PART 6

OTHER STATISTICAL INFORMATION

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OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

The Occupational Health and Safety (Commonwealth Employment) Act 1991 and the *Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988* form the legislative basis of Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) and Rehabilitation in the Treasury.

The departmental OH&S Committee continues to meet quarterly and comprises representatives from groups, units and the CPSU. The OH&S Committee members undertook training during 2000-01 to assist them with their responsibilities.

Treasury maintained a close occupational health and safety focus during the extensive refurbishment of the Treasury building, the first stage of which was completed in December 2000. The OH&S Committee played a prominent role during that process. The second stage of the refurbishment process is continuing and the OH&S Committee will maintain its involvement in this process.

As part of the refurbishment process, specialist OH&S consultants have been engaged to provide OH&S advice and workstation briefing sessions for staff. In addition to the briefing sessions, staff were provided with an opportunity to have an extended individual assessment of their workstation. The OH&S briefings were also conducted for staff relocating in the second stage of the refurbishment process in August 2001.

Matters dealt with by the Committee include occupational health and safety issues and policies, accommodation issues and accident and incident reports. The Committee also considers reports from the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) provider, Davidson Trahaire.

The EAP provides confidential counselling on work-related and personal matters to all Treasury staff members and their families. Quarterly reports provided by Davidson Trahaire allow Treasury to monitor the usage of the EAP and identify workplace issues that need to be addressed. During 2000-01 there were no significant issues identified for action.

During 2000-01, Treasury received 53 accident and incident reports (12 more than the number reported in 1999-2000), three were notifiable under section 68 of the *Occupational Health and Safety (Commonwealth Employment) Act 1991*. Nine of these accident and incidents resulted in compensation claims, one of which is yet to be determined. There were no notices given under sections 29, 46 and 47 of the Act this financial year. However, there were a number of incidents related to building work during the refurbishment period. These matters were attended to under the building works contract.

To prevent injuries in the workplace and to enhance the safety of staff members, workplace assessments are conducted regularly. The major types of accidents that are continuing to occur are occupational overuse syndrome, car accidents and sporting injuries. All accidents and incidents that are reported are investigated and action taken as necessary.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

As well as Freedom of Information (FOI) requests relating to the department's own activities, Treasury is responsible for handling Freedom of Information matters in respect of the Royal Australian Mint, the Foreign Investment Review Board and the Australian Office of Financial Management.

Treasury's statement under section 8 of the *Freedom of Information Act* 1982 follows.

A statement under section 8 of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* by the Australian Competition Tribunal (the Tribunal) follows the department's statement at page 241 of this report. The Tribunal is a separate agency within the Treasury portfolio for the purposes of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* and its section 8 statement is published in this report as the Tribunal does not publish an annual report.

Treasury — Statement under section 8 of the Freedom of Information Act 1982

Section 8 of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* requires that the department publish detailed information about:

- the way it is organised and its decision making powers;
- arrangements for public involvement in the work of the agency;
- types of documents held by the agency; and
- how the public can obtain access to these documents.

The following information addresses the formal requirements of section 8 of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* in relation to the Department.

Organisation of Treasury

Details of Treasury's organisational and top management structure are set out on page 14 of this report. Treasury's functions, and the decision-making powers exercised in carrying out those functions, are described under the output entries.

Details of the organisation and structure of the Royal Australian Mint, the Foreign Investment Review Board and the Australian Office of Financial Management are published separately in the annual reports of each of those bodies. In summary, the Royal Australian Mint has responsibility for the provision of circulating and numismatic coin for Australia, while the Foreign Investment Review Board advises the Government on foreign investment policy and its administration. The Australian Office of Financial Management is responsible for the Commonwealth's debt management operations which include debt issuance, portfolio management and debt administration.

Treasury delegations

The Treasurer has delegated certain powers to officials under a number of Acts of Parliament and Agreements. These delegations stand in force until renewed at an appropriate time. Delegated responsibilities to Treasury officials are listed below.

