information supplied by Roam Consulting; if so, in each case: (a) what was the full title and date of the document from which the information was used; and (b) what other data supported any conclusions drawn.

Senator Hill—The Minister for the Environment and Heritage has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) Yes. Three reports were produced by Roam Consulting for the Australian Greenhouse Office between June 2000 and October 2002 and 2 separate tasks for the Office of the Renewable Energy Regulator in September and October 2001, details are provided in the table below:

AGO

(a) Title	(b) Date	(c) Brief	(d) Main Findings
Power Plant Cycling Operations and their Effect on Plant Heat Rate	29/06/00	Technical advice on Industry Standards associated with power plant operations	Equipment wear-and-tear due to generation unit cycling is significant cost of energy generation
Methodology to calculate the renewable component from co-firing fossil fuels with renewable fuels in a Rankin cycle boiler	13/10/00	Provide methodology for assessment of cogeneration plant	Formulae/ methodology for calculating Renewable Energy Certificates for co-firing fossil fuels developed
Evaluation of Generator Efficiency Standards (GES) Program - report currently in draft form	10/10/02	Evaluate effectiveness, efficiency and appropriateness of GES program	Recommendations relating to the effectiveness and appropriateness of the program

ORER

(a) Title	(b) Date	(c) Brief	(d) Main Findings
NEM Forecasting – Review of Metering Descriptions	10/09/01	Review of the metering descriptions used for calculating Renewable Energy Certificate REC eligibility	Provision of a formula for calculating REC eligibility
Interpretation and Application of the General Formula for Calculating Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) as defined by the Renewable Energy (Electricity) Regulations 2001	18/10/01	Preparation of guidelines for applying the General Formula in regulation 14 of the Renewable Energy (Electricity) Regulations 2001	Provision of guidelines for applying the General Formula

- (e) The reports cannot be made available as they generally contain commercial-in-confidence material, or protected information as defined under the Renewable Energy (Electricity) Act 2000.

- (2) (a) Yes, the AGO's "Generator Efficiency Standards Technical Guidelines (Jan 2001)" utilised information from the Roam Consulting report: "Power Plant Cycling Operations and their Effect on Plant Heat Rate".
- (b) The AGO's "Generator Efficiency Standards Technical Guidelines (Jan 2001)" also contained technical material from a number of other sources including Australian and International Standards.

Industry, Tourism and Resources: Roam Consulting
(Question No. 1081)

Senator Brown asked the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources, upon notice, on 14 January 2003:

With reference to energy policy and greenhouse gas emissions:

- (1) Does the department have copies of any reports or documents produced by Roam Consulting in the past 5 calendar years; if so, in each case:
 - (a) for whom was the report or document prepared;
 - (b) what is the full title and date of the report or document;
 - (c) what was the brief;
 - (d) what were the main findings; and
 - (e) can a copy of the report or document be provided.
- (2) Have any documents prepared by the department or its agencies, including by the Chief Scientist, used information supplied by Roam Consulting; if so, in each case;
 - (a) what was the full title and date of the document from which the information was used; and
 - (b) what other data supported any conclusions drawn.

Senator Minchin—The Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) According to its records, no reports or documents produced by Roam Consulting in the past 5 years are held by the department.
- (2) No records held by the department or its agencies indicate that they have used information supplied by Roam Consulting in their preparation of any documents. In relation to information concerning the Chief Scientist, the Education, Science and Training portfolio is responsible for the provision of such information.

Health: Nutrition Labelling
(Question No. 1086)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister for Health and Ageing, upon notice, on 14 January 2003:

With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 595 (Senate *Hansard*, 14 October 2002, p. 5109):

- (1) What action has the Minister taken to address concerns about the awareness of small manufacturers in relation to new food labelling requirements and their capacity to implement required labelling changes.
- (2) How many food businesses have failed to comply with the new mandatory nutrition labelling requirements effective from 20 December 2002.
- (3) What ongoing support, if any, is being provided to food businesses to assist them to comply with the new labelling requirements.
- (4) What action, if any, has been taken against businesses that have failed to comply with the new labelling requirements.

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

- (1) In recognition of the impact of the new labelling requirements on industry, Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) developed and implemented a number of strategies to assist food businesses, particularly small businesses, to interpret and apply the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code (the Code). These include:

- Extensive early publicity through media releases, speeches to industry conferences and information to industry associations, many individual businesses and Local Government Environmental Health officers. This focused on informing food businesses and the general public that changes to food standards had been adopted and would become mandatory after two years.
- The establishment of an email and telephone industry advice line. Advice is provided free of charge and the line operates at local call rates in both Australia and New Zealand. The majority of calls and emails to the industry advice line, in the order of 100 inquiries per day, have been from small to medium food business.
- The development and distribution of Fact Sheets and User Guides which respectively provide brief summaries of and comprehensive operational information on key standards in the Code.
- The development of a free internet-based Nutrition Panel Calculator (NPC) to assist in the calculation of nutrient values required for labelling most packaged foods.
- The development of a comprehensive training package on the Code for health officers in the States, Territories and New Zealand.
- The delivery of a large number of seminars on the Code to industry, Local Government bodies and enforcement agencies in most jurisdictions.
- In 2002, towards the end of the transition period for the Code, FSANZ communicated extensively with stakeholders to provide a further reminder about the new labelling requirements and the deadline for implementation of these changes. Communications were undertaken through media releases, the distribution of information circulars and brochures, and through presentations at key conferences, in particular, to industry associations. Letters were also sent to all Local Governments in Australia to seek the help of their Environmental Health officers who visit food businesses regularly, in reminding those businesses of their obligations and of the availability of guidance on how to comply.

