Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012-2013

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of Finance and Deregulation

Outcome/Program: 1/1.1

Topic: Windfall in 'other' category

Senator: Cormann

Question reference number: F25

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Question:

Senator CORMANN: If Future Fund earnings are included in other non-taxation receipts, due to the Future Fund earnings shortfall of \$457 million, the remaining items in the 'Other' category must have had a windfall of around \$840 million. What was the cause of that windfall?

Mr Martine: Are you talking about table 3?

Senator CORMANN: Yes.

Mr Martine: We would need to take it on notice to get a disaggregation of those numbers, because some of the Future Fund earnings would be coming through as dividends and some would be coming through as interest received. I am just not quite sure what the split is on that.

Answer:

The majority of Future Fund earnings are not included in 'other non-taxation receipts', but are instead included against 'Interest received' and 'Dividends'. The shortfall of \$457 million in Future Fund earnings primarily explains the variances in these categories.