

APPENDIX A: POLICY DECISIONS TAKEN SINCE THE 2009-10 BUDGET

Revenue Measures

Table A1: Revenue measures since the 2009-10 Budget^(a)

Page		2008-09 \$m	2009-10 \$m	2010-11 \$m	2011-12 \$m	2012-13 \$m
	ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S					
	<i>Australian Federal Police</i>					
132	Australian Federal Police – increase to the criminal history check fee	-	-	0.4	0.4	0.4
	Portfolio total	-	-	0.4	0.4	0.4
	BROADBAND, COMMUNICATIONS AND THE DIGITAL ECONOMY					
	<i>Australian Communications and Media Authority</i>					
164	Telecommunications regulatory reform – competition and consumer safeguards(b)	-	2.5	2.1	1.2	1.2
	Portfolio total	-	2.5	2.1	1.2	1.2
	EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS					
	<i>Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations</i>					
173	Higher Education Loans Program for fee-paying undergraduate students – increased administration fee(b)	-	-	3.2	5.7	8.7
	Portfolio total	-	-	3.2	5.7	8.7
	HEALTH AND AGEING					
	<i>Department of Health and Ageing</i>					
	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme					
197	– chemotherapy drugs – deferred implementation(b)	-	nfp	-	-	-
198	– listing of Revlimid® (lenalidomide)(b)	-	nfp	nfp	nfp	nfp
199	– minor new listings(b)	-	nfp	nfp	nfp	nfp
	Portfolio total	-	-	-	-	-
	RESOURCES, ENERGY AND TOURISM					
	<i>Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism</i>					
213	National Offshore Petroleum, Minerals and Greenhouse Gas Storage Regulator – establishment(b)	-	-	12.5	6.4	-
	Portfolio total	-	-	12.5	6.4	-

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Table A1: Revenue measures since the 2009-10 Budget^(a) (continued)

Page		2008-09 \$m	2009-10 \$m	2010-11 \$m	2011-12 \$m	2012-13 \$m
	TREASURY					
	<i>Australian Office of Financial Management</i>					
224	Residential mortgage-backed securities – extension(c)	-	*	*	*	*
	<i>Australian Securities and Investments Commission</i>					
216	Supervision of Australia's financial markets – reform(b)	-	-	15.1	12.8	12.8
	<i>Australian Taxation Office</i>					
	Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme					
133	– minor modifications to income tax treatment	-	*	*	*	*
133	– transitional income tax treatment of units already on the National Registry	-	..	..	..	..
134	Excise and customs duty – maintain current taxation treatment for concessional spirits	-	-	-	-	-
134	Forestry managed investment schemes – technical amendments to holding period rules	-	..	..	..	..
135	GST – Government response to Board of Taxation report – minor changes	-	-	*	*	*
135	Income tax exemption – Global Carbon Capture and Storage Institute	-	-	-	-	-
136	Interest withholding tax – extension of eligibility for exemption to Commonwealth Government Securities	-	-25.0	-65.0	-90.0	-105.0
	International tax					
136	– Australia-Belgium tax protocol	-	*	*	*	*
137	– Australia-Cook Islands taxation agreement	-	-	*	*	*
137	– Australia-Gibraltar tax information exchange agreement	-	*	*	*	*
138	– Australia-Guernsey taxation agreement	-	*	*	*	*
138	– Australia-Jersey taxation agreement	-	*	*	*	*
139	– Australia-New Zealand double tax convention	-	*	*	*	*
139	– Australia-Singapore tax protocol	-	*	*	*	*
140	Non-commercial loan rules – clarification of the 2009-10 Budget measure	-	-	-	-	-
	Personal income tax					
140	– exemption of income recovery subsidy payments for the North-Western Queensland floods	-	-	-	-	-
141	– exemption of payments made under the Contingence Aids Payment Scheme	-	-	-	-	-
141	– exemption of the Outer Regional and Remote Payment made under the Helping Children with Autism package	-	-	-	-	-

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Table A1: Revenue measures since the 2009-10 Budget^(a) (continued)

Page		2008-09 \$m	2009-10 \$m	2010-11 \$m	2011-12 \$m	2012-13 \$m
	TREASURY (continued)					
	Philanthropy					
141	– additional prescribed private funds	-	-1.5	-19.8	-4.9	-6.0
142	– expanding the scope of allowable purposes for the 2009 Victorian Bushfire Appeal Fund	-	-	-	-	-
142	– updating the list of deductible gift recipients	-	-1.8	-3.7	-3.9	-4.0
143	Reforming the taxation of employee share schemes – further changes	-	-10.0	-55.0	-15.0	15.0
144	Removing the tax deductibility of political donations – amendments	-	-6.5	-6.6	-7.2	-7.5
	Taxation laws					
144	– income tax law rewrites	-	-	..	..	..
144	– minor amendments	..	*	*	*	*
145	Taxation of Financial Arrangements – technical refinements to new regime	-	*	*	*	*
145	Total and Permanent Disability (TPD) insurance premiums – deductibility by superannuation funds	-	-	-	-	-
146	Worker entitlement funds	-	-	-	-	-
	Portfolio total	-	-44.8	-135.0	-108.2	-94.7
	Decisions taken but not yet announced	-	8.7	13.5	16.7	19.8
	Total impact of revenue measures(d)	-	-33.7	-103.4	-77.8	-64.6

* The nature of the measure is such that a reliable estimate cannot be provided.

.. Not zero, but rounded to zero.

- Nil.

nfp not for publication.

(a) A minus sign before an estimate indicates a reduction in revenue, no sign before an estimate indicates a gain in revenue.

(b) These measures can also be found in the expense measures summary table.

(c) These measures can also be found in the capital measures summary table.

(d) Measures may not add due to rounding.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S

Australian Federal Police — increase to the criminal history check fee

Revenue (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Federal Police	-	-	0.4	0.4	0.4

The Government will increase the regulated fee for providing national criminal history record check services by 5 per cent from 1 July 2010. This fee recovers the costs of the Australian Federal Police providing criminal history checks to applicants. An increase of 5 per cent (approximately \$1) is broadly consistent with increases in the Consumer Price Index since 2007-08.

This measure will increase revenue by \$1.1 million over three years from 2010-11.

TREASURY

Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme — minor modifications to income tax treatment

Revenue (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Taxation Office	-	*	*	*	*

The Government will clarify the income tax treatment of units under the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS), with effect from the introduction of the CPRS. This measure has an ongoing unquantifiable revenue impact.

The Government will allow taxpayers additional flexibility in valuing emissions units held at the end of an income year and allow taxpayers to deduct expenses incurred in ceasing to hold a registered emissions unit. The Government will also clarify the income tax treatment of emissions units transferred from a foreign registry to the Australian National Registry and the treatment given to units held by an entity that ceases to be taxable in Australia.

Further detail is contained in the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2009 and accompanying explanatory memorandum.

Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme — transitional income tax treatment of units already on the National Registry

Revenue (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Taxation Office	-	..	..	..	..

The Government will clarify the income tax treatment of emissions units already on the National Registry when the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS) commences. Emissions units will be deemed to be sold and repurchased at cost in order to avoid the taxation of unrealised gains. This measure will have an ongoing negligible revenue impact.

When the CPRS commences, the existing income tax treatment will finish and the units will be subject to the specific income tax provisions for emissions units under the CPRS.

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Excise and customs duty — maintain current taxation treatment for concessional spirits

Revenue (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Taxation Office	-	-	-	-	-

The Government will clarify the excise law to ensure that imported high-strength spirits blended with domestically produced high-strength spirits are free of duty under the concessional spirits scheme, with effect from the date of Royal Assent of the amending legislation. These spirits are generally not intended for consumption as an alcoholic beverage and the proposed changes will allow current practice to continue. This measure has no revenue impact.

Forestry managed investment schemes — technical amendments to holding period rules

Revenue (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Taxation Office	-	..	..	..	..

The Government will amend the tax law to allow investors in forestry managed investment schemes (MIS) to retain an up-front tax deduction in situations where, for reasons genuinely outside their control, a capital gains tax event occurs within four full income years of their initial investment in the scheme. This will have effect from 1 July 2007. This measure will have an ongoing negligible revenue impact.

The Government will also amend the tax law to ensure that civil penalties can continue to apply to promoters of forestry MIS notwithstanding that investors in the scheme are allowed to retain their up-front deductions because of the amendment to the holding period rules.

Further information can be found in the press release of 21 October 2009 issued by the Assistant Treasurer.