(2) The Code is enforced by the States and Territories under State and Territory Food Acts. Therefore, the Commonwealth is unable to provide the type of data requested. However, enforcement data would be available from the respective State and Territory Health Departments. Similarly, data for imported foods can be provided by the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS), which has responsibility for the enforcement of imported foods under the Imported Food Control Act 1992.

Based on qualitative data from an independent survey, FSANZ is aware that most manufacturers were prepared and complying with the requirements of the new Code well before the end of the transition period.

Whilst the new labelling requirements took effect on 20 December 2002, it should be noted that transitional 'stock-in-trade' provisions also apply. Under these provisions, short shelf life foods (i.e. less than 12 months) that are manufactured and packaged under the old requirements prior to 20 December 2002 can be sold until 20 December 2003 and long shelf-life foods (i.e. greater than 12 months), until 20 December 2004. Given these 'stock-in-trade' provisions, it may not be possible at this stage to obtain a true indication of the number of businesses that have failed to comply with the new mandatory nutrition labelling requirements.

(3) Traditionally, the jurisdictions in the States and Territories have been the primary Government source of advice on regulations and interpretation of food standards. However, in recognition of the magnitude of the changes to food regulation embodied in the Code, FSANZ actively supported industry implementation through the two-year transition period to 20 December 2002, as outlined under (1) above. FSANZ will continue to provide advisory resources on a permanent basis on the FSANZ website, including Fact Sheets and User Guides, but assistance through the advice line will be phased back during 2003 as the demand for help is now falling.

(4) FSANZ does not have any enforcement powers. Information on action taken for non-compliance with the new labelling requirements may be obtained from enforcement agencies in the States and Territories and, in the case of imported foods, from AQIS. The penalties which may apply when breaches of the Code occur will vary according to the specific State or Territory legislation.

**Health and Ageing: Aged Care in Rural and Remote Communities
(Question No. 1087)**

Senator Webber asked the Minister representing the Minister for Ageing, upon notice, on 17 January 2003:

Given the considerable disadvantage faced by small rural and remote communities when taking up new aged-care bed licences, will the Government give consideration to: (a) allowing those community organisations to accumulate average Commonwealth nursing home benefit payments to be used as a capital source for the building of new facilities; (b) the establishment of a capital fund to provide low-interest loans to rural and remote communities for the purpose of building and operating community run residential facilities; (c) providing these communities with a Commonwealth guarantee to enable them to apply for commercial loans; and (d) allowing the co-location of these facilities with local hospitals to assist with establishment and running costs.

Senator Patterson—The Minister for Ageing has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (a) The Government has established a Review of Pricing Arrangements in Residential Aged Care. This Review is examining long-term financing options for the aged care sector and will take into account the improved care outcomes that are now required under accreditation and underlying cost pressures, including movements in nurses' and other wages, and increases in workers' compensation and other insurance premiums. This question falls within the Terms of Reference of the Review and it would be inappropriate for me to comment further until the Review has reported.
- (b) Consistent with the recommendations of Professor Gray's report on the Two Year Review of Aged Care Reforms, the Government has increased viability funding for rural and remote aged care homes. This increased funding of \$20.1 million was made available in the 2000-01 Federal Budget. Viability funding is paid to eligible aged care homes on top of standard care funding. It is for homes with a combination of features – like small size, care for special needs groups and being located in rural and remote areas. The number of homes to receive funding has more than doubled since the 2000-01 Budget initiative to more than 500, involving total funding of \$10.5 million in 2001-02.
- (c) See answer to (a).
- (d) Many aged care homes in small rural and remote communities are already co-located with local hospitals. This is made possible through the Multi Purpose Service program which is a Commonwealth and States/Territories jointly funded program for supporting such co-located arrangements.

**Gippsland Electorate: Program Funding
(Question No. 1090)**

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Prime Minister, upon notice, on 17 January 2003:

- (1) What programs and/or grants administered by the department provide assistance to the people living in the federal electorate of Gippsland.
- (2) When did the delivery of these programs and/or grants commence.
- (3) What funding was provided through these programs and/or grants for the people of Gippsland in each of the following financial years: (a) 1999-2000; (b) 2000-01; and (c) 2001-02.
- (4) What funding has been appropriated for these programs and/or grants in the 2002-03 financial year.
- (5) What funding has been appropriated and/or approved under these programs and/or grants to assist organisations and individuals in the electorate of Gippsland in the 2002-03 financial year.

Senator Hill—The Prime Minister has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

I am advised that my department does not administer any programmes and/or grants specifically within the electorate of Gippsland.

Gippsland Electorate: Program Funding
(Question No. 1097)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations, upon notice, on 17 January 2003:

- (1) What programs and/or grants administered by the department provide assistance to the people living in the federal electorate of Gippsland.
- (2) When did the delivery of these programs and/or grants commence.
- (3) What funding was provided through these programs and/or grants for the people of Gippsland in each of the following financial years: (a) 1999-2000; (b) 2000-01; and (c) 2001-02.
- (4) What funding has been appropriated for these programs and/or grants in the 2002-03 financial year.
- (5) What funding has been appropriated and/or approved under these programs and/or grants to assist organisations and individuals in the electorate of Gippsland in the 2002-03 financial year.

