

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES — NEW FEES AND CHARGES NOTIFICATION

4480. Hon Ken Travers to the Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer
- (1) Are agencies required to notify the Department of Treasury of any new tariff, fees or charges they wish to implement?
  - (2) Can the Treasurer provide a list of all new tariff, fees and charges that have been implemented since the 23 September 2008?
  - (3) For each tariff, fee or charge listed in (2) —
    - (a) what is its purpose;
    - (b) how much was it when it was introduced;
    - (c) how much is it currently;
    - (d) how much was collected as a result of its implementation in each of the last three financial years (2008–9, 2009–10, 2010–11);
    - (e) how much is expected to be collected as a result of its implementation in 2011–12 financial year?
  - (4) Are agencies required to notify the Department of Treasury of any increase of a tariff, fees or charges that is —
    - (a) above cost recovery; and
    - (b) increased by an amount greater than the consumer price index to maintain or achieve cost recovery?
  - (5) Will the Treasurer provide a list of all tariff, fees and charges increases that have been implemented since the 23 September 2008 that were —
    - (a) above cost recovery;
    - (b) increased by an amount greater than the consumer price index to maintain or achieve cost recovery?
  - (6) For each tariff, fee or charge listed in (5) —
    - (a) what is its purpose;
    - (b) how much was it prior to the increase notified to Treasury;
    - (c) how much is it currently;
    - (d) on what date was it increased;
    - (e) how much was collected as a result of the increase in each of the last three financial years (2008–9, 2009–10, 2010–11); and
    - (f) how much is expected to be collected as a result of the increase in 2011–12 financial year?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

By way of introduction, it is noted that:

- agencies are required to undertake regular (at least annual) reviews of Tariffs, Fees and Charges (TF&Cs);
- while the Department of Treasury requests, as part of the annual budget process, details of agencies' TF&Cs reviews for consideration by Government, TF&Cs decisions can be made at any time during the financial year. The answers below do not cover TF&Cs decisions taken outside of the annual budget process;
- Treasury does not capture all TF&Cs information in a central database, which limits our capacity to provide detailed answers to all of these questions; and
- related to the above point, Treasury does not collect revenue information at the individual fee level. Rather, Treasury collects information on aggregate TF&Cs revenue from each agency.

(1) Yes

(2) [See paper 3701.]

Note: Table lists new TFCs introduced in the last three budget processes.

(3) (a)–(b) [See paper 3701.]

(c)–(e) I request the Hon Member to direct these questions to the relevant Ministers.

- (4) (a)–(b) Yes — with effect from the 2011–12 Budget process.
- (5) (a)–(b) [See paper 3701.]
- (6) (a)–(b) [See paper 3701.]
  - (c)–(f) I request the Hon Member to direct these questions to the relevant Ministers.