GST — Government response to Board of Taxation report — minor changes

Revenue (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Taxation Office	-	-	*	*	*
<i>Related expense (\$m)</i>					
<i>Australian Taxation Office</i>	-	-	..	..	..
<i>Department of the Treasury</i>	-	-	*	*	*
<i>Total</i>	-	-	*	*	*

The Government will make a number of minor revisions to its 2009-10 Budget measure in response to the Board of Taxation's recommendations from its review of the legal framework for the administration of the goods and services tax (GST). This measure is expected to have an ongoing unquantifiable revenue impact. It is also expected to have an ongoing unquantifiable impact on GST payments to the States and a negligible ongoing impact on fuel tax credit expenditure.

This measure addresses issues identified during consultations on, and further development of, the previously announced measure. These changes include:

- extending the four-year time limit on claiming credits to include fuel tax credits;
- clarifying the Commissioner's power to recover overpaid refunds to refunds of luxury car tax and fuel tax credits;
- modifying the approach to clarifying the GST treatment of gambling transactions; and
- not proceeding with the announced changes to the financial acquisitions threshold, but instead examining it in the context of the current review of GST financial supply provisions.

Income tax exemption — Global Carbon Capture and Storage Institute

Revenue (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Taxation Office	-	-	-	-	-

The Government will exempt the Global Carbon Capture and Storage Institute from income tax. The Institute will be income tax exempt for four years from 1 July 2009 on certain conditions that aim to ensure its continued broad public benefit, consistent with other income tax exempt organisations. This measure has no revenue impact.

The Institute is a not-for-profit organisation that aims to accelerate the global adoption of safe, commercially and environmentally sustainable carbon capture and storage technology.

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Interest withholding tax — extension of eligibility for exemption to Commonwealth Government Securities

Revenue (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Taxation Office	-	-25.0	-65.0	-90.0	-105.0
<i>Related expense (\$m)</i>					
<i>Australian Office of Financial Management</i>	-	-11.6	-42.9	-76.5	-100.5

The Government will extend the eligibility for exemption from interest withholding tax (IWT) to Commonwealth Government Securities (CGS), with effect from the day after the enabling legislation receives Royal Assent. The eligibility for exemption from IWT will also extend to Commonwealth-issued debt. The measure is estimated to have an ongoing cost to revenue, including a cost of \$285.0 million over the forward estimates period. The related reduction in the Government's interest costs is expected to decrease government expenditure by \$231.5 million over the forward estimates period.

This measure will help improve the neutrality of the tax system and bring Australia's tax treatment of CGS into line with most other countries, including the United States and the United Kingdom. The measure is expected to increase the demand for CGS and reduce the Government's interest costs.

Further information can be found in the joint press release of 21 August 2009 issued by the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer.

International tax — Australia-Belgium tax protocol

Revenue (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Taxation Office	-	*	*	*	*

The Government signed a protocol to upgrade the exchange of information provisions in Australia's tax treaty with Belgium on 24 June 2009, which will enter into force after both countries advise that they have completed their domestic requirements. This measure has an ongoing unquantifiable revenue impact.

The measure will allow for the full exchange of information in relation to Australia's federal taxes and Belgium's taxes.

Further information can be found in the press release of 25 June 2009 issued by the Assistant Treasurer.

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International tax — Australia-Cook Islands taxation agreement

Revenue (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Taxation Office	-	-	*	*	*

The Government signed the Australia-Cook Islands Taxation Agreement on 27 October 2009 in the Cook Islands. This agreement will allocate taxing rights over certain income derived by individuals between the two jurisdictions. This measure has an ongoing unquantifiable revenue impact.

The measure will allocate taxing rights over income from pensions, annuities, government services and certain payments made to visiting students and business apprentices. The measure will also establish an administrative mechanism to help resolve transfer pricing disputes.

The agreement was signed in conjunction with a tax information exchange agreement between Australia and the Cook Islands, which will provide for bilateral cooperation to prevent tax avoidance and evasion. Jointly, the two agreements will promote greater economic and administrative cooperation.

Further information can be found in the press release of 28 October 2009 issued by the Assistant Treasurer.

International tax — Australia-Gibraltar tax information exchange agreement

Revenue (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Taxation Office	-	*	*	*	*

The Government signed the Australia-Gibraltar tax information exchange agreement on 25 August 2009, which will enter into force after both jurisdictions advise that they have completed their domestic requirements. This measure has an ongoing unquantifiable revenue impact.

The measure will allow for the full exchange of information in relation to Australia's federal taxes and Gibraltar's income tax.

Further information can be found in the press release of 26 August 2009 issued by the Assistant Treasurer.

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International tax — Australia-Guernsey taxation agreement

Revenue (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Taxation Office	-	*	*	*	*

The Government signed the Australia-Guernsey Taxation Agreement on 7 October 2009, which will allocate taxing rights over certain income derived by individuals between the two jurisdictions, with effect from 1 July 2011. This measure has an ongoing unquantifiable revenue impact.

The measure will allocate taxing rights over income from government services and certain payments made to visiting students and business apprentices. The measure will also establish an administrative mechanism to help resolve transfer pricing disputes.

The agreement was signed in conjunction with a tax information exchange agreement between Australia and Guernsey, which will provide for bilateral cooperation to prevent tax avoidance and evasion. Jointly, the two agreements will promote greater economic and administrative cooperation.

Further information can be found in the press release of 8 October 2009 issued by the Assistant Treasurer.

International tax — Australia-Jersey taxation agreement

Revenue (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Taxation Office	-	*	*	*	*

The Government signed the Australia-Jersey Taxation Agreement on 10 June 2009, which will allocate taxing rights over certain income derived by individuals between the two jurisdictions, with effect from 1 July 2010. This measure has an ongoing unquantifiable revenue impact.

The measure will allocate taxing rights over income from pensions, annuities, government services and certain payments made to visiting students and business apprentices. The measure will also establish an administrative mechanism to help resolve transfer pricing disputes.

The agreement was signed in conjunction with a tax information exchange agreement between Australia and Jersey, which will provide for bilateral cooperation to prevent tax avoidance and evasion. Jointly, the two agreements will promote greater economic and administrative cooperation.

Further information can be found in the press release of 15 June 2009 issued by the Assistant Treasurer.

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

International tax — Australia-New Zealand double tax convention

Revenue (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Taxation Office	-	*	*	*	*

The Government signed a tax treaty to update Australia's taxation arrangements with New Zealand on 26 June 2009, which will enter into force after both countries advise that they have completed their domestic requirements. This measure has an ongoing unquantifiable revenue impact.

This measure will reduce withholding tax on certain dividends and certain interest and royalty payments, remove tax barriers to the cross-border movement of people, and provide improved integrity measures. The Government will also amend the definition of *dual listed company arrangement* in the income tax law to align it with the corresponding definition in the New Zealand tax treaty.

Further information can be found in the joint press release of 29 June 2009 issued by the Assistant Treasurer and the Minister for Trade.

International tax — Australia-Singapore tax protocol

Revenue (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Taxation Office	-	*	*	*	*

The Government signed a protocol to upgrade the exchange of information provisions in Australia's tax treaty with Singapore on 8 September 2009, which will enter into force 30 days after both countries advise that they have completed their domestic requirements. This measure has an ongoing unquantifiable revenue impact.

The measure will allow for the full exchange of information in relation to Australia's federal taxes and Singapore's taxes.

Further information can be found in the press release of 8 September 2009 issued by the Assistant Treasurer.

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Non-commercial loan rules — clarification of the 2009-10 Budget measure

Revenue (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Taxation Office	-	-	-	-	-

The Government will refine the targeting of the changes to the non-commercial loan rules announced in the 2009-10 Budget, by clarifying the scope of payments and other benefits that can give rise to a deemed dividend when they are provided to shareholders or their associates. The changes take effect from 1 July 2009. This measure has no revenue impact.

This measure will introduce an 'otherwise deductible' rule and exempt the use of certain types of residences by shareholders or their associates. The otherwise deductible rule will apply where a payment arises under the Budget measure due to the existence of a licence or a right to use company assets. The residence exemption will apply to the use of certain types of residences by shareholders or their associates where the residence is an integral part of the business real property owned by the private company, and the shareholder (or their associate) has a licence or right to use the business real property to carry on a business.

This measure will ensure that both the rural and small business communities are not unintentionally affected by the 2009-10 Budget measure.

Further information can be found in the press release of 14 September 2009 issued by the Assistant Treasurer.