Senator Alston—The Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) The following programmes, administered by the department provide assistance to the people living in the federal electorate of Gippsland:
 - (a) Work for the Dole;
 - (b) Return to Work;
 - (c) Transition to Work (replaced Return to Work in July 2002);
 - (d) Job Network;
 - (e) Indigenous Employment Programme;
 - (f) Employee Entitlements Support Scheme (EESS);
 - (g) General Employee Entitlements and Redundancy Scheme (GEERS); and
 - (h) Special Employee Entitlements Scheme for Ansett employees (SEESA).
- (2) (a) Delivery of Work for the Dole commenced in November 1997.
 - (b) Places in the New Enterprise Incentive Scheme (NEIS) were first available on 1 May 1998.
 - (c) Delivery of Return to Work commenced on 1 March 2000.
 - (d) Delivery of Transition to Work commenced on 1 July 2002.
 - (e) The first contract period for Job Network commenced on 1 May 1998 and concluded on 28 February 2000. The second contract period for Job Network commenced on 1 March 2000 and will conclude on 30 June 2003.
 - (f) The Indigenous Employment Programme commenced in May 1999.
 - (g) The Indigenous Small Business Fund commenced in October 1999.
 - (h) Assistance under EESS is available for eligible employees terminated due to their employer's insolvency from 1 January 2000 to 11 September 2001.
 - (i) Assistance under GEERS is available for eligible employees terminated due to their employer's insolvency from 12 September 2001.
 - (j) Assistance under SEESA is limited to eligible employees terminated due to the insolvency of the Ansett Group of companies from 12 September 2001.
- (3) (a) For details of funding provided through these programs for the people of Gippsland in 1999-2000, refer to Attachment A.
 - (b) For details of funding provided through these programs for the people of Gippsland in 2000-2001, refer to Attachment B.
 - (c) For details of funding provided through these programs for the people of Gippsland in 2001-2002, refer to Attachment C.

Attachments A, B and C must be read in concert with Attachment D. Attachment D provides vital information on the derivation of the data in the attachments and additional information about each of the programmes listed in the Attachments.

Please also note that in the financial years 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 the department delivered a number of programs that are no longer the responsibility of this department, including Regional Assistance Program, Dairy Regional Assistance Programme and Area Consultative Committees. A number of programmes delivered during these financial years have been superseded by new programmes: Community Support Programme (CSP) was replaced by the Personal Support Programme (PSP) that is administered by the Department of Family and Community Services; and Return to Work was replaced by Transition to Work in July 2002.

- (4) (a) The appropriation for the Work for the Dole Programme nationally for the 2002-2003 financial year is \$147.009 million.
- (b) The appropriation for the 2002-03 financial year for the Transition to Work Programme is \$10.227 million.
- (c) The appropriation for Job Network (including Intensive Assistance, Job Search Training, New Enterprise Incentive Scheme and Project Contracting (Harvest Labour Services)), for 2002-2003 financial year is \$874,632 million.
- (d) The appropriation for the Indigenous Employment Programme for the 2002-03 financial year is \$57.586 million.
- (e) The appropriation for the Employee Entitlements Support Scheme (EESS) and the General Employee Entitlements Support Scheme (GEERS) for the 2002-03 financial year is \$85.183 million.
- (f) Funding for the Special Employee Entitlements Scheme for Ansett employees (SEESA) is not appropriated for any one financial year, however, \$500m was appropriated for the life of the programme under the Air Passenger Ticket Levy (Collection) Act 2001.

- (5) (a) In the 2002-03 financial year, \$403,833 has been approved for delivery of Work for the Dole (WfD) activities in the electorate of Gippsland. Work for the Dole activities are approved on a monthly cycle depending on applications received. It is not possible to predict whether new activities will be approved for the delivery of WfD activities in the remainder of the 2002-03 financial year.
- (b) Funding will be made available to Mission Australia under the Transition to Work programme for the 2002-03 financial year in the electorate of Gippsland. Transition to Work funds are disbursed in response to the number of participants that apply and are eligible within an Employment Service Area. The boundaries of the relevant Employment Service Area and the electorate of Gippsland are not aligned. It is not possible to predict the number of participants that may live in the electorate of Gippsland.
- (c) Job Network funding is not appropriated on the basis of electoral boundaries. The estimated expenditure in the electorate of Gippsland to the end of December 2002 was \$3,207,000. Projected expenditure for 2002-2003 will be in the order of \$7,000,000.
- (d) The Indigenous Employment Programme (IEP) is not appropriated on an electorate basis. However it is determined that expenditure to end December 2002 under the IEP in the electorate of Gippsland was in the order of \$205,000.
- (e) The various employee entitlement schemes are national schemes that are demand driven, according to insolvency, therefore funds are not regionally allocated. Recipient electorates are determined by claimants' postcode where available. Some postcodes cover more than one electorate and the information contained shows all relevant data for each electorate. Due to postcodes covering multiple electorates, some payments to recipients will be assigned alphabetically to an electorate. This may result in a minor statistical anomaly. Funding figures are based on actual expenditure.

