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

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman **Outcome/Program:** Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman

Topic: Efficiency dividend

Senator: Senator Ryan

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Type of question: Written

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Number of pages: 1

Question:

How will the efficiency dividend applied in the 2011-12 Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook be implemented in your agency/department?

What percentage of your budget must be cut?

Will any staff position be cut to meet the efficiency divided? If yes, provide details of where the positions are locate, the classification, whether the position is ongoing or not.

Please list where and what spending has been reduced to meet the efficiency dividend.

Answer:

- 1. The office will implement the efficiency dividend by the reallocation of resources to activities and policies of the highest priority and through a continuous review of internal processes to ensure the most cost effective approach is adopted.
- 2. 2.5%
- 3. Staffing numbers will need to be reduced to meet the efficiency dividend. The office is currently undertaking planning to determine where these cuts will be made.
- 4. The 2011-12 MYEFO efficiency dividend applies from 2012-13 on. Therefore no spending has been reduced in the current financial year to meet next year's reduction.