Personal income tax — exemption of income recovery subsidy payments for the North-Western Queensland floods

Revenue (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Taxation Office	-	-	-	-	-

The Government has made the income recovery subsidy payments for the North-Western Queensland floods of January and February 2009 exempt from income tax. These payments will also be excluded from the calculation of separate net income, which is used to determine entitlement to certain tax offsets. This measure has no revenue impact.

Personal income tax — exemption of payments made under the Continence Aids Payment Scheme

Revenue (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Taxation Office	-	-	-	-	-

The Government will provide an income tax exemption for payments made under the Continence Aids Payment Scheme. The Government announced in the 2009-10 Budget that it would replace the Continence Aids Assistance Scheme, which provides subsidised products to eligible recipients, with a direct payment under the Continence Aids Payment Scheme. This measure has no revenue impact.

Personal income tax — exemption of the Outer Regional and Remote Payment made under the Helping Children with Autism package

Revenue (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Taxation Office	-	-	-	-	-

The Government will provide an income tax exemption for the Outer Regional and Remote Payment made under the Helping Children with Autism package. This payment is for families of children who have been diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorders, and is designed to assist families living in regional and remote areas to access early intervention and education services. This measure has no revenue impact.

Philanthropy — additional prescribed private funds

Revenue (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Taxation Office	-	-1.5	-19.8	-4.9	-6.0

Since the 2009-10 Budget, the Government has approved 43 funds for prescription as prescribed private funds (PPFs), and seven funds have been declared no longer to be PPFs. Funds approved since the 2009-10 Budget have an estimated ongoing cost to revenue of \$32.2 million over the forward estimates period.

PPFs allow businesses, families and individuals to establish and donate to a charitable trust of their own, for the purpose of disbursing funds to a range of other deductible gift recipients.

Philanthropy — expanding the scope of allowable purposes for the 2009 Victorian Bushfire Appeal Fund

Revenue (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Taxation Office	-	-	-	-	-

The Government will provide the Victorian Bushfire Appeal Fund Independent Advisory Panel with greater scope to support communities and individuals affected by the 2009 Victorian bushfires. The Panel oversees the expenditure of funds from the 2009 Victorian Bushfire Appeal Fund. This measure has no revenue impact.

The Government will permit funds in the Appeal Fund to be used for a broader range of purposes than the law considers charitable, without jeopardising the charitable status of the Australian Red Cross Society, which is the charity that collected the donations.

This measure applies to payments made by the Red Cross to the Appeal Fund after 28 January 2009 and before 6 February 2014.

Further information can be found in the joint press release of 17 August 2009 issued by the Assistant Treasurer and the Parliamentary Secretary for Victorian Bushfire Reconstruction.

Philanthropy — updating the list of deductible gift recipients

Revenue (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Taxation Office	-	-1.8	-3.7	-3.9	-4.0

Since the 2009-10 Budget, the Government has approved the following organisations as deductible gift recipients (DGRs):

- United States Studies Centre; and
- Green Institute.

In addition, there were:

- 55 admissions to, and 2 removals from, the Register of Cultural Organisations;
- 3 admissions to the Register of Harm Prevention Charities; and
- 12 admissions to the Overseas Aid Gift Deduction Scheme.

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Taxpayers may claim an income tax deduction for certain gifts of money or property to DGRs. This measure has an ongoing cost to revenue of \$13.4 million over the forward estimates period.

The Register of Cultural Organisations can be found on the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts website at www.arts.gov.au. The Register of Harm Prevention Charities can be found on the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs website at www.fahcsia.gov.au. The list of developing country relief funds on the Overseas Aid Gift Deduction Scheme can be found on the AusAID website at www.ausaid.gov.au.

Reforming the taxation of employee share schemes — further changes

Revenue (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Taxation Office	-	-10.0	-55.0	-15.0	15.0

The Government will revise the 2009-10 Budget measure to reform the taxation of employee share schemes.

Key differences between this measure and the Budget measure are:

- the introduction of an annual reporting requirement and associated withholding arrangements for providers of employee share schemes;
- the reintroduction of deferral of taxation for employee share schemes where the benefits provided are at real risk of forfeiture, or where the benefits are provided under salary sacrifice arrangements;
- an increase to the income tax threshold for eligibility for the upfront tax concession from \$60,000 to \$180,000; and
- the modification of rules relating to the refund of income for forfeited benefits.

The new employee share scheme rules have effect from 1 July 2009.

The changes have an estimated cost to revenue of \$65.0 million over the forward estimates.

Further information can be found in the press release of 1 July 2009 issued by the Assistant Treasurer.

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Removing the tax deductibility of political donations — amendments

Revenue (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Taxation Office	-	-6.5	-6.6	-7.2	-7.5

The Government will continue to allow tax deductibility of political donations for individuals. This measure revises the 2008-09 Budget measure which sought to remove tax deductibility of political donations for both individuals and businesses. This measure will have an estimated cost to revenue of \$27.8 million over the forward estimates period.

Consistent with the original measure, businesses will not be able to deduct political donations. Individuals will continue to be able to claim a capped deduction for political donations or a general deduction for certain membership contributions.

This measure will apply to donations and contributions from the 2008-09 financial year onward.

Taxation laws — income tax law rewrites

Revenue (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Taxation Office	-	-	..	..	..

The Government will rewrite certain provisions from the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1936* into either the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* or the *Taxation Administration Act 1953* as part of the ongoing work of completing the rewrite of the 1936 Act. This measure has a negligible ongoing revenue impact.

The rewrites will preserve the outcomes under the existing law but use the language, structure and drafting approach used in the 1997 Act and the Administration Act.

Taxation laws — minor amendments

Revenue (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Taxation Office	..	*	*	*	*

The Government will make a number of minor amendments to the taxation laws to correct deficiencies and improve certainty for taxpayers. These minor amendments are part of the Government's commitment to the care and maintenance of the tax law.

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The amendments include rectifying incorrect terminology, correcting grammatical errors, repealing inoperative material, clarifying ambiguities, and ensuring provisions are consistent with the original policy intent.

This measure has an ongoing unquantifiable revenue impact.

Taxation of Financial Arrangements — technical refinements to new regime

Revenue (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Taxation Office	-	*	*	*	*

The Government will amend the income tax law relating to the Taxation of Financial Arrangements in order to further reduce compliance costs and ensure the provisions operate as intended. This measure has an ongoing unquantifiable revenue impact.

Further information can be found in the press release of 4 September 2009 issued by the Assistant Treasurer.

Total and Permanent Disability (TPD) insurance premiums — deductibility by superannuation funds

Revenue (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Taxation Office	-	-	-	-	-

The Government will provide transitional relief to complying superannuation funds to allow them to continue to deduct the cost of insurance premiums relating to disability superannuation benefits, in line with existing industry practice. The transitional provisions will apply for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2011. This measure will have no revenue impact as it continues existing industry practice.

From 1 July 2011, insurance premiums will revert to only being deductible to the extent the policies have the necessary connection to a liability of the fund to provide disability superannuation benefits to its members.

This measure will minimise disruption to the industry and provide funds with lead time to make the necessary administrative changes.

Further information can be found in the press release of 13 October 2009 issued by the Minister for Financial Services, Superannuation and Corporate Law.

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Worker entitlement funds

Revenue (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Taxation Office	-	-	-	-	-

The Government has agreed to list three funds as worker entitlement funds:

- Tronics Employee Entitlement Scheme Trust;
- Shaw's Darwin Transport Employees' Entitlement Trust; and
- Fisher & Paykel Termination Funding Trust.

Listing a fund as an approved worker entitlement fund ensures certain payments to the fund are not taxed twice (once on entry to the fund and once when the benefit is provided to the worker). This measure has no revenue impact.