Attachment A

Funding provided to the people of Gippsland in Financial Year 1999-2000

Programme	Recipient	Project	Start Date	End Date	Amount
ACC ¹ – GST SPO funding	Gippsland ACC	Not Applicable	1/07/1999	30/06/2000	\$16,000
ACC – IEP Marketing/Facilitator	Gippsland ACC	Not Applicable	1/07/1999	30/06/2000	\$20,000

Programme	Recipient	Project	Start Date	End Date	Amount
ACC operational funding	Gippsland ACC	Not Applicable	1/07/1999	30/06/2000	\$76,456
Community Support Program ²	Central Gippsland Accommodation and Support Service Inc.	Not Applicable	1/07/1999	30/06/2000	\$40,600
Community Support Program ²	Commonwealth Rehabilitation Service	Not Applicable	1/07/1999	30/06/2000	\$10,000
Community Support Program ²	Employment Innovations Victoria Pty Ltd	Not Applicable	1/07/1999	30/06/2000	\$10,700
Return to Work Programme	Job Futures Ltd	Not Applicable	1/07/1999	30/06/2000	\$13,879
³ CDEP Placement Incentive	2 Recipients	Not Applicable	1/07/1999	30/06/2000	\$4,000
³ Structured Training & Employment	5 Recipients	Not Applicable	1/07/1999	30/06/2000	\$31,617
³ Wage Assistance	9 Recipients	Not Applicable	1/07/1999	30/06/2000	\$22,368
Regional Assistance Program ⁴	Centre for Workplace Cultural Change - RMIT	Developing Skills for Tourism and Hospitality Businesses in East Gippsland and Cairns - Stage 1	1/07/1999	30/06/2000	\$91,425
Regional Assistance Program ⁴	Gippsland Regional Economy and Ecology Network Inc (GREEN INC)	Gippsland Information Technology Skills Audit and Analysis	1/07/1999	30/06/2000	\$52,690
Regional Assistance Program ⁴	Lakes Entrance Community Health Centre	Gippsland Import Replacement Programme	1/07/1999	30/06/2000	\$63,184
Regional Assistance Program ⁴	Victorian Eastern Development Association	Workforce Development in the Horticulture Industry	1/07/1999	30/06/2000	\$28,215
Job Network	Commercial in confidence	Not Applicable	1/07/1999	30/06/2000	\$5,243,000
Work for the Dole	244 recipients	36 projects	1/07/1999	30/06/2000	\$441,992
Dairy Regional Assistance Program ⁵	PowerWorks Pty Ltd	RePowering PowerWorks	1/07/1999	30/06/2000	\$57,200
Dairy Regional Assistance Program ⁵	South Gippsland Farmers Support Group	Dairy Financial Counsellor/ Business Facilitator - Gippsland	1/07/1999	30/06/2000	\$98,334
Dairy Regional Assistance Program ⁵	Gippsland Area Consultative Committee	Dairy Industry Facilitation Officer Gippsland	1/07/1999	30/06/2000	\$77,000
Dairy Regional Assistance Program ⁵	Maffra Area International Inc	Agr "e" Business Facilitation	1/07/1999	30/06/2000	\$45,834
Dairy Regional Assistance Program ⁵	East Gippsland Organic Agriculture Association Inc	Gippsland's Organically Grown Future	1/07/1999	30/06/2000	\$59,510
Dairy Regional Assistance Program ⁵	Victorian Eastern Development Association	Food Industry Response Plan	1/07/1999	30/06/2000	\$49,500

Programme	Recipient	Project	Start Date	End Date	Amount
Dairy Regional Assistance Program ⁵	South Gippsland Shire Council	Jinshan Ducks - South Gippsland Joint Venture Project	1/07/1999	30/06/2000	\$29,700
Dairy Regional Assistance Program ⁵	Maffra Cheese Company Pty Ltd	Maffra Cheese Company - Plant Extension	1/07/1999	30/06/2000	\$88,000
Dairy Regional Assistance Program ⁵	Patties Bakery Pty Ltd	Pattie's Pies - Manufacturing Extension	1/07/1999	30/06/2000	\$660,000
TOTAL					\$7,331,203

Area Consultative Committees (ACCs) was transferred to the Department of Transport and Regional Services in November 2001.

²Community Support Programme (CSP) was superseded by the Personal Support Programme (PSP) following the 2001-2002 Budget and is administered by the Department of Family and Community Services.

³ Indigenous Employment Programme comprises Structured Training and Employment Projects (STEP), Wage Assistance, Direct Assistance, Corporate Leaders for Indigenous Employment Project, National Indigenous Cadetship Project and Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP) Placement Incentive.

⁴Regional Assistance Programme (RAP) was transferred to the Department of Transport and Regional Services in November 2001.

⁵Dairy Regional Assistance Programme (Dairy RAP) was transferred to the Department of Transport and Regional Services in November 2001.

Attachment B

Funding provided to the people of Gippsland in Financial Year 2000-2001

Programme	Recipient	Project	Start Date	End Date	Amount
ACC ¹ – GST SPO funding	Gippsland ACC	Not Applicable	1/07/2000	30/06/2001	\$69,850
ACC ¹ operational funding	Gippsland ACC	Not Applicable	1/07/2000	30/06/2001	\$120,900
ACC ¹ – IEP Marketing/Facilitator	Gippsland Area Consultative Committee	Not Applicable	1/07/2000	30/06/2001	\$50,308
ACC ¹ – SBAO	Gippsland Area Consultative Committee	Not Applicable	1/07/2000	30/06/2001	\$57,500
ACC ¹ operational funding	Gippsland Area Consultative Committee	Not Applicable	1/07/2000	30/06/2001	\$114,900
CSP ²	Central Gippsland Accommodation and Support Service Inc.	Not Applicable	1/07/2000	30/06/2001	\$15,918
CSP ²	Commonwealth Rehabilitation Service	Not Applicable	1/07/2000	30/06/2001	\$4,788
CSP ²	Employment Innovations Victoria Pty Ltd	Not Applicable	1/07/2000	30/06/2001	\$11,962
CSP ²	Mission Employment	Not Applicable	1/07/2000	30/06/2001	\$37,520
CSP ²	Central Gippsland Accom & Support Srvce	Not Applicable	1/07/2000	30/06/2001	\$37,520
CSP ²	Employment Innovations Victoria Pty Ltd	Not Applicable	1/07/2000	30/06/2001	\$12,864
CDEP Placement Incentive	1 Recipient	Not Applicable	1/07/2000	30/06/2001	\$2,200
Direct Assistance ³	1 Recipient	Not Applicable	1/07/2000	30/06/2001	\$22,940