- The governing legislation of some Commonwealth statutory authorities provides the Treasurer with the discretionary power to guarantee their borrowings, and in some cases, to delegate his guarantee powers to officers of the Treasury. The Treasurer has previously delegated his powers to guarantee the borrowings of two Commonwealth statutory authorities (Air Services Australia and Australian National Railways) to the persons who from time to time hold, occupy or perform the duties of the offices of General Manager, Commonwealth-State Relations Division; Manager, Financial Relations Unit; Manager, Federal Analysis and Reporting Unit; and Manager, Commonwealth-State Taxation Unit.
- Under section 20 of the States Grants (General Purposes) Act 1994, the Treasurer has delegated the power to make payments of general revenue assistance and revenue replacement payments to the States to the persons who from time to time hold, occupy or perform the duties of the offices of General Manager, Commonwealth-State Relations Division; Manager, Financial Relations Unit; Manager, Federal Analysis and Reporting Unit; and Manager, Commonwealth-State Taxation Unit.
- Under section 21 of the A New Tax System (Commonwealth-State Financial Arrangements) Act 1999 the Treasurer has delegated the power to make payments to the States under sections 18 and 19 of the Act to the persons who from time to time hold, occupy or perform the duties of the offices Executive Director, Budget Group; General Manager, Commonwealth-State Relations Division; and General Manager, Budget Policy Division.
- The Treasurer has delegated certain powers, under the *Disposal of Forfeited Articles Direction 1999*, to the Controller, Royal Australian Mint; and the Senior Manager, Currency Operations, Reserve Bank of Australia, pursuant to the definition of 'an authorised person' in subsection 3(1) of the *Crimes (Currency) Act 1981.*
- The Treasurer has delegated certain powers under the *Crimes (Currency) Authorisation 1999* to the General Manager, Financial Institutions Division; the Controller, Royal Australian Mint; and the Senior Manager, Currency Operations, Reserve Bank of Australia, pursuant to the definition of 'an authorized person' in subsection 3(1) of the *Crimes (Currency) Act 1981*.

- The Treasurer has delegated the power under the *Currency Delegation 1999* to determine the issue price of coins of certain denominations under subsection 14A(2) of the *Currency Act 1965* to the Executive Director, Markets Group, and the General Manager, Financial Institutions Division.
- The authority to approve a range of essentially administrative matters provided for under the Gold Corporation Agreement between the Commonwealth and Goldcorp Australia relating to gold, platinum and silver coins has been delegated to the Executive Director, Markets Group and the General Manager, Financial Institutions Division.
- The Treasurer has authorised the General Manager and the Managers of the Foreign Investment Policy Division, to act on his behalf to approve and conditionally approve various proposals and in specific circumstances, to make an order under subsections 22(1) or 21A(2) of the *Foreign Acquisitions and Takeovers Act* 1975.
- The Treasurer has delegated to Treasury the authority to vote on routine matters arising from the Treasurer's Governorship of the International Monetary Fund the World Bank Group, the Asian Development Bank and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.
- The Treasurer holds certain delegated powers under the Constitution and the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997* in relation to departmental financial management. These powers are delegated to nominated departmental officers.
- The Minister for Financial Services & Regulation has delegated to the General Manager, Corporate Governance and Accounting Policy Division and the Specialist Adviser, Corporate Governance Unit, Corporate Governance and Accounting Policy Division the Minister's power under subsections 147(2) and 601DC(2) of the Corporations Law to consent to a name being available to a body corporate.
- The Assistant Treasurer, on behalf of the Treasurer, has delegated to a departmental officer the authorisation under section 35(1) of the *Archives Act 1983* relating to arrangements for exemption of records from open access period.
- The Minister for Finance and Administration has delegated to the Treasurer, the Secretary of the Treasury and other departmental officers the authorisation under section 56(2) of the *Archives Act* 1983 for approval of access to records not in open access period.

Arrangements for outside participation

Persons or organisations outside the Commonwealth administration may participate in the formulation of policy or in the administration of enactments and schemes for which the department is responsible by making representations in writing to the Treasury portfolio ministers, to the Secretary to the Treasury, or directly to agencies in the Treasury portfolio.