Expense Measures

Table A2: Expense measures since the 2009-10 Budget^(a)

Page		2008-09 \$m	2009-10 \$m	2010-11 \$m	2011-12 \$m	2012-13 \$m
	AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY					
	<i>Australian Fisheries Management Authority</i>					
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	-0.7	-1.4	-1.4	-1.4
	<i>Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry</i>					
	Drought assistance					
159	– Exceptional Circumstances assistance for primary producers	-	11.8	1.2	-	-
160	– Exceptional Circumstances assistance for small businesses	-	0.6	0.1	-	-
200	Protection against bovine spongiform encephalopathy	-	-	-	-	-
160	Reform of Australia's biosecurity system – scoping	-	-	-	-	-
161	Reform of Australia's Export Certification Services	-	39.4	-	-	-
201	Swine flu (H1N1 influenza virus) pandemic response	-	-	-	-	-
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	-1.4	-2.5	-2.5	-2.6
	Portfolio total	-	49.6	-2.6	-3.9	-4.0
	ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S					
	<i>Administrative Appeals Tribunal</i>					
163	Norfolk Island governance reform	-	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
	<i>Attorney-General's Department</i>					
162	Enhanced crisis coordination facilities – stage two	-	-0.5	-1.2	-1.2	-0.8
163	Norfolk Island governance reform	-	-0.4	-0.4	-0.3	-0.3
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	-0.9	-1.5	-1.4	-1.3
	<i>Australian Federal Police</i>					
162	Australian Federal Police – funding for the Timor-Leste Emergency Response	-	-	-	-	-
	<i>Australian Institute of Criminology</i>					
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	-	-0.5	-1.5	-1.5
	<i>Australian Law Reform Commission</i>					
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	-	-0.2	-0.5	-0.5

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

Table A2: Expense measures since the 2009-10 Budget^(a) (continued)

Page		2008-09 \$m	2009-10 \$m	2010-11 \$m	2011-12 \$m	2012-13 \$m
	ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S (continued)					
	<i>Criminology Research Council</i>					
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	-	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1
	<i>Federal Court of Australia</i>					
163	Federal Court of Australia – reduction in the number of judicial officers	-	-	-1.0	-1.5	-1.5
163	Norfolk Island governance reform	-	..	..	..	..
	<i>Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions</i>					
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	-1.5	-2.8	-2.6	-2.6
	Portfolio total	-	-3.2	-7.7	-9.0	-8.5
	BROADBAND, COMMUNICATIONS AND THE DIGITAL ECONOMY					
	<i>Australian Communications and Media Authority</i>					
164	Telecommunications regulatory reform – competition and consumer safeguards	-	-	1.2	1.2	1.2
	<i>Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy</i>					
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	-1.3	-2.0	-2.0	-1.8
	Portfolio total	-	-1.3	-0.9	-0.7	-0.6
	CROSS PORTFOLIO					
	<i>Various Agencies</i>					
165	Commonwealth Property Management Framework – identification of savings	-	-	-3.3	-16.6	-27.7
188	Desktop computing equipment – whole-of-government coordinated procurement	-	-	-1.7	-1.7	-1.7
190	Telecommunications services – whole-of-government coordinated procurement	-	-	-8.8	-20.1	-18.5
165	Travel services – whole-of-government procurement	-	nfp	nfp	nfp	nfp
	Portfolio total	-	-	-13.8	-38.4	-47.9
	DEFENCE					
	<i>Department of Defence</i>					
168	Australian Strategic Policy Institute – continuation of funding	-	-	-	-	-
	Portfolio total	-	-	-	-	-

Table A2: Expense measures since the 2009-10 Budget^(a) (continued)

Page		2008-09 \$m	2009-10 \$m	2010-11 \$m	2011-12 \$m	2012-13 \$m
	EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS					
	<i>Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations</i>					
169	Boys Education National Initiative – reduced funding	-	-	-3.1	-3.0	-2.7
	Drought assistance					
159	– Exceptional Circumstances assistance for primary producers	-	0.8	0.1	-	-
160	– Exceptional Circumstances assistance for small businesses	-	..	..	-	-
	Economic Stimulus Plan Recalibration					
169	– Building the Education Revolution – Primary Schools for the 21st Century (P21)	-	8.3	6.9	-	-
170	– Building the Education Revolution – rephasing	-	-	-500.0	500.0	-
170	– Education Investment Fund – Future Rounds – Reduction	-	-	-175.0	-25.0	-
171	– Keep Australia Working – Apprentice Kickstart Bonus and Increased Pre-Apprenticeship Training Places	-	-	-	-	-
172	– Keep Australia Working – Job Expos for Priority Regions	-	-4.1	-	-	-
203	Fraud and compliance – increased compliance activity	-	-0.8	-18.2	-30.3	-31.4
173	Higher Education – contribution to Australian Education International investment – transfer of promotion functions	-	-1.3	-11.1	-11.1	-11.1
173	Higher Education Loans Program for fee-paying undergraduate students – increased administration fee	-	-	-9.0	-8.4	-7.9
	Jobs and Skills for a Low Pollution Future					
174	– insulation-related training and ongoing pathways	-	-	-	-	-
174	– National Green Jobs Corps	-	20.7	39.3	19.6	-
175	Safe Work Australia – establishment	-	-12.8	-13.2	-13.5	-13.7
176	Student Amenities Higher Education Loans Program – deferral	-	-28.3	-	-	-
	Student income support					
176	– delay increase in personal income test threshold	-	-	-55.5	-114.6	-
177	– various refinements	-	-0.8	-1.7	-1.7	-1.7
219	Support for veterans – recognition of service of personnel on HMAS <i>Canberra</i> during Operation DAMASK VI	-	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

Table A2: Expense measures since the 2009-10 Budget^(a) (continued)

Page		2008-09 \$m	2009-10 \$m	2010-11 \$m	2011-12 \$m	2012-13 \$m
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS (continued)						
206	Temporary Business (Long Stay) Visa (Subclass 457) reform – implementation of streamlined arrangements	-	-	-	-	-
217	Victorian bushfire reconstruction and recovery	-	-10.0	-5.4	-	-
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	-0.3	-10.4	-19.9	-19.9
178	Youth Allowance – transitional arrangements for claiming independence	-	7.6	47.3	47.4	47.6
<i>Safe Work Australia</i>						
175	Safe Work Australia – establishment	-	8.8	9.0	9.2	9.3
Portfolio total		-	-12.1	-700.1	348.7	-31.6
ENVIRONMENT, WATER, HERITAGE AND THE ARTS						
<i>Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts</i>						
179	Culture and Recreation Portal – closure	-	-	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3
Economic Stimulus Plan Recalibration						
179	– Energy Efficient Homes package – modification	-	-310.0	-300.0	-250.0	-
180	– Solar Hot Water Rebate – modification	-	-	-	-	-
181	Graves and memorials of eminent Australians – conservation	-	-	-	-	-
181	Kokoda Track – safety upgrade	-	-	-	-	-
182	National Solar Schools Program – reduced funding	-	-	-7.9	-8.1	-
182	Solar Homes and Communities Plan – additional funding	-	510.8	23.2	-	-
Water for the Future						
183	– National Rainwater and Greywater Initiative – reduced funding	-	-13.0	-31.4	-	-
183	– Water Smart Australia – reduced funding	-	-10.0	-10.0	-	-
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	-	-5.0	-5.0	-5.0
183	Zelman Cowen Gallery of Australian Jewish History – contribution	-	-	-	-	-
Portfolio total		-	177.8	-331.4	-263.3	-5.2
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS						
<i>Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs</i>						
184	Alice Springs Transformation Plan	25.0	-	-	-	-
184	Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payment – Queensland and New South Wales floods May 2009	8.0	6.1	-	-	-

Table A2: Expense measures since the 2009-10 Budget^(a) (continued)

Page		2008-09 \$m	2009-10 \$m	2010-11 \$m	2011-12 \$m	2012-13 \$m
	FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS (continued)					
185	Community Investment Program – reduction	-	-2.8	-	-	-
203	Fraud and compliance – increased compliance activity	-	..	-3.7	-6.5	-4.0
185	Office for Remote Indigenous Housing – establishment	-	-	-	-	-
186	Secure and Sustainable Pensions – public information campaign	-	2.8	-	-	-
186	Social Security Agreement – Australia and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	-	-	0.3	0.7	0.7
219	Support for veterans – recognition of service of personnel on HMAS <i>Canberra</i> during Operation DAMASK VI	-	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1
217	Victorian bushfire reconstruction and recovery	-	-0.1	-	-	-
187	Victorian Fires Income Recovery Subsidy – extension	-	2.0	-	-	-
	Portfolio total	33.0	8.0	-3.4	-6.0	-3.4
	FINANCE AND DEREGULATION					
	<i>Australian Electoral Commission</i>					
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	-0.3	-1.1	-0.8	-0.8
	<i>Comsuper</i>					
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	0.1	-1.5	-1.6	-1.6
	<i>Department of Finance and Deregulation</i>					
188	Desktop computing equipment – whole-of-government coordinated procurement	-	2.3	0.9	1.0	1.0
194	E-Health – development of a business case for individual electronic health records	-	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1
162	Enhanced crisis coordination facilities – stage two	-	0.3	0.1	-	-
211	National Archives Preservation Facility – Gateway review funding	-	0.1	-	-	-
188	Office of Evaluation and Audit – Indigenous Programs transfer to the Australian National Audit Office	-	-2.7	-5.3	-5.4	-5.4
189	Parliamentary entitlements – reform	-	-0.2	-1.5	-1.3	-1.2
209	Procurement strategy – strengthening the Australian Industry Participation National Framework and streamlining AusTender	-	-	-	-	-
189	Superannuation pension overpayments – reduction	-	-0.1	-0.2	-0.3	-0.4