Programme	Recipient	Project	Start Date	End Date	Amount
Structured Training & Employment ³	3 Recipients	Not Applicable	1/07/2000	30/06/2001	\$9,053
Wage Assistance ³	11 Recipients	Not Applicable	1/07/2000	30/06/2001	\$27,151
RAP ⁴	South Gippsland Shire Council	Barry Point Industrial Precinct, South Gippsland	1/07/2000	30/06/2001	\$110,000
RAP ⁴	Bung Yarnda CDEP Co-Operative	Business Development Plan - Bung Yarnda Timber Enterprise	1/07/2000	30/06/2001	\$17,518
RAP ⁴	Victorian Eastern Development Association	Value Added Timber Industry Development Project	1/07/2000	30/06/2001	\$33,000
RAP ⁴	Victorian Eastern Development Association	Value Adding the Wool Clip in the Omeo District and East Gippsland	1/07/2000	30/06/2001	\$49,500
RAP ⁴	Gippsland Development Ltd	China Desk Project	1/07/2000	30/06/2001	\$64,350
RAP ⁴	Gippsland Group Training Ltd	Employer Pack	1/07/2000	30/06/2001	\$35,475
Job Network	Commercial in confidence	Not Applicable	1/07/2000	30/06/2001	\$6,306,000
Work for the Dole	267 recipients	45 projects	1/07/2000	30/06/2001	\$658,950
Return to Work Programme ⁶	Job Futures Ltd	Not Applicable	1/07/2000	30/06/2001	\$30,368
Employee Entitlements Support Scheme ⁷	7 recipients	Not Applicable	1/07/2000	30/06/2001	\$10,269
TOTAL					\$7,910,803

¹ Area Consultative Committees (ACCs) was transferred to the Department of Transport and Regional Services in November 2001.

² Community Support Programme (CSP) was superseded by the Personal Support Programme (PSP) following the 2001-2002 Budget and is administered by the Department of Family and Community Services.

³ Indigenous Employment Programme comprises Structured Training and Employment Projects (STEP), Wage Assistance, Direct Assistance, Corporate Leaders for Indigenous Employment Project, National Indigenous Cadetship Project and Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP) Placement Incentive.

⁴ Regional Assistance Programme (RAP) was transferred to the Department of Transport and Regional Services in November 2001.

⁵ Dairy Regional Assistance Programme (Dairy RAP) was transferred to the Department of Transport and Regional Services in November 2001.

⁶ Return to Work was superseded by Transition to Work in July 2002.

⁷ The Employee Entitlements Support Scheme is accessible to employees who were terminated due to the insolvency of their employer from 1 January 2000 until 13 September 2001. The General Employee Entitlements Scheme (GEERS) is accessible to employees who were terminated due to the insolvency of their employer post 13 September 2001. The Special Employee Entitlements Scheme for Ansett (SEESA) is accessible to employees who were terminated due to the insolvency of the Ansett group of Companies after 13 September 2001.

Attachment C**Funding provided to the people of Gippsland in Financial Year 2001-2002**

Programme	Recipient	Project	Start Date	End Date	Amount
CSP ²	Central Gippsland Accom & Support Srvce	Not Applicable	1/07/2001	30/06/2002	\$202
CSP ²	Mission Employment	Not Applicable	1/07/2001	30/06/2002	\$37,520
CSP ²	Central Gippsland Accom & Support Srvce	Not Applicable	1/07/2001	30/06/2002	\$37,520
CSP ²	Employment Innovations Victoria Pty Ltd	Not Applicable	1/07/2001	30/06/2002	\$12,864
Direct Assistance ³	1 Recipient	Not Applicable	1/07/2001	30/06/2002	\$24,397
Structured Training & Employment ³	1 Recipient	Not Applicable	1/07/2001	30/06/2002	\$37
Wage Assistance ³	8 Recipients	Not Applicable	1/07/2001	30/06/2002	\$28,585
Job Network	Commercial in confidence	Not Applicable	1/07/2001	30/06/2002	\$7,088,000
Work for the Dole	280 recipients	43 projects	1/07/2001	30/06/2002	\$617,965
Return to Work Programme ⁶	Job Futures Ltd	Not Applicable	1/07/2001	30/06/2002	\$50,860
Employee Entitlements Support Scheme ⁷	1 Recipient	Not Applicable	1/07/2001	30/06/2002	\$373
GEERS ⁷	4 Recipients	Not Applicable	1/07/2001	30/06/2002	\$27,637
SEESA ⁷	5 Recipients	Not Applicable	1/07/2001	30/06/2002	\$64,952
TOTAL					\$7,990,912

1 Area Consultative Committees (ACCs) was transferred to the Department of Transport and Regional Services in November 2001.

2 Community Support Programme (CSP) was superseded by the Personal Support Programme (PSP) following the 2001-2002 Budget and is administered by the Department of Family and Community Services.

3 Indigenous Employment Programme comprises Structured Training and Employment Projects (STEP), Wage Assistance, Direct Assistance, Corporate Leaders for Indigenous Employment Project, National Indigenous Cadetship Project and Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP) Placement Incentive.

4 Regional Assistance Programme (RAP) was transferred to the Department of Transport and Regional Services in November 2001.

5 Dairy Regional Assistance Programme (Dairy RAP) was transferred to the Department of Transport and Regional Services in November 2001.

