

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government

Additional Estimates 2010-11

Question: 24

Topic: Establishment of the Department

Asked By: SENATOR JOYCE

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 15 April 2011

Number of pages: 1

What is the additional cost to the Government over the forward estimates of establishing the Department of Regional Australia?

- (a) What are these additional costs funding?
- (b) Can you provide a breakdown of this amount against exactly what it is being spent on?

Answer:

- a) At MYEFO 2010-11, the Government provided \$38.1 million over four years to establish the new Department of Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government to strengthen local engagement and improve whole of government coordination of policy for regional Australia.
- b) This includes costs associated with:
 - 1. establishing new arrangements and structures to improve the coordination of regional policy and program delivery across government and different tiers of government;
 - 2. Chief Operating Officer and the Chief Financial Officer;
 - 3. establishing and maintaining agency governance structures and frameworks;
 - 4. meeting agency financial, accountability and compliance reporting requirements, including the establishment of a financial management information system and document management system;
 - 5. corporate support, accommodation and office services; and
 - 6. communications and ministerial support.