Additionally, the following arrangements also exist for participation by bodies outside the Commonwealth administration in the formulation of policy and the administration of enactments or schemes by the department.

Board of Taxation

The Board of Taxation is a non-statutory advisory body established by the Treasurer in August 2000 to advise on the design and operation of Australia's tax laws, with a particular focus on ensuring that there is full and effective community consultation in the design and implementation of tax legislation.

The Board comprises ten members, seven of whom are drawn from the business and community sectors, including the Chair. These members are appointed on a part-time basis and with a view to their ability personally to contribute a broad range of relevant business, practitioner and broader community knowledge and experience to the development of the tax system. The appointments are for two year terms and members may be re-appointed for a second term. Also serving on the Board as *ex officio* members are the Secretary to the Treasury, the Commissioner of Taxation and the First Parliamentary Counsel.

The function of the Board, as set out in its charter, is to provide advice to the Treasurer on:

- the quality and effectiveness of tax legislation and the processes for its development, including the processes of community consultation and other aspects of tax design;
- improvements to the general integrity and functioning of the taxation system;
- research and other studies commissioned by the Board on topics approved or referred by the Treasurer; and
- other taxation matters referred to the Board by the Treasurer.

The Treasury, with the assistance of the Australian Taxation Office, provides secretariat support to the Board.

Business Regulation Advisory Group

The Business Regulation Advisory Group was established by the Treasurer in May 1997 and is a non-statutory consultative body of nine part-time members who have been appointed from the Australian business community and the legal and accounting professions. These members provide advice in relation to initiatives under the Government's Corporate Law Economic Reform Program and related financial services reform legislation.

The Corporate Law Economic Reform Program was announced by the Treasurer in March 1997. The Program is designed to refocus and improve laws governing Australian corporations and the financial markets to promote business and economic development. The Business Regulation Advisory Group provides an ongoing means of direct consultation with the business community on program position papers and draft legislation, providing input and opinions of their constituencies on any proposed changes.

Commonwealth Consumer Affairs Advisory Council

The Commonwealth Consumer Affairs Advisory Council is a non-statutory body that was established in May 1999 by the Minister for Financial Services & Regulation to provide him with independent advice on current and emerging consumer issues.

The Commonwealth Consumer Affairs Advisory Council comprises eight members, including a Chair. Members are selected on the basis of their appreciation of the range of consumer perspectives. All members serve as individuals in their own right, rather than as representatives of organisations or interest groups.

The Commonwealth Consumer Affairs Advisory Council investigates, advises and reports to the Minister on consumer issues referred to them by the Minister. The Commonwealth Consumer Affairs Advisory Council meets on a regular basis.

Companies and Securities Advisory Committee

The Companies and Securities Advisory Committee (CASAC) was established under Part 9 of the *Australian Securities and Investments Commission Act 1989* (the ASIC Act) in September 1989.

CASAC is a body corporate, comprising part-time members appointed by the Treasurer. Members are selected from throughout Australia on the basis of their knowledge of, or experience in, business, the administration of companies, the financial markets, law, economics or accounting. The Chairman of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) is an ex-officio member of the Advisory Committee by the operation of section 147 of the ASIC Act.

The functions of CASAC, set out in subsection 148(1) of the ASIC Act, are, on its own initiative or when requested by the Minister, to advise and make such recommendations as it thinks fit, about any matter connected with:

- a proposal to make a national scheme law, or to make amendments of a national scheme law;
- the operation or administration of a national scheme law;
- law reform in relation to a national scheme law;

- companies, securities or the futures industry; or
- a proposal for improving the efficiency of the securities markets or futures markets.

In fulfilling these functions, CASAC seeks to stimulate and lead public debate on the enhancement of standards for corporations and participants in financial markets, and propose suitable regulatory reform when necessary.

To achieve its statutory objectives, CASAC is assisted by its legal sub-committee and considers public submissions on its discussion papers. It seeks to ensure that all interested persons in the commercial community have an adequate opportunity to make submissions on particular matters and otherwise express their views to CASAC.

