

ESTIMATES 2006

Question on Notice

Table of Contents

<u>QoN</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Page</u>
	Table of Contents	0
43	Business & Economic Development Richard Mulcahy	3
	Payments to small business	3
220	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	4
	Economic White Paper – water resource strategy	4
221	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	5
	Economic White Paper – industry clusters	5
222	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	6
	Economic White Paper – Canberra Region Economic Area	6
223	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	7
	Economic White Paper – develop strategies	7
224	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	8
	Economic White Paper – Canberra partnership	8
225	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	9
	Economic White Paper – role of Business ACT	9
226	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	10
	Economic White Paper – export growth program	10
227	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	11
	Economic White Paper – Small business	11
228	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	12
	Economic White Paper – Government electronic procurement and tendering system	12
229	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	13
	Economic White Paper – New pre-tendered consultative process	13
230	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	14
	Economic White Paper – Government piloting of locally developed products	14
231	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	15
	Economic White Paper – Canberra Connect	15
232	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	16
	Economic White Paper – Business ACT assist smaller businesses	16
233	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	17
	Economic White Paper – ACTPLA	17
234	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	18
	Economic White Paper – Collaboration with the CTH to strengthen the TPA	18
235	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	19
	Economic White Paper – Interactive online business advisory service	19
236	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	20
	Economic White Paper – e-commercial model	20
237	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	21
	Economic White Paper – Status of eight programs	21
238	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	22

	Economic White Paper – business training initiative	22
239	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	23
	Economic White Paper – Support incubation facilities	23
240	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	24
	Economic White Paper – Indigenous business support Officer.....	24
241	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	25
	Economic White Paper –Collaboration with the private sector	25
242	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	26
	Economic White Paper – integrated project with NICTA	26
243	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	27
	Economic White Paper –Open source pilot program	27
244	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	28
	Economic White Paper – Develop biotechnology industry	28
245	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	29
	Economic White Paper –Develop stronger links with key Commonwealth Department.....	29
246	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	30
	Economic White Paper – Industry and capability mapping project for the environment	30
247	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	31
	Economic White Paper – Auspices of screenACTion	31
248	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	32
	Economic White Paper – ACT industry specific capability	32
249	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	33
	Economic White Paper – Support tourism marketing activities	33
250	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	34
	Economic White Paper – public school system	34
251	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	35
	Economic White Paper – work experience for senior secondary students	35
252	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	36
	Economic White Paper – Training pathway guarantee.....	36
253	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	37
	Economic White Paper – Skills development for young Adults at risk.....	37
254	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	38
	Economic White Paper – group training companies.....	38
255	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	39
	Economic White Paper – Training programs for aged	39
256	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	40
	Economic White Paper –Shared work-based childcare centres.....	40
257	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	41
	Economic White Paper – Proposed new capital facilities.....	41
258	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	42
	Economic White Paper – Venture capital fund.....	42
259	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	43
	Economic White Paper – Property management policies.....	43
260	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	44
	Economic White Paper – Reforms and strategies in Canberra Plan.....	44
261	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	45
	Economic White Paper – Live closer to work locations.....	45
262	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	46

	Economic White Paper – Redevelopment of Civic	46
263	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	47
	Economic White Paper – Central area Strategic Implementation Plan	47
264	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	48
	Economic White Paper – “Best Practice” principles	48
265	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	49
	Economic White Paper – Retail moratorium lifted.....	49
266	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	50
	Economic White Paper – Connections to the airport.....	50
431	Business & Economic Development Brendan Smyth	51
	Knowledge Fund audit	51

Payments to small business

Mr Richard Mulcahy MLA: Asked the Minister for Business and Economic Development – In relation to payments made by the Minister’s department to small business:

For 2004–2005, (a) how many, and (b) what proportion of payments made by the Minister’s department to small business were not made within:

- (i) 30 days of receipt of the goods or services and a proper invoice in accordance with Government procurement policy
- (ii) 60 days of receipt of the goods or services and a proper invoice in accordance with Government procurement policy.

The answer to the Member’s question is as follows:

The Department’s financial systems are not configured to identify which payments are made to small businesses versus other businesses, or the proportion of invoices paid within payment terms.

