

**Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration**

**ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**Additional Estimates Hearing – February 2010**

**Department of Finance and Deregulation**

**Finance and Deregulation Portfolio**

**Outcome 1, Program 1.1**

**Topic: Performance information**

**Question reference number: F78**

**Type of Question: Written**

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

**Number of Pages: 1**

**Senator Ronaldson asked:**

- a) What metrics are used to support claims of comparative regulatory burdens over time?
- b) What do these measures say about the regulatory burden measured at November 2007, November 2008, November 2009 and forecasts for November 2010 based on Federal Government policy actions?

**Answer:**

- a) & b) The Government requires that all Commonwealth regulatory proposals are subject to regulatory impact analysis. Where this results in the preparation of a Regulation Impact Statement or a Business Cost Calculator report, the Government's Best Practice Regulation Handbook, 2007 states that "where possible, impacts should be quantified". This enables the costs to business to be calculated and, in doing so, to manage the level of regulatory costs imposed unnecessarily on business. Other measures are needed to address costs imposed by the stock of existing regulation, including regulatory stock-takes, application of sun setting requirements and targeted reviews.