Table A2: Expense measures since the 2009-10 Budget^(a) (continued)

Page		2008-09 \$m	2009-10 \$m	2010-11 \$m	2011-12 \$m	2012-13 \$m
	FINANCE AND DEREGULATION (continued)					
190	Telecommunications services – whole-of-government coordinated procurement	-	3.9	-	-	-
165	Travel services – whole-of-government procurement	-	nfp	nfp	nfp	nfp
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	-1.4	-2.7	-2.7	-2.8
	Portfolio total	-	2.2	-11.1	-11.1	-11.2
	FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE					
	<i>AusAID</i>					
	Overseas development assistance					
192	– International Finance Facility for Immunisation – contribution	-	-	3.0	5.0	5.0
193	– Office of Deployable Civilian Capability	-	7.8	10.1	10.8	11.0
	<i>Australian Trade Commission</i>					
191	Brand Australia	-	4.5	5.4	5.0	5.0
191	Foreign Affairs and Trade portfolio – efficiencies	-	-1.9	-5.0	-5.0	-5.1
173	Higher Education – contribution to Australian Education International investment – transfer of promotion functions	-	-	8.6	8.6	8.7
	<i>Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade</i>					
191	Foreign Affairs and Trade portfolio – efficiencies	-	-7.0	-21.9	-33.0	-25.3
192	Italian earthquake recovery effort – Australian Government's contribution	-	-	-	-	-
	Portfolio total	-	3.5	0.3	-8.5	-0.7
	HEALTH AND AGEING					
	<i>Department of Health and Ageing</i>					
	Drought assistance					
159	– Exceptional Circumstances assistance for primary producers	-	0.2	..	-	-
160	– Exceptional Circumstances assistance for small businesses	-	..	..	-	-
194	E-Health – development of a business case for individual electronic health records	-	3.7	-	-	-
194	General Practice Super Clinics – further five clinics	-	-	-	-	-
	Medicare Benefits Schedule					
195	– new and revised listings	-	1.0	0.6	-0.3	-1.3
196	– promoting better use of selected spinal x-ray items	-	-2.0	-4.6	-5.0	-5.5

Table A2: Expense measures since the 2009-10 Budget^(a) (continued)

Page		2008-09 \$m	2009-10 \$m	2010-11 \$m	2011-12 \$m	2012-13 \$m
	HEALTH AND AGEING (continued)					
	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme					
197	– additional therapeutic groups	-	-1.2	-13.8	-14.7	-16.0
197	– chemotherapy drugs – deferred implementation	-	33.4	-	-	-
198	– listing of Revlimid® (lenalidomide)	-	15.6	25.5	26.1	26.7
199	– minor new listings	-	21.7	32.8	41.6	47.4
200	Protection against bovine spongiform encephalopathy	-	-	-	-	-
200	Seasonal influenza vaccine – expanded eligibility	-	10.8	10.3	11.3	11.4
201	Skin cancer awareness campaign – continuation of funding	-	-	-	-	-
201	Swine flu (H1N1 influenza virus) pandemic response	-	45.2	0.8	0.3	0.3
	<i>Food Standards Australia New Zealand</i>					
200	Protection against bovine spongiform encephalopathy	-	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7
	Portfolio total	-	128.9	52.3	59.9	63.9
	HUMAN SERVICES					
	<i>Centrelink</i>					
203	Centrelink efficiencies – reduction in paper-based claims and correspondence	-	12.4	-43.0	-50.1	-57.2
	Drought assistance					
159	– Exceptional Circumstances assistance for primary producers	-	0.5	0.1	-	-
160	– Exceptional Circumstances assistance for small businesses	-	..	..	-	-
172	Economic Stimulus Plan Recalibration – Keep Australia Working – Job Expos for Priority Regions	-	4.1	-	-	-
203	Fraud and compliance – increased compliance activity	-	2.3	5.3	2.8	-0.3
204	Human Services delivery research – reduction in scope	-	-1.0	-1.0	-1.0	-
204	Job seeker contacts with Centrelink – streamlined arrangements	-	14.5	-36.1	-36.6	-37.0
174	Jobs and Skills for a Low Pollution Future – National Green Jobs Corps	-	2.0	0.5	0.4	-
186	Social Security Agreement – Australia and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	-	-	2.9	0.3	0.3
	<i>Medicare Australia</i>					
	Medicare Benefits Schedule					
195	– new and revised listings	-	0.1	..	-0.1	-0.1
196	– promoting better use of selected spinal x-ray items	-	..	..	..	..

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

Table A2: Expense measures since the 2009-10 Budget^(a) (continued)

Page		2008-09 \$m	2009-10 \$m	2010-11 \$m	2011-12 \$m	2012-13 \$m
	HUMAN SERVICES (continued)					
	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme					
197	– additional therapeutic groups	-	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1
198	– listing of Revlimid® (lenalidomide)	-	..	0.1	0.1	0.1
199	– minor new listings	-	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
200	Seasonal influenza vaccine – expanded eligibility	-	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1
	Portfolio total	-	35.6	-71.0	-83.9	-93.8
	IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP					
	<i>Department of Immigration and Citizenship</i>					
205	Biometrics for visa and border processing – commencement	-	-	-	-	-
205	Student visa integrity – enhancement	-	-	-	-	-
206	Temporary Business (Long Stay) Visa (Subclass 457) reform – implementation of streamlined arrangements	-	-	-	-	-
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	-3.3	-6.1	-6.2	-6.4
206	Working Holiday visa (Subclass 417) – integrity enhancements	-	-	-	-	-
	Portfolio total	-	-3.3	-6.1	-6.2	-6.4
	INFRASTRUCTURE, TRANSPORT, REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT					
	<i>Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government</i>					
207	Community Infrastructure Program – further funding	-	-	-	-	-
208	Rugby League Central Multipurpose Centre project – grant	-	-	-	-	-
217	Victorian bushfire reconstruction and recovery	-	-1.5	-	-	-
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	-2.6	-5.1	-5.1	-5.2
	Portfolio total	-	-4.1	-5.1	-5.1	-5.2
	INNOVATION, INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH					
	<i>Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation</i>					
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	-6.2	-10.4	-10.4	-10.4
	<i>Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research</i>					
212	Economic Stimulus Plan Recalibration – Clean Energy Initiative – reprofiling	-	-100.0	-	-	-
209	Ford Australia – cessation of grant	-	-10.0	-	-10.0	-

Table A2: Expense measures since the 2009-10 Budget^(a) (continued)

Page		2008-09 \$m	2009-10 \$m	2010-11 \$m	2011-12 \$m	2012-13 \$m
INNOVATION, INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH (continued)						
209	Green Car Innovation Fund – reprofile	-	-	-	-17.5	-20.0
209	Procurement strategy – strengthening the Australian Industry Participation National Framework and streamlining AusTender	-	3.5	5.2	5.3	5.2
210	Retooling for Climate Change – reduced funding	-	-6.0	-7.0	-6.0	-
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	-2.2	-0.4	-14.5	-15.4
Portfolio total		-	-120.9	-12.7	-53.2	-40.6
PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET						
<i>Australian Institute of Family Studies</i>						
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	..	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1
<i>Australian National Audit Office</i>						
188	Office of Evaluation and Audit – Indigenous Programs transfer to the Australian National Audit Office	-	1.9	4.0	4.0	4.1
<i>Australian Public Service Commission</i>						
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	-0.3	-0.5	-0.5	-0.4
<i>Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet</i>						
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	-0.5	-1.0	-2.6	-0.6
<i>National Archives of Australia</i>						
211	National Archives Preservation Facility – Gateway review funding	-	-0.1	-	-	-
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	-0.7	-1.4	-1.4	-1.4
<i>Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman</i>						
163	Norfolk Island governance reform	-	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	-0.2	-0.5	-0.5	-0.4
<i>Office of the Privacy Commissioner</i>						
163	Norfolk Island governance reform	-	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2
Portfolio total		-	0.3	0.7	-0.9	1.2
RESOURCES, ENERGY AND TOURISM						
<i>Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism</i>						
212	Economic Stimulus Plan Recalibration – Clean Energy Initiative – reprofiling	-	-200.0	-	-	-
213	National Offshore Petroleum, Minerals and Greenhouse Gas Storage Regulator – establishment	-	2.5	9.4	6.9	-
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	-0.4	-0.7	-0.7	-0.7
Portfolio total		-	-197.9	8.7	6.2	-0.7