Answering the Member's question would necessitate individual checking of all invoices. This would be a time consuming and uneconomic exercise, and an unreasonable diversion of resources.

Economic White Paper – water resource strategy

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) What action has been taken to implement a water resource strategy under the Water Resources Act 1998.
- 2) If no action has been taken to implement this strategy, why not.

Question on Notice No.s 220 – 266 relate to the Economic White Paper.

Mr Jon Stanhope MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

Question on Notice No.s 220 – 266 put on the Committee Notice Paper on 7 July 2006 relate not to the Appropriation Bill 2006-07, but specifically to the Economic White Paper. I do not believe it is appropriate in the circumstances to commit the considerable resources required to research and prepare responses on a five day turnaround to questions that are not relevant to the consideration of the Estimates Committee.

Economic White Paper – industry clusters

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) What industry clusters have been identified
- 2) What action has been taken to facilitate the development of any of these industry clusters.
- 3) What results have been achieved to date in the development of competitive industry clusters.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – Canberra Region Economic Area

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) What action has been taken to develop the concept of a Canberra Region Economic Area.
- 2) What achievements have been made by this concept to date.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – develop strategies

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) What action has been taken to develop strategies for managing risks to the ACT economy.
- 2) What outcomes, if any, have been generated as a result of these strategies.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper –Canberra partnership

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) What action has been taken to establish The Canberra Partnership.
- 2) Who are the members of The Canberra Partnership.
- 3) What support does the ACT Government provide to the Partnership.
- 4) What has the Partnership achieved to date.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – role of Business ACT

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) How has the role of BusinessACT been enhanced.
- 2) What advice has BusinessACT provided on “business related issues”, such as regulatory reform and the red tape reduction agenda.
- 3) What advice has BusinessACT provided about the development and delivery of a “suite of programs that will assist businesses to start up, grow, commercialise and export”.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – export growth program

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) What action has the ACT Government taken to introduce an Export Growth Program.
- 2) What new city-to-city relationships have been investigated or developed.
- 3) What action is being taken to build on the ACT's strength in education exports.
- 4) What action has been taken to facilitate better access by ACT businesses to Commonwealth Government export programs.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – Small business

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) Following the abolition of the position of Small Business Commissioner, how will “informed decision making by small businesses” be promoted.
- 2) How will disputes between small and large businesses and government agencies be dealt with
- 3) How will small business service charters within government agencies be developed, implemented and monitored.
- 4) How will information on the adverse impact of legislation or market practices on small businesses be collected, analysed and reported to the Government.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – Government electronic procurement and tendering system

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) What action has been taken to introduce a whole of government electronic procurement and tendering system.
- 2) How has information about this system been promulgated to smaller businesses in the ACT.
- 3) What benefits have been realised by the utilisation of this system.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – New pre-tendered consultative process

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) Has a new pre-tendered consultative process been developed and implemented.
- 2) What has been the response from local industry to this new process.
- 3) Has any evaluation been undertaken of the new process to determine whether local industry has had a “fair opportunity” to compete for ACT Government tenders.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – Government piloting of locally developed products

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) What action has been taken to develop a framework to provide a vehicle for Government piloting of locally developed products and services.
- 2) What outcomes have been achieved from the application of this framework.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – Canberra Connect

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) What action has been taken to enhance the role of Canberra Connect as a major entry point for providing government information to smaller businesses.
- 2) What has been the response of ACT businesses to this enhancement of Canberra Connect.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – Business ACT assist smaller businesses

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) How has BusinessACT been enhanced to assist smaller businesses deal with requirements relating to ACT planning and building regulation issues.
- 2) What has been the response of these businesses to this enhancement.
- 3) Have there been any further complaints from smaller businesses about these regulatory issues.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – ACTPLA

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) What action has been taken by ACTPLA to ensure that businesses and the community are given appropriate information in relation to building and development applications and to overall planning requirements.
- 2) If no action has been about these two matters, why not.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – Collaboration with the CTH to strengthen the TPA

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) What action has been taken by the ACT Government, in collaboration with the Commonwealth and State Governments, to strengthen the Trade Practices Act to provide greater certainty and protection for small businesses.
- 2) If this action has been completed, what has been the outcome.
- 3) If this action has not been completed, what is the reason for this outcome.
- 4) If this action has not been completed, when is it anticipated that this will be achieved.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – Interactive online business advisory service

