

**Senate Economics Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Budget Estimates, 31 May to 2 June 2005

**Question: Bud 28**

**Topic: Productivity Commission – Efficiency Dividend**

**Hansard Page: Written**

Senator Carr asked:

1. What financial impact will the increased efficiency dividend have on your Department/agency this financial year and in the out years?
2. The increase in the efficiency dividend was announced in last year's elections, what plans have you made to meet it?
3. What will this mean for staff numbers?
4. Will any specific programs be cut? Please specify which ones and the size of the estimated savings?
5. Will any core functions be affected by these savings measures?
6. How will meeting the efficiency dividend affect your graduate recruitment plans?
7. How will meeting the efficiency dividend affect your ability to retain experienced staff?

Answer:

1. The increased efficiency dividend will reduce funding by:  
  
\$68,000 in 2005-06,  
\$137,000 in 2006-07,  
\$206,000 in 2007-08, and  
\$206,000 in 2008-09.
2. The increased efficiency dividend has been factored into the Commission's forward financial plans.
3. Staff numbers have been projected using the lower funding levels.
4. No.

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5. No core functions will be materially affected by savings needed to meet the efficiency dividend.
6. No effect.
7. No effect.