

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

Budget Estimates 25 May 2011

Question: 21

Topic: Australian Centre for Excellence

Asked By: Senator JOYCE

Type of Question: Hansard F&PA 43

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Senator JOYCE: The Australian Centre of Excellence for Local Government, ACELG. Can you explain what the national assessment framework being conducted by the Australian Centre of Excellence for Local Government involves? What is this national assessment framework?

Ms Foster: That is not ringing a bell with me in terms of the programs that the Centre of Excellence for Local Government runs but let me seek some advice from my staff and see if anyone who is here with us can help point me to the right area of their efforts. We will do that while you ask the next question, if you like.

Answer:

The Australian Centre of Excellence for Local Government (ACELG) has been tasked under the Local Government Reform Fund (LGRF) to develop a nationally consistent assessment framework to identify local councils' progress towards sustainable asset and financial management ('national assessment framework').

The national assessment framework is intended to measure progress with implementation of the Local Government Financial Sustainability Nationally Consistent Frameworks agreed by the Local Government and Planning Ministers' Council.

Work on the national assessment framework is currently in progress.