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) What progress has been made in developing an interactive online business advisory service for smaller businesses.
- 2) How has business reacted to this enhanced online service.
- 3) If this development has not occurred, why not.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – e-commercial model

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) What progress has been made in adapting the e-commerce model that has been developed in Western Australia to suit the requirements of smaller businesses operating in the ACT.
- 2) If this project has not been progressed, why not.
- 3) What progress has been made to conduct, in collaboration with the Commonwealth Government, a campaign to increase the uptake of e-commerce processes.
- 4) If no progress has been achieved, why not.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – Status of eight programs

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) What is the status of the eight programs, including the Knowledge Fund, the Business Licence Information Service and the Industry Capability Network, that have been implemented to support small and micro businesses in the ACT.
- 2) If any of these programs have been discontinued, why is this so.
- 3) What alternative approaches are being implemented to facilitate the development of small and micro businesses in the ACT.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – business training initiative

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) What is the status of the customised business training initiative that is intended to encourage smaller businesses in the ACT to undertake relevant skills training.
- 2) If this initiative has not been implemented, why is this so.
- 3) When will this initiative be implemented.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – Support incubation facilities

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) What resources have been provided to support incubation facilities and services in the ACT.
- 2) Have more effective new business and employment outcomes been achieved through this activity.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – Indigenous business support Officer

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) Has the ACT Government established an Indigenous Business Support Officer within BusinessACT.
- 2) If this Officer has been appointed, how effective has this appointment been.
- 3) If this Officer has not appointed, why not.
- 4) What associated activities and programs have been initiated to enhance the capability of indigenous people to undertake commercial activities.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper –Collaboration with the private sector

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) What action has been undertaken, in collaboration with the private sector, to assist businesses to introduce effective occupational safety and health practices.
- 2) If this action has been completed, what have been the outcomes.
- 3) If this action has not been undertaken or completed, why is this so.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – integrated project with NICTA

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) What action has been taken to establish, as an integrated project with NICTA, an ICT precinct in City West.
- 2) Has this project been completed; if so, what have been the benefits; if not, why not.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper –Open source pilot program

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development

– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) Has the Open Source pilot program been established in the ACT.
- 2) If so, what have been the benefits of this program
- 3) If this program has not been established, why not.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – Develop biotechnology industry

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 3) What action has been undertaken to develop biotechnology industry relationships with NSW, Queensland and Victoria.
- 4) If so, what have been the benefits of this action.
- 5) If this action has not been undertaken, why not.
- 6) What other initiatives have been undertaken in relation to the biotechnology industry in the ACT.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper –Develop stronger links with key Commonwealth Department

- 1) BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development – In relation to the Economic White Paper:
- 2) What action has been initiated by the ACT Government with key Commonwealth Departments, such as Centrelink, the Australian Taxation Office and Defence, to develop stronger links.
- 3) If so, what have been the outcomes of this action.
- 4) If this action has not been undertaken, why not.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – Industry and capability mapping project for the environment

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) Has the industry and capability mapping project for the environment been undertaken.
- 2) If so, what have been the result of this action.
- 3) If it has not been undertaken, why not.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – Auspices of screenACTion

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) What initiatives have been undertaken under the auspices of screenACTion to develop appropriate film, television and multimedia industry activities.
- 2) What have been the outcomes of these initiatives.
- 3) If these initiatives have not been undertaken, why not.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – ACT industry specific capability

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) What action has been undertaken to map ACT-specific industry capability relevant to the procurement activities of the Department of Defence.
- 2) What have been the outcomes of this action.
- 3) If it has not been undertaken, why not.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – Support tourism marketing activities

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) What funding has been committed by the ACT Government to support tourism marketing activities.
- 2) What benefits have been achieved from the commitment of these resources.
- 3) What initiatives have been developed to maximise the return to the ACT from domestic and international visitors.
- 4) What evaluation has been undertaken of these initiatives and what benefits have been achieved for the ACT economy.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – public school system

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) What resources have been provided to the public school system to deliver ICT skills to students.
- 2) What benefits have been achieved from the commitment of these resources to these schools.

