

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES 2011-2012

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Australian National Audit Office

Outcome/Program: Outcome 2, Program 2.1

Topic: Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit – performance audit requests under the *Auditor-General Act 1997*

Senator: Ryan

Question reference number: 68

Type of question: Hansard FPA, P104, 13 February 2012

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 30 March 2012

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Has the Auditor-General made a request to the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit (JCPAA) to undertake an audit of a body for which a decision of the JCPAA is required under the *Auditor-General Act 1997* (the Act)?

Answer:

Yes. The Auditor-General advised the Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee on 13 February 2012 that he was contemplating bringing one such request to the attention of the JCPAA.

The Auditor-General wrote to the JCPAA on 17 February 2012 following receipt of a request from an individual member of Parliament that he consider a performance audit potentially relating to a ‘Commonwealth partner’ as contemplated by section 18B of the Act.

The JCPAA has not formally advised the Auditor-General whether it has resolved to request that he consider the proposed performance audit. Should such a request be made, the timing of the audit would be determined having regard to the delivery of the Australian National Audit Office’s (ANAO) performance audit work program. Information on performance audits approved by the Auditor-General is provided on the ANAO website once they have commenced.