

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Additional Estimates 13-16 Feb 2012

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1.1 Domestic Policy

Topic: COAG agenda - Fundraising issues

Senator: Senator Stephens

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Question:

Senator STEPHENS: Just going back to Senator Payne's questions about the COAG agenda, are any of those issues flagged for COAG? Is the fundraising an issue for COAG?

Mr Ronalds: It is, and that is part of the responsibility of the BCRWG (the Business and Competition Regulatory Working Group).

Senator STEPHENS: Do you have any timeframe for when that might be resolved? I know that a discussion paper was released yesterday about a kind of national fundraising regime, but does COAG have a working timeframe?

Mr Ronalds: I would have to take that question around time lines on notice.

Answer:

The Department of the Treasury advises that the Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer released a discussion paper and draft regulation impact statement entitled *Charitable fundraising regulation reform*, for public consultation on 12 February 2012, with submissions closing on 5 April 2012.

A new COAG Not-for-Profit Working Group, chaired by the Commonwealth Treasury, has responsibility for this work. It will report to COAG through the Standing Council on Federal Financial Relations (SCFFR).

The Working Group has finalised its terms of reference and workplan, including the timeframes for completing the fundraising reform. It is expected that the workplan will be considered by SCFFR at its meeting in April 2012.

Further questions about this matter should be directed to the Department of the Treasury.