Economic White Paper – work experience for senior secondary students

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) What progress has been made in developing, in conjunction with industry, a program to link schools and industry to provide senior secondary students with opportunities to gain work experience.
- 2) What benefits have been achieved from this program.
- 3) If there has not been any progress with this program, why not.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – Training pathway guarantee

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) Has the Training Pathway Guarantee been introduced.
- 2) If so, what benefits have been achieved from this Guarantee.
- 3) If the Guarantee has not been introduced, why not.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – Skills development for young Adults at risk

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) Has the Skills Development for Young Adults at Risk initiative been introduced.
- 2) If so, what benefits have been achieved from this initiative.
- 3) If this initiative has not been introduced, why not.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – group training companies

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) Have Group Training Companies been exempted from payroll tax for second and third year apprentices.
- 2) If not, why not.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – Training programs for aged

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) Has the vocational education and training program for people aged over 45 been introduced.
- 2) If so, what have been the benefits from this program.
- 3) If the program has not been introduced, why not.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper –Shared work-based childcare centres

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) Has a feasibility study been undertaken to evaluate the establishment of shared work-based childcare centres in the ACT.
- 2) If so, what has been the outcome of this study.
- 3) If this study has not been undertaken, why not.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – Proposed new capital facilities

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) What is the status of the proposed new capital facilities for the School of Health Sciences at the University of Canberra.
- 2) If this proposed capital investment has not proceeded, why not.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – Venture capital fund

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) What has been the outcome of the establishment of the venture capital fund that is being managed by the ANU and the MTAA.
- 2) What has been the source of potential commercialisation projects for this fund.
- 3) Have any potential projects been sourced from outside the ANU; if not, why not.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – Property management policies

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) What progress has been made in developing effective property management policies for government-owned intellectual property.
- 2) If progress has been made, what have been the outcomes.
- 3) If there has not been any progress, why not.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – Reforms and strategies in Canberra Plan

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) Have new co-ordination arrangements been put in place between the ACT and Commonwealth Governments to facilitate the implementation of reforms and strategies set out in the Canberra Plan.
- 2) If these arrangements are in place, how effective have they been; if these arrangements have not been put in place, why not.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – Live closer to work locations

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) What action has been taken by the ACT Government to create a planning environment that enables people to live closer to their work locations.
- 2) If so, what has been the response to this action.
- 3) If no action has been taken, why not.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – Redevelopment of Civic

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) What progress has been achieved in negotiating a specific land development agreement with the ANU to facilitate the redevelopment of Civic.
- 2) If no progress has been achieved to date, why not.
- 3) What planning has taken place to identify potential economic opportunities between Civic and Bruce and between Civic and the airport.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – Central area Strategic Implementation Plan

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) What land has been released in Civic for residential and commercial purposes as part of the Central Area Strategic Implementation Plan.
- 2) What is the status of the development of any land that has been released under this Plan.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – “Best Practice” principles

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) What action has the ACT Government implemented to ensure that ACTPLA operates on ‘best practice’ principles in dealing with businesses.
- 2) What feedback has been received from industry about the impact of this action.
- 3) If no action has been taken in this regard, why not.

...(Member’s signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – Retail moratorium lifted

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) When was the Retail Moratorium lifted in the ACT.
- 2) What has been the response of industry to the lifting of this Moratorium.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Economic White Paper – Connections to the airport

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Business and Economic Development
– In relation to the Economic White Paper:

- 1) What collaborative arrangements have been put in place between the Commonwealth Government, airport management and the ACT Government to facilitate the planning and building of connections to the airport, especially from Civic.
- 2) How effective have these arrangements been.
- 3) If no such collaborative arrangements have been put in place, why not.

...(Member's signature and date)...

Knowledge Fund audit

Estimates 2006 – 2007

Select Committee on Estimates 2006-2007

4 July 2006

Question Taken on Notice

Mr Brendan Smyth MLA: Asked the Minister for Business and Economic Development – In relation to the Knowledge Fund:

Is the completed audit of the Knowledge Fund undertaken in 2004 available to the committee?

The answer to the member's question is as follows:

The 2004 review of the Knowledge Fund conducted by Acumen Alliance provided broad findings on the program as well as some recommendations for improving the program and tightening processes. These recommendations have been implemented where appropriate and a copy for the review is provided.

(with attachment – audit report)