The Financial Services Reform Bill, introduced into the Parliament on 5 April 2001, proposes amendments to the *Australian Securities & Investment Commission Act* to change CASAC's name to the Corporations and Markets Advisory Committee and broaden its mandate to include matters connected with the financial products and financial services industry and proposals for improving the efficiency of the financial markets.

Financial Sector Advisory Council and Task Force

The Financial Sector Advisory Council (FSAC) is a non-statutory body established in April 1998 by the Treasurer as part of the Government's response to the Financial System Inquiry. FSAC brings together a broad range of expert views from the financial sector to provide advice to the Government on policies to facilitate the growth of a strong and competitive financial system. In addition, FSAC will conduct a detailed evaluation of the financial sector reforms five years after they commenced in July 1998.

The Treasurer appoints members to FSAC in their personal capacity for two years, subject to their continued involvement in the relevant area of the financial sector.

FSAC can act on their own motion or upon a reference from the Government. Submissions made to FSAC, together with their recommendations to Treasury ministers, are confidential.

The Treasury provides secretariat support to FSAC.

Consultation arrangements regarding economic conditions

Treasury officers conduct regular private discussions with companies and organisations in order to monitor, analyse and report on economic conditions and prospects. Regular briefing and analysis of liaison findings are provided to the Treasurer.

Categories of documents held by the Treasury

The following categories of documents are held by the Treasury.

Representations to Treasury portfolio ministers

Treasury holds representations made to Treasury ministers on matters falling within their portfolio responsibilities, including:

Borrowing money on the public credit of the Commonwealth Business law and practice Census and statistics Commonwealth-State financial relations Consumer affairs Corporate and securities law Corporate insolvency Currency and legal tender Economic, fiscal and monetary policy Excise Financial sector policy Foreign exchange Foreign investment in Australia International economic conditions Prices surveillance Structural reform Superannuation Taxation Valuation services

Working files

Treasury holds files dealing with policy and administration in each of the areas falling within the responsibilities of the Treasury portfolio detailed in the preceding paragraph. The documents on these files include correspondence, analysis and policy advice by Treasury officers, comments on cabinet submissions and drafts of these and other documents.

An indexed list of the titles of the policy files created in the Treasury is placed on the Treasury website (www.treasury.gov.au) every six months.

Documents on internal departmental administration

Treasury holds a broad range of documents relating to staff and to the organisation and operation of the department. These documents include personal records, organisation and staffing records, financial and expenditure records, and internal operating documentation such as office procedures and instructions.

Program documents

Treasury holds documents relating to grants that it provides to other levels of government and to certain organisations under the programs it administers.

Documents open to public access subject to a fee or a charge or available free of charge upon request

A detailed listing of Treasury documents published during the year and available on request — publications, papers, plans and annual reports — are available on the Treasury website (www.treasury.gov.au), or from the Government Info Shops in each capital city.

Facilities for access to documents

If a member of the public requests a document and access is approved, Treasury will provide copies of documents after receiving the payment of any charges that apply.

Alternatively, applicants may make arrangements to inspect documents at the Treasury, Langton Crescent, Parkes ACT between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm, Monday to Friday (except public and public service holidays).

Freedom of information applications and initial contact points

Corporate Services Division coordinates requests under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*. Applicants seeking access under the Act to documents in the possession of Treasury should apply in writing to:

The Secretary Department of the Treasury Langton Crescent PARKES ACT 2600 Attention: Freedom of Information Coordinator

Requests should be accompanied by an application fee of \$30 or a written request, pursuant to subsection 30A(1) of the Act, that the application fee be waived. Telephone inquiries should be directed to the Freedom of Information Coordinator, telephone (02) 6263 3972, between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm Monday to Friday (except public or public service holidays).

