

## Senate Standing Committee on Economics

### ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

#### Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates 2012

15 – 17 February 2012

Question: AET 1270-1271

Topic: What other bodies were given the draft bill and what timeframes?

Hansard Page: 86

Senator Siewert asked:

You talked about the not-for-profit reform council and taking the draft bill we were talking about earlier to them. Did you take it to any other body?

Mr Jacobs: We did take it to some other—

Senator Siewert: Can you tell me who they were, please.

Mr Jacobs: I will take that on notice. I do not have the details.

Senator Siewert: Similarly, can you tell me the time frames they were given.

Mr Jacobs: Yes.

Answer:

The draft ACNC Bill was provided to the Not-For-Profit Sector Reform Council and to John Emerson. John Emerson is a private sector expert in the tax laws applicable to charities and a member of the Board of Taxation. The former Assistant Treasurer's Media Release No. 083 of 27 May 2011 provides more details.

The Not-For-Profit Sector Reform Council was given the exposure draft on 30 November 2011. Treasury held a teleconference to discuss the exposure draft and fact sheets on 2 December 2011. Treasury were also happy to accept comments prior to public release of the exposure draft. The exposure draft was open to public consultation from 9 December 2011 to 27 January 2012.

To address concerns related to the tight timeframes, Treasury released a number of fact sheets and engaged in open discussion forums on 14 December 2011 in Melbourne and 15 December 2011 in Canberra with various members of the NFP sector to ensure the fullest engagement possible.

Given the difficulties associated with the consultation timing, the sector was advised in advance of commencement of each level of consultation in the Treasury Not-for-profit Reform Newsletter.

The Government announced on 1 March 2012 that it was extending the start date of the ACNC from 1 July 2012 to 1 October 2012, to allow time for further targeted consultation to take place. The former Assistant Treasurer's joint media release No. 011 of 2012 provides more details.

A list of Not-for-profit Sector Reform Council Members can be found at [www.notforprofit.gov.au](http://www.notforprofit.gov.au).