

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates

29 May – 31 May 2012

Question: BET 141

Topic: Disability Insurance Advice

Hansard Page: Thursday 31 May 2012, page 51

Senator FIFIELD asked:

Senator FIFIELD: I assume all requests for work to be undertaken by the actuary from any part of government would come through Treasury ultimately, or would requests be made direct?

Mr Martin: There is a mix of requests. More often than not requests for us to do some work will come from an instructing department. Treasury is obviously a key client. In the course of a year we would provide advice to perhaps 30 or 40 government departments. That includes work that is commissioned by government. The government would typically go to the relevant department and the relevant department would seek advice from us. Some of the advice that we provide informs policy development; other advice might be to assist departments in their own financial management. It is not just the Treasury; I would say it is about 30 or 40 agencies.

Senator FIFIELD: When were you asked to do this work?

Mr Martin: This is the disability insurance—

Senator FIFIELD: Yes.

Mr Martin: That commenced on the second half of 2011, after the PC had completed its work.

Senator FIFIELD: Could you give me a month?

Mr Martin: I do not have it exactly. I can get back to you on it.

Answer:

The AGA's work on this matter commenced in October 2011.