

NET DEBT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SPENDING

788. Hon MATT BENSON-LIDHOLM to the Minister for Finance:

My question is addressed to the parliamentary secretary representing the Treasurer, but I believe that should be the Minister for Finance.

- (1) Does the government stand by the following projected net debt figures listed on page 32 of the 2011–12 budget paper No 3: \$13.387 billion for 2010–11; \$17.291 billion for 2011–12; \$19.959 billion for 2012–13; \$21.451 billion for 2013–14; and, \$22.441 billion for 2014–15?
- (2) If no to (1), why not?
- (3) Has the government delivered infrastructure spending of \$7.6 billion in 2010–11, as forecast in the 2010–11 budget papers?
- (4) If no to (3), what level of investment in infrastructure has been expended?
- (5) On what major capital projects has expenditure to 30 June 2011 been less than projected in the 2010–11 budget?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

I thank the honourable member for notice of this question.

- (1)–(2) The quoted numbers accurately identify the total public sector net debt figures projected at the time of the 2011–12 budget. If the member understood budget and government financial processes, he would know that the final out-turn for net debt at 30 June 2011, together with all other aggregate whole-of-government financial outcomes for 2010–11, will be available in the audited *Annual Report on State Finances*, which must be released by 28 September 2011. The out-year forecasts will be revised, incorporating the outcome for 2010–11 and other changes to the outlook, and published in the 2011–12 midyear review, which must be released by 31 December 2011.
- (3)–(4) As noted in the answer to the previous question, the financial outcomes for 2010–11 will be available in the audited *Annual Report on State Finances* to be released on or before 28 September 2011.
- (5) Details of any potential underspend will be available in the audited *Annual Report on State Finances* to be released by 28 September 2011.