6 Return to Work was superseded by Transition to Work in July 2002.

7 The Employee Entitlements Support Scheme is accessible to employees who were terminated due to the insolvency of their employer from 1 January 2000 until 13 September 2001. The General Employee Entitlements Scheme (GEERS) is accessible to employees who were terminated due to the insolvency of their employer post 13 September 2001. The Special Employee Entitlements Scheme for Ansett (SEESA) is accessible to employees who were terminated due to the insolvency of the Ansett group of Companies after 13 September 2002.

Attachment D

The following disclaimer statements must be read alongside Attachments A, B and C.

Return to Work*

Return to Work (RtW) programme places were allocated by Labour Market regions (LMRs) and expenditure has been attributed to the electorates relevant to the region, giving regard to area of the electorate and the size and distribution of population within it. Year and participant numbers of RtW were as fol-

lows: 1999-2000 (596); 2000-2001(3,851); 2001-2002 (7,455). RtW became Transition To Work (TTW) as part of the Australians Working Together (AWT) initiatives. TTW is now one part of the AWT transitional pathway, whereas RTW was formerly a discrete programme. RtW was primarily aimed at carers who had been out of the workforce for two years or longer. Figures are based on projected expenditures.

Transition To Work (TTW)

Return to Work (RtW) was superseded by Transition To Work (TTW) in July of this year. To date, there have been 4,046 commencements in TTW. The service is on target to place 10,000 people during the 2002-2003 financial year. Transition to Work Services is a key component of the Transitional Support pathway in the Australians Working Together initiatives. The service aims to assist parents and carers, mature age people 50 and over, those who are starting work for the first time, are not currently in full-time education or training, or are returning to work after at least two or more consecutive years' absence. Participants do not need to be in receipt of any type of income support from Centrelink to access these services. Job seekers participating in or eligible for other services such as Job Search Training, Intensive Assistance or Work for the Dole are not eligible for participation in Transition to Work.

Indigenous Small Business Fund *

The system used to collect the data in the spreadsheet is not a payment system. As such, financial allocation information is recorded on a whole of project basis and not necessarily by financial year. For projects that cross two financial years, 50% of funding has been apportioned to the first year and the balance to the second year. Figures are based on allocated funding, not actual expenditure.

IEP Programmes (Structured Training and Employment Projects (STEP), Wage Assistance, Direct Assistance, Corporate Leaders for Indigenous Employment Project, National Indigenous Cadetship Project, Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP) Placement Incentive)

The figures provided are presented on the basis that the address of the project or employer that received funding was in the specified electorate. It should be noted that in some cases this will be the address of a central office of the organisation and does not necessarily reflect the location of actual employment. Figures are based on actual expenditure.

Job Network Programmes (Intensive Assistance, Job Matching, Job Search Training, New Enterprise Incentive Scheme, Project Contracting (Harvest Labour Services)

Job Network is administered on the basis of 19 Labour Market Regions and 137 Employment Service Areas, the boundaries of which do not align with those of federal electorates. Expenditure has been allocated to electorates on the basis of the location of Job Network sites. Small or zero expenditure against electorates does not mean that job seekers living in those electorates are not receiving Job Network services. The distribution of sites by electorate is entirely coincidental; sites are generally located near shopping centres and centres of employment. Job seekers choose Job Network members for a variety of reasons including location, proximity to transport routes/Centrelink office, satisfaction of friends and others. Figures are based on actual expenditure.

Employee Entitlements Support Scheme (EESS), General Employee Entitlements and Redundancy Scheme (GEERS)

Recipient electorates are determined by claimants' postcode where available. Some postcodes cover more than one electorate and the information contained shows all relevant data for each electorate. Due to postcodes covering multiple electorates, some payments to recipients will be assigned alphabetically to an electorate. This may result in a minor statistical anomaly. Funding figures are based on actual expenditure.

Special Employee Entitlement Scheme for Ansett (SEESA)

Figures are based on a report from the Ansett Administrator and there are a small number of payments where the postcode does not match an electorate or where there are no postcodes. Where there has been a postcode relating to more than one electorate all employees residing in the affected postcode have been assigned to that one electorate. Funding figures are based on actual expenditure.

Work for the Dole Programme (WfD)*

All figures derived in this spreadsheet are based on funding approved. Funding to deliver activities has been linked to electorate by the geographic location or locations where the activity occurs (as advised by the activity sponsor). Where, as a result of this process, the locations associated with an activity fall into more than one electorate, the funds and approved places associated with the activity have been

divided equally among the electorates involved. Funding figures are GST inclusive. The number of approved places for which funding is available has been provided because the number of recipients by electorate is not available. Funding and expenditure are normally linked to administrative areas which are used for a number of purposes related to the operation of a program, for example, Labour Market Regional (LMR), Employment Service Area (ESA) or Area Consultative Committee (ACC) location. The borders associated with these administrative areas do not necessarily coincide with electorate boundaries. Figures are based on approved funding, not actual expenditure.

Regional Assistance Programme (RAP) *, Dairy Regional Assistance Programme (Dairy RAP)*

Expenditure after 1 July 2000 has been linked to electorate on the location where the bulk of project occurs. In cases where a postcode applies to more than one electorate the expenditure has been assigned to the electorate with the greater geographic area. Figures are based on allocated funding, not actual expenditure. With the machinery of government changes following the 2001 election, each of these programs were moved to the Department of Transport and Regional Services, (DoTaRS). The department has therefore not recorded data against these programs since 10 November 2001.

