

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Output 1.3

Question No. 24

Senator Carr asked the following question in writing at the hearing on 24 May 2006:

- a) Has SCAG basically gone with the option that is identified as number (3) in the description of the RIS options provided in your response to Question No. 20 from February 2006?
- b) Can you provide more detail on just what these changes to the Privacy Act would be, if they go ahead?
- c) Will this be rolled in with the response to the Privacy Commissioner's Review of the Private Sector Provisions of the *Privacy Act 1988*?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

- a) Yes.
- b) The 'supportive legislative action' recommended by SCAG would not involve amendments to the *Privacy Act 1988* but would instead involve the making of regulations to clarify that certain small business operators are covered by the Privacy Act.
- c) No. In *Getting in on the Act: Review of the Private Sector Provisions in the Privacy Act*, the Privacy Commissioner acknowledges that her recommendations on residential tenancy databases are dependent on the outcome of the SCAG/Ministerial Council on Consumer Affairs working group.