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

Table A2: Expense measures since the 2009-10 Budget^(a) (continued)

Page		2008-09 \$m	2009-10 \$m	2010-11 \$m	2011-12 \$m	2012-13 \$m
	TREASURY					
	<i>Australian Competition and Consumer Commission</i>					
164	Telecommunications regulatory reform – competition and consumer safeguards	-	2.5	0.9	-	-
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	-0.7	-1.4	-1.3	-1.4
	<i>Australian Office of Financial Management</i>					
136	Interest withholding tax – extension of eligibility for exemption to Commonwealth Government Securities(b)	-	-11.6	-42.9	-76.5	-100.5
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2
	<i>Australian Securities and Investments Commission</i>					
216	Supervision of Australia's financial markets – reform	-	1.6	10.4	11.0	11.0
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	-1.8	-3.4	-3.3	-3.1
	<i>Australian Taxation Office</i>					
214	Australian Taxation Office – Reduction in campaign advertising funding	-	..	..	..	-
135	GST – Government response to Board of Taxation report – minor changes(b)	-	-	..	..	..
186	Social Security Agreement – Australia and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	-	-	0.2	0.2	0.1
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	-15.4	-31.4	-31.4	-31.4
	<i>Commonwealth Grants Commission</i>					
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	..	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1
	<i>Corporations and Markets Advisory Committee</i>					
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	..	..	..	..
	<i>Department of the Treasury</i>					
	Drought assistance					
159	– Exceptional Circumstances assistance for primary producers	-	16.8	2.3	-	-
160	– Exceptional Circumstances assistance for small businesses	-	1.1	0.2	-	-
	Economic Stimulus Plan Recalibration					
169	– Building the Education Revolution – Primary Schools for the 21st Century (P21)	-	19.4	16.1	-	-
214	– Nation Building and Jobs Plan – investment in social housing – reduced funding	-	-150.0	-450.0	-150.0	-

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

Table A2: Expense measures since the 2009-10 Budget^(a) (continued)

Page		2008-09 \$m	2009-10 \$m	2010-11 \$m	2011-12 \$m	2012-13 \$m
	TREASURY (continued)					
215	Greenhouse Gas Reduction Scheme – transitional assistance	-	-	130.0	-	-
135	GST – Government response to Board of Taxation report – minor changes(b)	-	-	*	*	*
215	International Monetary Fund – additional contribution	-	30.0	-	-	-
182	National Solar Schools Program – reduced funding	-	-	-18.4	-18.8	-
217	Victorian bushfire reconstruction and recovery	-	41.2	6.9	-	-
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	-0.9	-1.6	-1.5	-1.5
	<i>Inspector-General of Taxation</i>					
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	..	..	..	..
	<i>National Competition Council</i>					
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	..	..	..	..
	<i>Office of the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board</i>					
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	..	..	..	..
	<i>Office of the Australian Accounting Standards Board</i>					
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	..	..	-0.1	-0.1
	<i>Productivity Commission</i>					
167	Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies	-	-0.2	-0.4	-0.4	-0.4
	Portfolio total	-	-68.2	-382.9	-272.5	-127.5
	VETERANS' AFFAIRS					
	<i>Department of Veterans' Affairs</i>					
203	Fraud and compliance – increased compliance activity	-	0.5	0.2	-0.5	-0.8
	Medicare Benefits Schedule					
195	– new and revised listings	-	0.1	..	-0.1	-0.3
196	– promoting better use of selected spinal x-ray items	-	..	..	..	..
	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme					
197	– additional therapeutic groups	-	-0.1	-1.0	-1.0	-1.0
197	– chemotherapy drugs – deferred implementation	-	2.9	-	-	-
198	– listing of Revlimid® (lenalidomide)	-	1.6	2.5	2.5	2.4
199	– minor new listings	-	1.1	1.6	1.8	2.0

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

Table A2: Expense measures since the 2009-10 Budget^(a) (continued)

Page		2008-09 \$m	2009-10 \$m	2010-11 \$m	2011-12 \$m	2012-13 \$m
	VETERANS' AFFAIRS (continued)					
218	Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme – minor new listings	-	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2
219	Support for veterans – recognition of service of personnel on HMAS <i>Canberra</i> during Operation DAMASK VI	-	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1
	Portfolio total	-	6.5	3.6	3.1	2.7
	Decisions taken but not yet announced	-	49.0	-8.3	-11.2	-11.6
	Depreciation expense	-	-0.9	0.7	2.5	2.4
	Total impact of expense measures(c)	33.0	49.4	-1,490.6	-353.5	-328.6

* The nature of the measure is such that a reliable estimate cannot be provided.

.. Not zero, but rounded to zero.

- Nil.

nfp not for publication.

(a) A minus sign before an estimate indicates a reduction in expenses, no sign before an estimate indicates increased expenses.

(b) These measures can also be found in the revenue measures summary table.

(c) Measures may not add due to rounding.

AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

Drought assistance — Exceptional Circumstances assistance for primary producers

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of the Treasury	-	16.8	2.3	-	-
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	-	11.8	1.2	-	-
Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations	-	0.8	0.1	-	-
Centrelink	-	0.5	0.1	-	-
Department of Health and Ageing	-	0.2	..	-	-
Total	-	30.1	3.7	-	-

The Government will provide \$34.8 million over three years (including \$1.1 million in 2008-09) to continue support for primary producers in regions that have been declared eligible for Exceptional Circumstances assistance.

Exceptional Circumstances assistance provides interest rate subsidies and income support to assist viable farm businesses and farm families who have been adversely affected by the prolonged drought. Eligible recipients are also provided with a health care concession card and access to Youth Allowance for their children.

The cost of this measure in 2008-09 was met from within the existing resourcing of the affected agencies.

Further information can be found in various press releases issued by the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry between 1 May and 10 September 2009.

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

Drought assistance — Exceptional Circumstances assistance for small businesses

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of the Treasury	-	1.1	0.2	-	-
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	-	0.6	0.1	-	-
Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations	-	..	..	-	-
Department of Health and Ageing	-	..	..	-	-
Centrelink	-	..	..	-	-
Total	-	1.7	0.3	-	-

The Government will provide \$2.1 million over three years (including \$57,000 in 2008-09) to continue support for small businesses with up to 100 employees that are dependent on business from farmers in regions declared eligible for Exceptional Circumstances assistance.

The small business assistance provides interest rate subsidies and income support to assist viable farm-dependent businesses and families who have been adversely affected by the prolonged drought. Eligible recipients are also provided with a health care concession card and access to Youth Allowance for their children.

The cost of this measure in 2008-09 was met from within the existing resourcing of the affected agencies.

Further information can be found in various press releases issued by the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry between 1 May and 10 September 2009.

Reform of Australia's biosecurity system — scoping

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	-	-	-	-	-

The Government will provide \$14.7 million in 2009-10 to the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service to begin scoping elements of the reform of Australia's biosecurity system which have long lead times. These elements include initial work on information and communications technology upgrades and on future arrangements for post-entry quarantine facilities. The scoping work follows the review of Australia's quarantine and biosecurity arrangements, *One Biosecurity: a working partnership*, conducted in 2008.

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

The cost of this measure will be met from within the existing resourcing of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

Further information can be found in the press release of 23 September 2009 issued by the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

Reform of Australia's Export Certification Services

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	-	39.4	-	-	-

The Government has committed to a \$39.4 million Export Certification Reform Package in 2009-10 to develop and implement more efficient approaches to the delivery of export regulatory services. The package will provide transitional support to industry to adjust to the termination of the 40 per cent subsidy for the cost of export certification and inspection work undertaken by the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service. The package is contingent on the regulations to return export certification to full cost recovery being agreed by the Parliament.

The funding includes \$24.4 million to modernise export control infrastructure and \$15.0 million to assist exporters to transition from the existing inspectorate-based certification arrangements to a more efficient audit-based approach.

Further information can be found in various press releases issued by the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S

Australian Federal Police — funding for the Timor-Leste Emergency Response

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Federal Police	-	-	-	-	-

The Government will provide \$1.5 million in 2009-10 to reimburse the Australian Federal police for the one-off deployment of additional Australian Federal Police officers to Timor-Leste following the assassination attempts on both the President and the Prime Minister of Timor-Leste on 11 February 2008. The reimbursement of funds has no impact on the fiscal balance.

