

## Senate Standing Committee on Economics

### ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

#### Treasury Portfolio

#### Supplementary Budget Estimates

20 October 2011

**Question No:** SBT 27

**Topic:** Efficiency dividend

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bushby asked:**

Please list where and what spending has been reduced to meet the efficiency dividend.

**Answer:**

The ATO has not made any specific changes to its budget in order to implement the Government's efficiency dividend. The ATO employs a range of strategies to assist in its overall budget management each year which includes managing the effect of the efficiency dividend.

The ATO maintains a focus on administrative spending to ensure that it operates within its allocated budget. These areas include accommodation holdings, competitive procurement processes, restricting available budgets in discretionary supplier expenditure (including travel and consultancies) as well as close monitoring of recruitment and overall staffing levels.

Focussing on these strategies allows the ATO to, as far as practicable, target savings and reductions to areas that do not deal directly with taxpayers, so as to minimise the impact on core service delivery and revenue collection responsibilities.