Area Consultative Committees (ACC)

ACCs cover multiple electorates. Figures for each electorate have been calculated by dividing the total funding for an ACC equally among the electorates involved and are based on funding allocated, not actual expenditure. All figures prior to July 2000 are GST exclusive. Those post July 2000 are GST inclusive.

With the machinery of government changes following the 2001 election, each of these programs were moved to the Department of Transport and Regional Services, (DoTaRS). This department has therefore not recorded data against these programs since 10 November 2001.

Community Support Programme (CSP) *

Year and participant numbers: 1998(3,352); 1999(5,772); 2000 (13,810); 2001 (17,579); 2002 (5,286).

In the 2001-02 Budget the Commonwealth Government announced the Personal Support Programme (PSP) as part of Australians Working Together. The PSP, managed by the Department of Family and Community Services (DFaCS), replaced the CSP and improves on the CSP by expanding the eligibility criteria and tailoring the programme to better meet the needs of its participants. The above figures are allocated to electorate based on the postal address of the recipients. Funding figures are based on actual expenditure.

Australian Workplace Agreements (AWAs)

The figures represent all AWAs approvals between March 1997 and end October 2002. There will be some slight inaccuracies for the following reasons:

- The total number of AWAs is slightly higher than the total number of AWAs by post code as some employees with AWAs did not provide their addresses.
- Some employees indicated an incorrect post code (some that do not exist).
- Some post codes appear to be missing from the electorate list, for example 0811 and 0821.
- Some localities are split between electorates, for example, Carlingford has one post code but different areas fall within four different electorates, (the program has allocated all AWAs with a post code of 2118 to the first electorate on the list).

Small Business Incubator

The figures provided are presented on the basis that the address of the project or employer that received funding was in the specified electorate. The figures are GST exclusive and based on allocated funding as opposed to actual expenditure. With the machinery of government changes following the 2001 election, this programme was moved to the Department of Industry, Tourism, Science and Resources, (DITR). This department has therefore not recorded data against this programme since 10 November 2001.

Office of Labour Market Adjustment

The Office of Labour Market Adjustment (OLMA) provided labour market assistance through specific regional, and enterprise packages when employment was affected by structural adjustment or downturn in the economic and business cycle. Following the 1996-97 Budget, the functions of OLMA were subsumed and the regional aspects of the OLMA programmes were refocussed under the Regional Assistance Program (RAP) administered by the Area Consultative Committees (ACCs).

Working Women's Centres

Working Women's Centres service the entire State and not just the electorate in which they are located. There are no Working Women's Centres operating in Western Australia, the Australian Capital Territory or Victoria.

The following statements should be read in conjunction with the figures in this document.

1. Funding and expenditure are normally linked to administrative areas which are used for a number of purposes related to the operation of a program, for example, Labour Market Regional (LMR), Employment Service Area (ESA) or Area Consultative Committee (ACC) location. The borders associated with these administrative areas do not necessarily coincide with electorate boundaries.
2. Where additional information is held such as the location of a program, this has provided a basis to link expenditure to an electorate. The information provided in the attached spreadsheet is therefore an approximation based on information available.
3. Figures in the attached spreadsheet generally indicate monies allocated, not monies spent. However, it should be noted that all IEP programme figures reflect actual expenditure.
4. An asterisk (*) assigned to a programme indicates that allocated funding is GST inclusive.
5. Only those DEWR programmes administered in the examined electorate are detailed in this document.

Gippsland Electorate: Program Funding

(Question Nos 1105 and 1117)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister for Health and Ageing, and the Minister representing the Minister for Ageing, upon notice, on 17 January 2003:

- (1) What programs and/or grants administered by the department provide assistance to the people living in the federal electorate of Gippsland.
- (2) When did the delivery of these programs and/or grants commence.
- (3) What funding was provided through these programs and/or grants for the people of Gippsland in each of the following financial years: (a) 1999-2000; (b) 2000-01; and (c) 2001-02.
- (4) What funding has been appropriated for these programs and/or grants in the 2002-03 financial year.
- (5) What funding has been appropriated and/or approved under these programs and/or grants to assist organisations and individuals in the electorate of Gippsland in the 2002-03 financial year.

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

- (1) The Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing administers many programs and grants that provide assistance to people living in the federal electorate of Gippsland. Most of these programs and grants are provided, administered and reported at a State or National level. Information on these programs, including levels of funding, is not reported or maintained on an electorate basis and therefore is not readily available. Where electorate data could readily be reported by Departmental systems, they are shown below for the electorate of Gippsland. Further details are available in the Department's Annual Report and in the Portfolio Budget Statements.
- (2) (5) Expenditure identifiable by electorate is readily available for some aged care and Indigenous health programs.

(a) Aged care programs

Recurrent expenditure identifiable by electorate for 2000-01 is readily available for most major aged care programs.

Major aged care recurrent expenditure¹ in the electorate of Gippsland, 2000-01

Program	Expenditure
Home and Community Care (HACC) ²	\$3,733,535
Community Aged Care Packages (CACPs)	\$97,502
National Respite for Carers	\$166,038
Residential aged care funding ³	\$23,187,792
Total	\$27,184,867

Notes to above table:

1. Some funding is provided on a national level and cannot be broken down by State or electorate. Expenditure attributed to the electorate in this table reflects payments made to services or grant recipients located in the electorate.
2. Commonwealth funding only. In Victoria, 60% of HACC funding is provided by the Commonwealth, and the balance is provided by the State government.
3. Includes expenditure by the Department of Health and Ageing and the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

Recurrent expenditure identifiable by electorate from 1999-2000 to 2001-02 is readily available for the residential aged care and Community Aged Care Packages programs.