Officers of the senior executive service in Treasury have been authorised under section 23 of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* to make decisions granting or refusing requests for access to documents. In accordance with section 54 of the Act, an applicant may, within 30 days of receiving notification of a decision under the Act, apply to the Secretary to the Treasury, seeking an internal review of a decision to refuse a request. The application should be accompanied by the prescribed fee of \$40. A Treasury officer who has been authorised under

section 23 to make decisions on internal review (usually an Executive Director) will conduct an independent review.

Freedom of Information activity in 2000-01

In 2000-01, Treasury received sixteen requests for access to documents under the Freedom of Information Act 1982, compared with thirty-six requests in 1999-2000. Further details are set out in Table 15.

Description	Number
Requests received ^(a)	
On hand at 1/7/00	9
Received	16
Breakdown across Treasury	
Treasurer	0
Executive	0
Budget Group	7
Economic Group	0
Markets Group	9
Corporate Services Division	0
Action on requests	
Access in full	4
Access in part	2
Access refused or no documents located	6
Transferred in whole ^(b)	3
Withdrawn/Lapsed	7
Current as at 30/6/01	3
Internal review	
Applications	1
Review by Administrative Appeals Tribunal ^(c)	
Outstanding at 1/7/00	1
New applications	0
Withdrawn	0
Fees and Charges	
Total application fees collected	\$460
Total charges collected	\$3,351
Total application fees and charges collected	\$3,811

Table 15: Freedom of Information statistics 2000-01

(a) A request does not include an internal review or an appeal to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal.(b) Section 16 of the Freedom of Information Act provides that, as far as possible, the most appropriate agency will deal with an Freedom of Information request, regardless of which agency receives it.

(c) Details are provided on page 123.

Australian Competition Tribunal — Statement under section 8 of the Freedom of Information Act 1982

The Tribunal is an agency within the Treasury portfolio and its section 8 statement is published in this report as the Tribunal does not publish an annual report.

Establishment

The Tribunal was established under *the Trade Practices Act 1965* and continues under the *Trade Practices Act 1974* (the Act). Prior to 6 November 1995, the Tribunal was known as the Trade Practices Tribunal.

Organisation

The Tribunal consists of a president and such number of deputy presidents and other members as are appointed by the Governor-General. A presidential member must be a Judge of a Federal Court. Other members must have knowledge of or experience in industry, commerce, economics, law or public administration. For the purposes of hearing and determining proceedings, the Tribunal is constituted by a presidential member and two non-presidential members. Currently, all presidential members are Judges of the Federal Court of Australia.

The Tribunal has no staff or physical resources of its own. The funds appropriated by the Parliament for the purposes of the Tribunal are managed by the Federal Court of Australia. Registry services and administrative support for the Tribunal are provided by staff of the Federal Court of Australia. The basic role of the Registry is to receive documents, arrange Tribunal sittings and general administration.

Functions and powers

The Tribunal is a review body. A review by the Tribunal is a rehearing or a reconsideration of a matter and it may perform all the functions and exercise all the powers of the original decision-maker for the purposes of review. It can affirm, set aside or vary the decision.

The Tribunal hears applications for review of determinations of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) granting or revoking authorisations. Authorisations are granted by the ACCC permitting conduct and arrangements (including company mergers and acquisitions) to be carried on that would otherwise be prohibited under the Act because of their anti-competitive effect.

The Tribunal hears applications for review of certain decisions of the minister or the ACCC in access matters. The Act establishes a legislative regime to facilitate

third party access to the services of certain essential facilities of national significance, such as electricity grids or natural gas pipelines.

The Tribunal also hears applications for review of determinations of the ACCC in relation to notices given by the ACCC under section 93 of the Act regarding exclusive dealing.

The Tribunal also has power to inquire into and report to the minister on whether a non-conference ocean carrier has a substantial degree of market power on a trade route.

Arrangements for outside participation

Tribunal review proceedings, except under special circumstances, take place in public.

When a new review application is made to the Tribunal, the Tribunal ascertains from the ACCC or the National Competition Council the persons or bodies who made submissions to, or registered their interest with, the ACCC or the National Competition Council in relation to the decision sought to be reviewed. The Tribunal directs the applicant to serve the application on each of these persons and bodies. At the same time, these persons and bodies are informed of the date on which the application will first come before the Tribunal, and of their entitlement to seek leave of the Tribunal to intervene in the proceedings.