Enhanced crisis coordination facilities — stage two

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Finance and Deregulation	-	0.3	0.1	-	-
Attorney-General's Department	-	-0.5	-1.2	-1.2	-0.8
Total	-	-0.2	-1.1	-1.2	-0.8
<i>Related capital (\$m)</i>					
Attorney-General's Department	-	12.4	-2.0	-3.5	-3.5

The Government will provide \$38.2 million over four years for the establishment of a permanent Crisis Coordination Centre to strengthen the Government's capability to respond to crises of national significance. Expenditure on the Crisis Coordination Centre will consist of \$24.6 million in 2009-10, \$5.3 million in 2010-11, \$3.9 million in 2011-12 and \$4.0 million in 2012-13.

In addition, as part of this measure the Government is committing \$0.5 million over two years to fund a Gateway Review to assess the establishment of the centre. The Gateway Review process provides quality assurance during the implementation of major government projects so that the intended outcomes of the projects are achieved.

This measure is related to the *Enhanced Crisis Coordination Facilities* measure contained in the 2009-10 Budget.

The cost of this proposal has been fully offset over the forward estimates period from within the Attorney-General's portfolio. The financial implications reflect the net impact of the cost of establishing the Crisis Coordination Centre, the Gateway Review assessment and the offsetting savings over the forward estimates.

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

Federal Court of Australia — reduction in the number of judicial officers

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Federal Court of Australia	-	-	-1.0	-1.5	-1.5

The Government will not fill two vacancies for judicial officers of the Federal Court of Australia. This reflects an expected reduction in the workload of the Court, based on court filing data, and will result in savings of \$4.1 million over three years.

Norfolk Island governance reform

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Office of the Privacy Commissioner	-	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman	-	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Administrative Appeals Tribunal	-	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Federal Court of Australia	-	..	..	..	..
Attorney-General's Department	-	-0.4	-0.4	-0.3	-0.3
Total	-	-	0.0	0.1	0.1

The Government will provide \$1.9 million over four years to implement governance reforms on Norfolk Island to improve transparency and accountability in decision-making. This measure will extend Commonwealth powers of oversight over the Norfolk Island Government, allow the implementation of a customised and proportionate financial management framework and extend the powers of the Commonwealth Ombudsman to consider cases relating to Norfolk Island.

The cost of this measure will be met from within the existing resourcing of the Attorney-General's Department.

Further information can be found in the press release of 28 May 2009 issued by the Minister for Home Affairs.

BROADBAND, COMMUNICATIONS AND THE DIGITAL ECONOMY

Telecommunications regulatory reform — competition and consumer safeguards

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Competition and Consumer Commission	-	2.5	0.9	-	-
Australian Communications and Media Authority	-	-	1.2	1.2	1.2
Total	-	2.5	2.1	1.2	1.2
<i>Related revenue (\$m)</i>					
Australian Communications and Media Authority	-	2.5	2.1	1.2	1.2

The Government will provide \$3.4 million over two years to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission to implement reforms to telecommunications competition regulation, and \$1.2 million a year ongoing to the Australian Communications and Media Authority to manage the proposed legislated consumer safeguards regime.

The Government has announced reforms to existing telecommunications regulation to:

- address the high level of industry concentration to promote greater competition and consumer benefits;
- streamline and simplify the competition regime to provide more certain and quicker outcomes for telecommunications companies;
- strengthen consumer safeguards to ensure services standards are maintained at a high level; and
- remove redundant and inefficient regulatory red tape.

The costs of this measure will be fully recovered from annual carrier licence charges collected by the Australian Communications and Media Authority under the *Telecommunications (Carrier Licence Charges) Act 1997*.

Further information can be found in the press release of 15 September 2009 issued by the Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy.

CROSS PORTFOLIO

Commonwealth Property Management Framework — identification of savings

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Various Agencies	-	-	-3.3	-16.6	-27.7

As announced in the 2009-10 Budget, the Government will establish the Commonwealth Property Management Framework. This framework will require agencies subject to the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997* to apply a principles-based approach to achieve a more efficient and effective use of domestic property.

Implementation of the framework is expected to result in whole-of-government savings of \$47.6 million over three years from 2010-11.

Travel services — whole-of-government procurement

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Various Agencies	-	nfp	nfp	nfp	nfp
Department of Finance and Deregulation	-	nfp	nfp	nfp	nfp
Total	-	-	-	-	-

The Government is introducing coordinated procurement arrangements for its travel and related services. These arrangements will include central purchasing of domestic and international air travel, travel management, short-term car hire, accommodation, and travel cards.

The costs of implementing and administering the travel services strategy will be offset by establishing a user charge arrangement, with two thirds of the resulting whole-of-government net savings to be returned to the budget.

For commercial confidentiality reasons, the financial impact of this measure is not for publication.

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Attorney-General's Department	-	-0.9	-1.5	-1.4	-1.3
Australian Competition and Consumer Commission	-	-0.7	-1.4	-1.3	-1.4
Australian Electoral Commission	-	-0.3	-1.1	-0.8	-0.8
Australian Fisheries Management Authority	-	-0.7	-1.4	-1.4	-1.4
Australian Institute of Criminology	-	-	-0.5	-1.5	-1.5
Australian Institute of Family Studies	-	..	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1
Australian Law Reform Commission	-	-	-0.2	-0.5	-0.5
Australian Office of Financial Management	-	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2
Australian Public Service Commission	-	-0.3	-0.5	-0.5	-0.4
Australian Securities and Investments Commission	-	-1.8	-3.4	-3.3	-3.1
Australian Taxation Office	-	-15.4	-31.4	-31.4	-31.4
Commonwealth Grants Commission	-	..	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1
Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation	-	-6.2	-10.4	-10.4	-10.4
Comsuper	-	0.1	-1.5	-1.6	-1.6
Corporations and Markets Advisory Committee	-	..	..	..	..
Criminology Research Council	-	-	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	-	-1.4	-2.5	-2.5	-2.6
Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy	-	-1.3	-2.0	-2.0	-1.8
Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations	-	-0.3	-10.4	-19.9	-19.9
Department of Finance and Deregulation	-	-1.4	-2.7	-2.7	-2.8
Department of Immigration and Citizenship	-	-3.3	-6.1	-6.2	-6.4
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government	-	-2.6	-5.1	-5.1	-5.2
Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research	-	-2.2	-0.4	-14.5	-15.4

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

Whole-of-government departmental efficiencies (continued)

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism	-	-0.4	-0.7	-0.7	-0.7
Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts	-	-	-5.0	-5.0	-5.0
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	-	-0.5	-1.0	-2.6	-0.6
Department of the Treasury	-	-0.9	-1.6	-1.5	-1.5
Inspector-General of Taxation	-	..	..	..	..
National Archives of Australia	-	-0.7	-1.4	-1.4	-1.4
National Competition Council	-	..	..	..	..
Office of the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board	-	..	..	..	..
Office of the Australian Accounting Standards Board	-	..	..	-0.1	-0.1
Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman	-	-0.2	-0.5	-0.5	-0.4
Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions	-	-1.5	-2.8	-2.6	-2.6
Office of the Privacy Commissioner	-	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2
Productivity Commission	-	-0.2	-0.4	-0.4	-0.4
Total	-	-43.4	-96.6	-122.3	-121.1

The Government will implement a range of efficiency measures identified by agencies as part of a whole-of-government savings exercise. Savings will be delivered by removing duplication and overlap, reducing corporate overheads, rationalising property and scaling back resources in agencies which have other opportunities to reduce the cost of services.

DEFENCE

Australian Strategic Policy Institute — continuation of funding

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Defence	-	-	-	-	-

The Government will provide \$2.8 million in 2009-10 to continue to support the work of the Australian Strategic Policy Institute. The Australian Strategic Policy Institute produces independent analysis of defence and security issues relevant to Australia to support government decision-making on strategic and defence issues.

The cost of this measure will be met from within the existing resourcing of the Department of Defence.

EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS

Boys Education National Initiative — reduced funding

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations	-	-	-3.1	-3.0	-2.7

The Government will reduce funding for the Boys Education National Initiative which was announced in 2003. A number of programs deliver similar initiatives for teaching boys, including the National Partnership Agreement on Improving Teacher Quality.

This measure will provide savings of \$8.9 million over three years from 1 July 2010.

