



Our ref : 6500196
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Mr David Driscoll
Senior Committee Clerk
Standing Committee on Estimates and
Financial Operations
Legislative Council
Parliament House
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Mr Driscoll

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL
OPERATIONS - RESPONSE RE TRANSCRIPT OF EVIDENCE**

I refer to your letter of 9 November 2006 in which you referred for my confirmation transcripts of the Standing Committee's hearing on Wednesday, 8 November 2006 in relation to its inquiry into the Financial Management Bill 2006 and other related Bills.

I have enclosed for your information the original of the transcripts duly signed or initialled. There is an annotated amendment to page 9 relating to the transcript of Session Two.

With regard to my response as to *Why there is no definition of the term "accounts" in the Financial Management Bill* I provide the following clarification:

"The term has a number of generally accepted meanings. It is used in different contexts in the FMB, such as bank accounts, special purpose accounts, suspense accounts and accounts forming part of the Public Ledger. Specific examples of clauses in which the term is used are: cl. 3, definition of "officer"; cl. 17, definition of the Public Ledger; cl. 10, suspense accounts; cl. 22, other laws not affected; cl. 32(2), transfer between accounts; cl. 56, sub-departments; cl. 63(2), audit of agencies' accounts; and cl. 71, reasonable access to accounts.

It was considered during drafting that to define the term could inadvertently narrow its scope of application (depending on the context), or lead to other unintended consequences."

This explanation has also been separately provided in the Department of Treasury and Finance' letter that provides responses to matters taken on notice.

Should you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact myself on 9222 9271.

Yours sincerely


Michael Jolob
A / DIRECTOR FINANCIAL POLICY

13 November 2006

Enc.