The Tribunal may, upon conditions, permit a person to intervene in the proceedings before the Tribunal.

Those participating in proceedings may appear on their own behalf, or represent the firm which employs them or association to which they belong, subject to approval by the Tribunal, or, if they wish, may be represented by a barrister or solicitor.

Categories of documents held by the Tribunal

The Tribunal maintains the following categories of documents:

- documents lodged with the Registrar in respect of particular proceedings, including applications, notices of appearance, statements of facts and contentions and witness statements;
- correspondence concerning particular proceedings before the Tribunal;
- the Tribunal's decisions and reasons for decisions;
- reports on Tribunal inquiries into shipping matters;
- register of applications made to the Tribunal;
- documents concerning administrative and financial aspects of the Tribunal's operations; and

general correspondence.

The following categories of documents may be inspected by the public, in accordance with the Act, free of charge upon request:

- documents lodged with the Registrar in respect of particular proceedings (except where the Act or the Tribunal restricts public access on the ground of confidentiality);
- the Tribunal's decisions and reasons for decisions;
- reports on the Tribunal's inquiries into shipping matters; and
- the register of applications made to the Tribunal.

Copies of the above four categories of document may be obtained by the public upon payment of the fees set out in the Trade Practices Regulations.

Facilities for access to documents

Facilities are provided for access to documents at the Tribunal address below. This office is open from 9.00 am to 4.00 pm, Monday to Friday (except public and public service holidays).

If an applicant for access does not reside in Sydney, consideration will be given to alternative arrangements with a view to reducing inconvenience to the applicant.

Freedom of information applications and initial contact points

General inquiries relating to freedom of information should be directed to the Registrar at the following address:

Registrar	Telephone:	(02) 9230 8567
Australian Competition Tribunal	Facsimile:	(02) 9230 8535
Level 16	DX:	613 — Sydney
Law Courts Building		
Queens Square		
SYDNEY NSW 2000		

The Registrar of the Tribunal, as principal officer, has power under the *Freedom* of *Information Act* 1982 to deny access to a document.

Freedom of Information activity in 2000-01

The Tribunal did not receive any requests for access to documents under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* in 2000-01.

Advertising and market research

Table 16: 2000-01 Treasury expenditure for advertising

Vendor	Purpose	Cost (\$)
Advertising Investment Services Pty Limited (AIS Media)	Advertisement on GST payments to the States and Territories	14,066
Advertising Investment Services Pty Limited (AIS Media)	Advertisement calling for written submissions to the Definition of Charities Inquiry	21,809
Advertising Investment Services Pty Limited (AIS Media)	Development and placement of non-campaign advertising for GST Start-Up Assistance Office	195,803
Advertising Investment Services Pty Limited (AIS Media)	Advertising the Australian E-Commerce Best Practice Model	42,301
Advertising Investment Services Pty Limited (AIS Media)	Advertising www.consumersonline.gov.au	4,410
Asia Money	Advertising, July 2000 edition Advertorial in a pre-Olympic supplement. International distribution.	25,943
Australian Banking and Finance	Advertising, July 2000 edition Advertorial. Magazine is distributed throughout the Australian and International Investment Commissioner's network	5,990
Biddle Ogle Anderson & Co (part of Mitchell Media)	Received payment on behalf of Mitchell Media Partners, the Commonwealth's master agency for media planning and placement	26,944
First Charlton Communication Pty Ltd	Advertising promotional campaign on Australia's attributes as a financial centre. Features executives of global financial services firms based in Australia.	215,490
KidsMedia	BUZZ for Kids magazine, article concerning consumer youth issues.	14,000
KidsMedia	'Buzzing around the Net', column outlining Consumers Online resources	1,900
Mitchell Media Partners Pty Ltd	Information and Implementation of 1 July 2001 Tax Changes	1,424,263
Mitchell Media Partners Pty Ltd	To plan and place an advertising campaign relating to the HIH hardship relief initiative	1,081,014
Starcom Worldwide (Australia) Pty Limited	Advertisement on GST payments to the States and Territories	3,238
The Good Guides Group	Placement of information and website banner advertising on commercial youth website	30,000
US Daily News	Advertising 'Report on Sydney' June-July 2001. Advertorial piece in leading New York paper on financial centre initiative	31,950
Washington Post	Advertising 'Australia 2001' June-July 2001. Advertorial in a supplement on Australia. Includes interview with Axiss CEO Les Hosking.	37,557
Whybin TBWA & Partners Pty Ltd	Information and Implementation of 1 July 2001 Tax Changes	519,498
Worthington Di Marzio	Information and Implementation of 1 July 2001 Tax Changes	58,520

