

What's new on the Treasury website

The Treasury's website, www.treasury.gov.au, includes past issues of the *Economic Roundup*. Some of the other items posted on the website since the previous issue of *Roundup* that may be of interest to readers are listed in the following section.

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Publications

JEFG Report — March 2008

<http://www.treasury.gov.au/contentitem.asp?NavId=035&ContentID=1884>

To help inform public discussion and debate, Treasury has decided to release reports of the Joint Economic Forecasting Group (JEFG) Committee, after a period of 2½ years, starting with the March quarter 2008 Report.

The JEFG Committee consists of Treasury, the Reserve Bank of Australia, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Department of Finance and Deregulation and the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

The committee meets three times a year to discuss the domestic and global outlook. A JEFG Report is prepared by Treasury in consultation with the other partners and is provided to the Treasurer, the Prime Minister and the committee members. The report provides Treasury's assessment of the domestic and global outlook, including its revised economic forecasts.

Attitudes to Superannuation

<http://www.treasury.gov.au/contentitem.asp?NavId=035&ContentID=1885>

In early 2009 the Government commissioned empirical research into community attitudes and values toward superannuation. On 24 October 2010, the Assistant Treasurer announced the outcome of this research.

Treasury Annual Report 2009-10

<http://www.treasury.gov.au/contentitem.asp?NavId=035&ContentID=1893>

The *Treasury Annual Report 2009-10* outlines performance against outcomes, programs and performance information contained in the *Portfolio Budget Statements 2009-10* and *Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements 2009-10*.

Australia's Future Tax System Review — Release of supporting information

<http://www.treasury.gov.au/contentitem.asp?NavId=035&ContentID=1895>

On 28 October 2010, the Treasurer voluntarily released additional material underlying the AFTS review. This additional material is available on the AFTS website:

http://taxreview.treasury.gov.au/content/Content.aspx?doc=html/commissioned_work.htm

Freedom of Information (FOI) requests for the Treasury Incoming Government Briefs

<http://www.treasury.gov.au/contentitem.asp?NavId=035&ContentID=1875>

On 24 September, the Treasury published on its website the information released under FOI in relation to the brief prepared for a returned Labor Government (referred to as the Red Book). Following this, the Treasury received a request for an internal review of the decision not to release certain sections of the Red Book. This request was considered, taking into account the weight given to public interest, the passage of time and subsequent events, including public disclosures, since the original decision.

The Treasury has now amended the earlier published documents to include the further material released under the internal review.

Speeches

Presentation by Mr Jim Murphy to the Abacus 2010 Regulatory Affairs Conference

<http://www.treasury.gov.au/contentitem.asp?NavId=008&ContentID=1897>

This address was delivered by Mr Jim Murphy, Executive Director — Markets Group, to the Abacus 2010 Regulatory Affairs Conference on Monday 18 October 2010.

What's new on the Treasury website

The Context and Drivers for State Tax Reform

<http://www.treasury.gov.au/contentitem.asp?NavId=008&ContentID=1908>

This speech was given by Dr Ken Henry to the Committee for Economic Development of Australia (CEDA) – The Tasmanian State Tax Review, on Friday 19 November 2010 in Hobart.

Sustainable Economic Policies — Viable Outcomes for All Stakeholders

<http://www.treasury.gov.au/contentitem.asp?NavId=008&ContentID=1913>

This speech was given by Tony McDonald to the CPA Australian Mining and Energy Conference on Thursday 25 November 2010.

Consultations

The following consultations are open for public comment:

- Options Paper – Regulation of tax agent services provided by financial planners.
- Discussion Paper – Improving the integrity of public ancillary funds.
- Discussion Paper – Improving the operation of the anti-avoidance provisions in the income tax law.