

**Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration**

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

**Additional Estimates Hearing – February 2010**

**Department of Finance and Deregulation**

**Outcome 3, Program 3.1.1**

**Topic: Optus wireless coverage in Tasmania**

**Question reference number: F37**

**Type of Question: Hansard F&PA 69, 9 February 2010**

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 26 March 2010**

**Number of Pages: 1**

**Senator Scott Ryan asked:**

‘And I have been informed that in Tasmania the Optus service is only available in Hobart. Is that the case?’

**Answer:**

Optus wireless coverage in Tasmania extends from the northern tip of Tasmania, through Devonport to Launceston and down the centre of Tasmania, spreading down to Hobart and surrounds and through to Huonville and beyond.

All providers advise that wireless coverage is by its nature subject to location, device type, use of external antenna, local conditions such as hills, tunnels, building infrastructure, hardware, software and number of users in an area. All these factors as well as the download source, the file type and file size will impact the speed at which users are able to access information.

A coverage map is at Attachment A.

A list of all current and future locations is at Attachment B.