Note: Advertising for the Information and Implementation of 1 July 2001 Tax Changes — While expenditure for this item occurred during 2000-01, it relates to the 2001-02 financial year.

ECOLOGICALLY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

In January 2001, Treasury moved into newly refurbished accommodation at the western end of the Treasury Building. The newly refurbished accommodation has a number of innovations that will allow Treasury to meet and improve on targets relating to government policy on environmental issues.

The department is a member of the Australian Public Service EcoNet committee and actively participates in government sponsored environmental management initiatives. In addition, the department holds membership of the Facilities Management Association, which facilitates the exchange of ideas and information relating to all aspects of building management, including environmental management and efficiency.

Paper and cardboard products

Treasury has been active in recycling paper and cardboard products for a number of years. The department utilises desktop and workplace containers to collect paper and cardboard products, which in turn are collected by a local recycling firm. The department also recycles classified waste paper into pulp. Additionally, Treasury's kitchen facilities have recycling bins that simplify the task of separating recyclable items that previously would have been sent to landfill. It is estimated that this practice has reduced the amount of Treasury's waste previously sent to landfill, by over 30 per cent.

In addition to recycling paper and cardboard products, the department's central reproduction area procures paper that is made from 80 per cent recycled fibre and actively encourages other areas of the department to use recycled paper.

Toner cartridges

Treasury currently uses genuine printer and facsimile toner cartridges which, after being used, are returned to the supplier for recycling.

Compostable recycling

All kitchens in the refurbished accommodation have compostable waste containers to simplify the task of disposing of compostable material. This has led to an increase in the amount of this type of waste that is being recycled. The service enables compostable waste which would normally be sent to landfill to be recycled organically. In the 12 months to the end of June 2001, the department recycled 1324 kilograms of compostable waste. This represents an increase of 27 per cent when compared with the previous 12 months.

Procurement

Treasury purchases goods and services in accordance with the environmental procurement policy as set out in the *Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines*. This ensures that goods and services are:

- environmentally sound in manufacture;
- are reusable or recyclable;
- are designed and made for reliability and long life; and
- meet environmental best practice in energy efficiency or energy consumption.

The department is currently negotiating the renewal of its electricity contract, a proportion of which will be green power.

Energy efficiency systems

Building management system

The Treasury building is controlled by a building management system that provides energy management and reporting and separate metering of selected main energy consuming regions.

Energy audit

Treasury recently completed an energy review and audit of the Treasury Building tenancy. The report reviewed design specifications and actual performance and made recommendations for further improving energy usage. The report will provide a working Energy Management Plan that reflects the aspirations of Treasury towards responsible energy management.

Lighting

Timer switches control all general lighting in the refurbished Treasury accommodation. This enhancement ensures that lights are only operational during standard working hours. After hours lighting is controlled by manually operated pass switches which turn on lights in specific areas of the building for periods of up to two hours.

Following the installation of the lighting control system, the department commissioned an energy audit of the new accommodation. Preliminary finding indicate that electricity consumption has decreased by between 10 and 15 per cent.

DISCRETIONARY GRANTS

In 2000-01 Treasury administered one discretionary grant which was a prize to the value of \$500. The Securities Institute's National prize, for the Mergers and Acquisitions subject, is sponsored by the Corporations and Securities Panel.