

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2013-2014

Finance Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of Finance

Outcome/Program: 1/1.1

Topic: Efficiency Dividend

Senator: McKenzie

Question reference number: F18

Type of question: Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 39, 25 February 2014

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 11 April 2014

Number of pages: 2

Question:

Senator McKENZIE: Of the list you have given me of exemptions from the efficiency dividend, could you comment briefly on the carve-outs or exemptions to the efficiency dividend within the 43rd parliament—that is, the term of the last government?

Ms Huxtable: I have some information here that differentiates between the one-off efficiency dividends. There have been annual efficiency dividends—and I have data here back to 2006-07. In addition, there have been several one-off efficiency dividends, one in 2008-09 and one in 2012-13. We can probably take some of this on notice because it will get a bit long-winded.

Answer:

Decisions made by the then Government during the 43rd Parliament on exemptions to the ongoing annual efficiency dividend (ED) include:

- Continuing to not apply the ED to the following grant programmes upon transfer to the Australia Council in 2012-13:
 - Playing Australia;
 - Visions of Australia;
 - the Contemporary Touring Initiative;
 - Festivals Australia;
 - the Contemporary Music Touring program; and
 - the Visual Arts and Craft Strategy.

Prior to being transferred, these grant programmes were out of scope of the efficiency dividend as they were accounted for as administered funds within the former Department of Regional Australia, Local Government, Arts and Sport.
- Consistent with preceding years, continuing to exempt the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) and the Special Broadcasting Service Corporation (SBS) under their funding arrangements which are determined on a three-year rolling basis. Base funding for the ABC and the SBS for the three years from 2013-14 was agreed in the 2013-14 Budget context.

In 2012-13, an additional one-off ED of 2.5 per cent was applied. In addition to those agencies receiving exemptions from the ongoing annual ED¹, the following agencies were granted exemption from this one-off ED²:

- Aboriginal Hostels Limited
- Administrative Appeals Tribunal
- Australia Council
- Australian Communications and Media Authority
- Australian Film Television and Radio School
- Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Studies
- Australian National Maritime Museum
- Australian Sports Commission
- Australian War Memorial
- Family Court
- Federal Court
- Federal Magistrates Court
- Indigenous Business Australia
- Indigenous Land Corporation
- High Court
- Migration Review Tribunal - Refugee Review Tribunal
- National Archives of Australia
- National Film and Sound Archive
- National Gallery of Australia
- National Library of Australia
- National Museum of Australia
- National Native Title Tribunal
- Old Parliament House
- Screen Australia
- Social Security Appeals Tribunal
- Torres Strait Regional Authority

¹ A list of entities with a full or partial exemption from the ongoing annual ED can be found in the response to Question No. 65, Supplementary Budget Estimates 2013-2014, F&PA Committee.

http://www.aph.gov.au/~media/Estimates/Live/fapa_cte/estimates/sup_1314/finance/f65.ashx

² Source: The former Finance and Deregulation Minister's media release "*Driving Efficiency Saving within Government*", 29 November 2011.

<http://parlinfo.aph.gov.au/parlInfo/search/display/display.w3p;query=Id%3A%22media%2Fpressrel%2F1260414%22>