



AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT

**ISSUES FROM THE ADVANCE TO THE
FINANCE MINISTER AS A FINAL CHARGE**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2004

AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT

**ISSUES FROM THE ADVANCE TO THE
FINANCE MINISTER AS A FINAL CHARGE**

Appropriation Acts (No. 1 and No. 3) 2003-2004

— \$175,000,000

Appropriation Acts (No. 2 and No. 4) 2003-2004

— \$215,000,000

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INTRODUCTION

The Advance to the Finance Minister (the Advance) is a provision authorised by the annual Appropriation Acts and made available to the Finance Minister as a central contingency fund to provide urgent funding to agencies throughout the financial year.

Issues of funds under the Advance can be made before or after finalisation of the Additional Estimates bills, usually in October or November each year. Advances issued before Additional Estimates are recovered from the additional appropriation in Appropriation Acts Nos. 3 and 4, thus replenishing the pool of funds in the Advance. Amounts issued after Additional Estimates cannot be recovered and so are a 'final charge' against the Advance.

In 2003-04, there was a supplementary round of Appropriation bills – in addition to the Budget and Additional Estimates legislation – and Appropriation Bills Nos. 5 and 6 were introduced in May 2004. In this third round of bills, the Parliament authorised the funding of a number of items that would typically have remained as a final charge against the Advance. This accounts for the lower level of funds remaining as a final charge in 2003-04 compared with previous years.

The relevant sections of the Appropriation Acts specifying the use of the Advance are set out hereunder.

Appropriation Acts (Nos. 1 and 3)

- Section 11 of Appropriation Act (No. 1) 2003-2004 and section 13 of Appropriation Act (No. 3) 2003-2004 apply if:
 - 1) The Finance Minister is satisfied that:
 - a) there is an urgent need for expenditure that is not provided for, or is insufficiently provided for, in the Schedules; and
 - b) the additional expenditure is not provided for, or is insufficiently provided for, in the Schedules:
 - i) because of an erroneous omission or understatement; or
 - ii) because the additional expenditure was unforeseen until after the last day on which it was practicable to provide for it in the Bills for these Acts, before those Bills were introduced into the House of Representatives.
 - 2) These Acts have effect as if the Schedules were amended, in accordance with a determination of the Finance Minister, to make provision for so much (if any) of the additional expenditure as the Finance Minister determines.
 - 3) The total of the amounts determined under these sections cannot be more than \$175 million.

- 4) The Finance Minister must give the Parliament details of amounts determined under these sections.

Appropriation Acts (Nos. 2 and 4)

- Section 12 of Appropriation Act (No. 2) 2003-2004 and section 14 of Appropriation Act (No. 4) 2003-2004 apply if:
 - 1) The Finance Minister is satisfied that:
 - a) there is an urgent need for expenditure that is not provided for, or is insufficiently provided for, in Schedules 2; and
 - b) the additional expenditure is not provided for, or is insufficiently provided for, in Schedules 2:
 - i) because of an erroneous omission or understatement; or
 - ii) because the additional expenditure was unforeseen until after the last day on which it was practicable to provide for it in the Bills for these Acts, before those Bills were introduced into the House of Representatives.
 - 2) These Acts have effect as if Schedules 2 were amended, in accordance with a determination of the Finance Minister, to make provision for so much (if any) of the additional expenditure as the Finance Minister determines.
 - 3) The total of the amounts determined under these sections cannot be more than \$215 million.
 - 4) The Finance Minister must give the Parliament details of amounts determined under these sections.

In accordance with long standing arrangements, the Department of Finance and Administration tabled monthly statements of issues from the Advance in Parliament in relation to the 2003-04 financial year.

This report discloses those issues that remained as a final charge against the Advance as at 30 June 2004, and related expenditure for the year ended 30 June 2004.

Notes:

1. Cents have been omitted and each amount in this Statement is shown to the nearest dollar. Amounts may therefore not add to the totals because of rounding.
2. Issue amounts are the net balance of the issues — that is, the total amount of all issues less any funds recovered or returned.

ABSTRACT

ISSUES FROM THE ADVANCE TO THE FINANCE MINISTER AS A FINAL CHARGE

Appropriation Acts (Nos. 1 and 3) 2003-2004 — \$7,838,610

Page No.	Portfolio	Issues from the Advance to the Finance Minister	Expenditure
		\$	\$
4	Employment and Workplace Relations	7,838,610	4,550,823
		7,838,610	4,550,823

I J WATT
Secretary to the Department of
Finance and Administration
January 2005

NICK MINCHIN
Minister for Finance
and Administration
January 2005

**ISSUES FROM THE ADVANCE TO THE FINANCE MINISTER
AS A FINAL CHARGE**

Appropriation Acts (Nos. 1 and 3) 2003-2004 — \$7,838,610

Portfolio/Agency	Issues from the Advance to the Finance Minister	Expenditure
	\$	\$
Employment and Workplace Relations		
Department of Employment and Workplace Relations		
Administered expenses — Outcome 1		
An efficiently functioning labour market	7,838,610	4,550,823
Total: Employment and Workplace Relations	7,838,610	4,550,823