

MINISTER REPRESENTING THE MINISTER FOR
FINANCE AND DEREGULATION

SENATE

QUESTION NO 129

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Senator the Hon Nick Minchin asked the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Deregulation, upon notice, on ~~13~~ February 2008, with reference to Senator Minchin's letter to the Minister representing the Prime Minister, dated 1 February 2008, can the following information be provided prior to each round of Estimates and for Additional Estimates by ~~13~~ February 2008:

- (1) (a) What appointments have been made by the Government (through Executive Council, Cabinet and ministers) to statutory authorities, executive agencies and advisory boards within the Minister's portfolio; and
(b) for each appointment, what are the respective appointee's credentials.
- (2) How many vacancies remain to be filled by ministerial (including Cabinet and Executive Council) appointments.
- (3) What grants have been approved by the Minister from within the Minister's portfolio.
- (4) What requests have been submitted to the Department of Finance and Deregulation to move funds within the Minister's portfolio.

Senator Sherry – The Minister for Finance and Deregulation has supplied the following answer to the honourable Senator's question:

- (1) (a) and (b)

Senator the Hon Christopher Evans, as Minister representing the Prime Minister in the Senate, will respond on my behalf.

- (2)

Department of Finance and Deregulation

Albury-Wodonga Development Corporation – There is one vacant Board position to be filled.

ASC Pty Ltd – The Company's Board is to have between three and nine members. The Board currently has eight members. There is no intention to appoint an additional member at this time.

Australian River Co. Ltd – The Company’s Board is to have between three and thirteen members. The Board currently has three members. There is no intention to appoint additional members at this time.

Australian Industrial Development Corporation – *The Australian Industrial Development Corporation Act 1970* states that the Board is to consist of the Chair of the Board, the Chief Executive of the Corporation and such number of other members as the Minister appoints. The Board currently has three members. There is no intention to appoint additional Board members at this time.

Telstra Sale Company Ltd – The Company’s Board is to have between three and seven members. The Board currently has three members. There is no intention to appoint additional members at this time.

Australian Technology Group Ltd – The Company’s Board is to have between three and nine members. The Board currently has three members. There is no intention to appoint additional members at this time.

Australian Electoral Commission
Nil.

National Archives of Australia
As at 26 March 2008, four membership level vacancies remain on the National Archives of Australia Advisory Council to be filled by Ministerial appointment.

Australian Rewards Investment Alliance
Nil.

Comsuper
Nil.

Future Fund Management Agency
Nil.

(3)

Department of Finance and Deregulation
Nil.

Australian Electoral Commission
Nil.

National Archives of Australia
Nil.

Australian Rewards Investment Alliance
Nil.

Comsuper

Nil.

Future Fund Management Agency

Nil.

(4)

In year requests by Ministers to move funds between outcomes in their portfolios are delegated to the Minister for Finance and Deregulation for approval. The impact of any change is reflected in revised estimates in the relevant appropriation bills; and the Portfolio Budget Statements (PBS) or Additional Estimates Statements (PAES) which include details of the purposes of the appropriation.

Where these movements are the result of changes to outcome structures - for example, as a result of Machinery of Government changes - agencies are required to highlight the changes made to outcome structures in their PBS or PAES and provide a comparison between the new and old structures.

Movements of administered funds between years are explained in Portfolio Budget Statements.

The honourable Senator is welcome to attend Estimates hearings in future and request the information sought in this Question on Notice.