

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2015-16**

Finance Portfolio  
9 February 2016

**Department/Agency:** Department of Finance

**Outcome/Program:** 2/2.2

**Topic:** List of efficiencies achieved through abolition of agencies

**Senator:** Bernardi

**Question reference number:** F24

**Type of question:** Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 86-87, 9 February 2016

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** Friday, 1 April 2016

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

**CHAIR:** In actual fact we have seen that with the provision of IT for parliamentarians. It seems to be much more sensible now than it was some years ago. Finance has abolished some bodies that were part of the structure. I remember we asked about the Albury-Wodonga Development Corporation on a number of occasions. Has that gone now?

**Ms Halton:** Yes.

**CHAIR:** There was the Australian River Company and ComSuper—

**Ms Halton:** We talked about that earlier today.

**CHAIR:** They are all out of your portfolio. Has that made any efficiencies or simplified your operations?

**Senator Cormann:** We have saved about \$1.4 billion across government. Through the efforts so far and, obviously, the work is continuing.

**CHAIR:** Has that needed any rationalisation of staffing operations?

**Senator Cormann:** That is partly how you achieve those savings. We can provide you with a list of all of the efficiencies that we have achieved...

**Answer:**

The sum of \$1.4 billion (\$1,420.5 million) is a cumulative figure of the Smaller Government savings announced to date —consisting of:

- \$530 million—Tranches 1 and 2 announced in Budget 2014-15
  - See Finance Minister's media release and ministerial paper "Smaller and More Rational Government 2014-15" of 13 May 2014 (refer <http://www.financeminister.gov.au/media-release/2014/05/13/delivering-smaller-more-rational-government>);

- \$9.5 million—Tranche 3 announced in the Mid Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook (MYEFO) 2014-15
  - See Finance Minister’s media release and ministerial paper “Smaller Government – Towards a sustainable future” of 15 December 2014 (refer <http://www.financeminister.gov.au/media-release/2014/12/15/smaller-more-efficient-and-effective-government>);
- \$881 million—Tranche 4 announced in Budget 2015-16, of which:
  - \$497 million is from Budget 2015-16 measures in the Finance Minister’s media release dated 11 May 2015 (refer <http://www.financeminister.gov.au/media-release/2015/05/11/smaller-government-%E2%80%93-transforming-public-sector>), and
  - \$384 million is from previously unattributed Smaller Government announcements and related reforms.

MYEFO 2015-16 also contributed a further \$76.1 million to this total. The measures include savings of \$70.0 million over four years from the rationalisation of multiple entities in the Health portfolio.

Savings of \$6.1 million over three years from 2016-17 in the Attorney-General’s portfolio by merging the Australian Institute of Criminology and Crimtrac with the Australian Crime Commission.