*Residential aged care and CACP expenditure in the electorate of Gippsland,
1999-2000 to 2001-02*

Year	Residential aged care ¹	Community Aged Care Packages
1999-2000	\$21,171,667	\$109,796
2000-01	\$23,187,792	\$97,502
2001-02	\$25,704,499	\$164,067

Note to above table:

1. Includes expenditure by the Department of Health and Ageing and the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

There is no annual appropriation by service type for aged care services (which receive funding based on their client mix) and therefore appropriations for 2002-03 are not available.

Commonwealth assistance for residential aged care has been provided to people in the electorate of Gippsland from as early as 1963. The Community Aged Care Program has been provided to people living in the electorate of Gippsland from 1993-94.

(b) Indigenous health

The Office for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health (OATSIH) has provided funding to four organisations in the Gippsland electorate since 1999-2000.

Office for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health (OATSIH) funding¹ in the electorate of Gippsland, 1999-2000 to 2002-03

Organisation	Types of Programs	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03 ²
Gippsland & East Gippsland Aboriginal Company-operative	Health, Dental, Hearing	\$966,774	\$1,064,820	\$1,115,142	\$987,943
Lake Tyers Health & Children's Services Association	Health	\$185,543	\$200,281	\$230,044	\$211,277
Moogji Aboriginal Council	Health	\$95,624	\$124,226	\$157,111	\$161,886
Ramahyuck & District Aboriginal Corporation	Health, Substance Abuse, Hearing, Maternal & Child Health, Emotional & Social Well Being	\$199,675	\$136,672	\$197,323	\$441,051
Total OATSIH funding		\$1,447,616	\$1,525,999	\$1,699,620	\$1,802,157

Notes to above table:

1. Expenditure figures are exclusive of GST.
2. 2002-03 figures are commitments.

The above services have been funded by OATSIH from 1995-96 when OATSIH assumed responsibility for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander primary health from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC).

**Gippsland Electorate: Programs and Grants
(Question No. 1106)**

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources, upon notice, on 17 January 2003:

- (1) What programs and/or grants administered by the department provide assistance to the people living in the federal electorate of Gippsland?
- (2) When did the delivery of these programs and/or grants commence?
- (3) What funding was provided through these programs and/or grants for the people of Gippsland in each of the following financial years: (a) 1999-2000; (b) 2000-01; and (c) 2001-02?
- (4) What funding has been appropriated for these programs and/or grants in the 2002-03 financial year?
- (5) What funding has been appropriated and/or approved under these programs and/or grants to assist organisations and individuals in the electorate of Gippsland in the 2002-03 financial year.

Senator Minchin—The Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

Individuals/organisations in the federal electorate of Gippsland are eligible to apply for assistance under all programs administered by the Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources, with applications assessed on merit and/or against relevant criteria.

Consolidated information on programs administered by the Department was forwarded to the Senate Economics Legislation Committee on 25 September 2002, in response to a request made by Senator Campbell during the 2002-03 Budget Estimates hearings. This information, which included details of program funding appropriated for 2002-03, can be obtained from the Senate Economics Legislation Committee secretariat.

Information on programs administered by the Department is also available on the Department's website (www.industry.gov.au) and on the AusIndustry website (www.ausindustry.gov.au).

The table below outlines the aggregate level of funding/assistance provided to the electorate of Gippsland through these programs in 1999-2000, 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03 (to February 2003).

Table: Aggregate assistance provided to the electorate of Gippsland

Grant / Expenditure Programs	TOTAL FUNDING APPROVED			
	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03 (to Feb 2003)
R&D Start Grants Program (1)	\$1,580,000	\$151,000	-	-
Innovation Access Program/ Technology Diffusion Program	-	-	-	\$439,315
Small Business Assistance Pro- gram	-	-	-	\$20,000
Small Business Answers Pro- gram	-	-	-	\$29,000
Small Business Incubator Pro- gram	-	-	\$66,000	\$44,000
Small Business Enterprise Cul- ture Program	\$23,856	-	-	-
Regional Tourism Program	-	\$85,000	-	\$80,000
TCF Strategic Investment Pro- gram	-	-	\$3,386,589	\$2,697,068
ESTIMATED REVENUE FORGONE				
Entitlement Programs	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03 (to Feb 2003)
R&D Tax Concession Program (2)	\$10,037	\$81,743	\$56,879	not available

Notes:

R&D Start: The approved funding figure reflects aggregate funding allocated to projects which were approved in the given financial year. Funding allocated to projects may be paid over a number of years.

R&D Tax Concession: Program provides for benefits to be paid in arrears. Revenue forgone figures are estimates only, based on data available to date.

Health: Magnetic Resonance Imaging
(Question No. 1141)

Senator Webber asked the Minister for Health and Ageing, upon notice, on 28 January 2003:

Given the Minister's previously stated commitment to accept the expert recommendations on the allocation of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) licences:

- (1) Have any recommendations been made; if so: (a) what are the recommendations; and (b) when will the recommendations be announced and licences awarded; if not, when is the next round expected.
- (2) How will the above apply to the need for MRI licences in Western Australia.

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

- (1) The MRI Monitoring and Evaluation Group (MEG) has been monitoring and providing advice on Medicare-funded Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) services. The Group has made a number of recommendations, which are currently under consideration.
 - (a) Due to the commercial sensitivity and the requirement for careful probity associated with any MRI funding initiatives, the advice of the MEG is strictly confidential.
 - (b) The Government has not made any decisions on future growth for MRI and I am therefore unable to indicate a specific timeframe for future initiatives.
- (2) As indicated above the Government has not made any decisions about further growth for MRI.