

**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: 30**

**Topic: Taskforce Resources**

**Asked By: Senator HUMPHRIES**

**Type of Question: Written**

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 8 July 2011**

**Number of pages: 2**

What sort of resources does the taskforce command? In terms of:

- Staff
- Travel
- Administration
- Office space

**Answer:**

- The total budget for the Taskforce is \$6,934,000 for Financial Year 2011-12; and \$3,475,000 for Financial Year 2012-13.
- Staff:
  - the Taskforce has an approved budget to employ 27 FTE for the first full financial year 2011-12 at a cost of \$3.167million.
  - as at 15 June 2011, The Taskforce has 15 FTE employed directly by the Taskforce. A further five employees are seconded to the Taskforce. Costs for all 20 employees are incurred by the Taskforce.

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- The Taskforce has an approved travel budget for Inspectorate travel costs of \$339,000 for financial year 2011-12. This budget includes costs to attend meetings and undertake site visits as part of reviews. This budget may include costs of specialist advisors to travel to meet with the Inspectorate or to travel to sites in place of the Inspectorate to provide expert opinions on projects.
- In terms of Administration, the Taskforce has been funded for staff on-costs (including training and development, Human Resource Support, Desktop (ICT) Support and Property Operating Expenses) equal to \$683,000 for financial year 2011-12.
- Office accommodation is provided by the Department of Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government. The taskforce currently has 31 work points with 19.42 square metres per work point.