Economic Stimulus Plan Recalibration — Building the Education Revolution — Primary Schools for the 21st Century (P21)

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of the Treasury	-	19.4	16.1	-	-
Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations	-	8.3	6.9	-	-
Total	-	27.7	23.0	-	-

The Government will provide an additional \$50.7 million over two years from 2009-10 to include distance education students in a school's enrolment numbers for funding purposes under the Building the Education Revolution program. These students will benefit from the school facilities when they physically attend the school premises.

This measure is part of the Government's recalibration of the stimulus program to ensure it continues to provide an appropriate level of support to the economy, taking into account the demand for individual programs, evolving labour market conditions and the need to provide continued value for money. The recalibration complements the withdrawal of stimulus that is already built into the design of the fiscal strategy. The Government will continue to monitor the stimulus program, as well as its overall fiscal settings, to ensure they remain suited to economic conditions.

Economic Stimulus Plan Recalibration — Building the Education Revolution — rephasing

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations	-	-	-500.0	500.0	-

The Government will rephase funding allocated for the Building the Education Revolution (BER) program in order to provide flexibility in the delivery of the program. This will allow construction timetables to be varied where cost pressures from labour or material shortages would reduce value for money. This will result in \$500 million being rephased from 2010-2011 to 2011-2012 and will contribute to the achievement of outcomes in the BER program.

This measure is part of the Government's recalibration of the stimulus program to ensure it continues to provide an appropriate level of support to the economy, taking into account the demand for individual programs, evolving labour market conditions and the need to provide continued value for money. The recalibration complements the withdrawal of stimulus that is already built into the design of the fiscal strategy. The Government will continue to monitor the stimulus program, as well as its overall fiscal settings, to ensure they remain suited to economic conditions.

Economic Stimulus Plan Recalibration — Education Investment Fund — Future Rounds — Reduction

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations	-	-	-175.0	-25.0	-

The Government will reduce the allocation of Education Investment Fund (EIF) funds available to Round 3 and the Sustainability Round by \$200.0 million over two years. The \$200.0 million will now be returned to the balance of the EIF for future investment. This change will not affect funding for structural adjustment.

The final allocations to each round depend on the quality of proposals received and the advice of the independent advisory board.

Since 2008-09, the Government has already committed almost \$3.0 billion from the EIF (EIF Rounds 1 and 2, Teaching and Learning Capital Fund and the Super Science Round) and another \$1.0 billion from general revenue (Better Universities Renewal Fund and the Teaching and Learning Capital Fund for Vocational Education and Training) to the tertiary and research sectors.

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

This measure is part of the Government's recalibration of the stimulus program to ensure it continues to provide an appropriate level of support to the economy, taking into account the demand for individual programs, evolving labour market conditions and the need to provide continued value for money. The recalibration complements the withdrawal of stimulus that is already built into the design of the fiscal strategy. The Government will continue to monitor the stimulus program, as well as its overall fiscal settings, to ensure they remain suited to economic conditions.

**Economic Stimulus Plan Recalibration — Keep Australia Working —
Apprentice Kickstart Bonus and Increased Pre-Apprenticeship Training Places**

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations	-	-	-	-	-

The Government will provide up to \$100.0 million over two years to encourage employers to recruit apprentices and to support pre-apprenticeship training in the traditional trades in preparation for the economic recovery.

Up to \$80.0 million will be provided over two years to fund the Economic Stimulus Plan Recalibration — Apprentice Kickstart Bonus, a \$3,350 payment to employers who engage a young person (aged 19 years and under) in an Australian Apprenticeship in an eligible occupation (a traditional trade) between 1 December 2009 and 28 February 2010. The Bonus will be paid in two instalments — \$850 paid three months after commencement and \$2,500 paid nine months after commencement. This initiative is expected to support an additional 21,000 Australian Apprentices.

Up to \$20.0 million will be provided to State and Territory governments and Registered Training Organisations with pre-apprenticeship programs to support the expanded provision of pre-apprenticeship training in traditional trades. This initiative is expected to provide up to 5,000 additional pre-apprenticeship places.

The costs of this measure will be met from the previously announced Get Communities Working and Local Jobs streams of the Jobs Fund. Unused funding will be reallocated to other elements of the Keep Australia Working package.

This measure is part of the Government's recalibration of the stimulus program to ensure it continues to provide an appropriate level of support to the economy, taking into account the demand for individual programs, evolving labour market conditions and the need to provide continued value for money. The recalibration complements the withdrawal of stimulus that is already built into the design of the fiscal strategy. The Government will continue to monitor the stimulus program, as well as its overall fiscal settings, to ensure they remain suited to economic conditions.

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

See also the related expense measure titled *Economic Stimulus Plan Recalibration – Keep Australia Working – Job Expos for Priority Regions*.

Further information can be found in the press release of 16 October 2009 issued by the Minister for Education and the Minister for Employment Participation.

Economic Stimulus Plan Recalibration — Keep Australia Working — Job Expos for Priority Regions

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Centrelink	-	4.1	-	-	-
Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations	-	-4.1	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-

The Government will provide \$4.1 million in 2009-10 to establish additional Centrelink Jobs Expos for Priority Employment Areas as part of the Keep Australia Working Initiative.

The Expos will provide employment information and advice to job seekers in Priority Employment Areas. The Priority Employment Areas were identified as experiencing especially high levels of disadvantage and unemployment.

Funding for this initiative will be provided from the previously announced Get Communities Working stream of the Jobs Fund.

See also the related expense measure titled *Economic Stimulus Plan Recalibration – Keep Australia Working – Apprentice Kickstart Bonus and Increased Pre-Apprenticeship Training Places*.

This measure is part of the Government's recalibration of the stimulus program to ensure it continues to provide an appropriate level of support to the economy, taking into account the demand for individual programs, evolving labour market conditions and the need to provide continued value for money. The recalibration complements the withdrawal of stimulus that is already built into the design of the fiscal strategy. The Government will continue to monitor the stimulus program, as well as its overall fiscal settings, to ensure they remain suited to economic conditions.

Further information can be found in the joint press release of 16 October 2009 issued by the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister for Employment Participation and the Parliamentary Secretary for Employment.

Higher Education — contribution to Australian Education International investment — transfer of promotion functions

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Trade Commission	-	-	8.6	8.6	8.7
Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations	-	-1.3	-11.1	-11.1	-11.1
Total	-	-1.3	-2.5	-2.5	-2.4

The Government will transfer responsibility for the international promotion of Australian education from the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations to Austrade from 1 July 2010.

This will reduce administrative duplication between the agencies, facilitate a whole-of-government approach to the promotion of Australian education overseas, and harmonise the promotion of education with that of other Australian goods and services.

This transfer will result in savings of \$8.6 million over four years.

Higher Education Loans Program for fee-paying undergraduate students — increased administration fee

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations	-	-	-9.0	-8.4	-7.9
<i>Related revenue (\$m)</i>					
<i>Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations</i>	-	-	3.2	5.7	8.7

The Government will increase the annual administration fee under the Higher Education Loans Program (HELP) for fee-paying undergraduate students from 1 July 2010. The annual administration fee will increase from 20 to 25 per cent of the student's annual course fees.

The *Review of Australian Higher Education* (Bradley Review) recommended the fee increase to enable the Government to recover a higher proportion of the debt and deferral costs associated with providing loans to undergraduate fee-paying students.

This measure will provide savings of \$42.8 million over three years.

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

Jobs and Skills for a Low Pollution Future — insulation-related training and ongoing pathways

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations	-	-	-	-	-

The Government will provide \$14.7 million over four years to provide an additional 2,000 places under the Australian Apprenticeship Access Program and an additional 2,000 places under the Language, Literacy and Numeracy Program. The additional places will assist long-term unemployed and low-skilled workers to enter the workforce through the Energy Efficient Homes Package and assist them to acquire further skills and knowledge to improve their long-term employment prospects.

The cost of this measure will be met from within the existing resourcing of the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

Further information can be found in the press release of 30 July 2009 issued by the Prime Minister.

Jobs and Skills for a Low Pollution Future — National Green Jobs Corps

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations	-	20.7	39.3	19.6	-
Centrelink	-	2.0	0.5	0.4	-
Total	-	22.7	39.8	20.0	-

The Government will provide \$82.5 million over three years to establish 10,000 environmental and heritage training and work experience placements, lasting 26 weeks, for young people aged 17 to 24.

This initiative is available to young people who are: in receipt of Youth Allowance (other), Newstart Allowance or Parenting Payment who work less than 15 hours a week; in receipt of Disability Support Pension with an assessed work capacity of more than 15 hours a week; or aged 17 to 20 years who are not eligible for income support, not in full-time education and working less than 15 hours a week.

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

Eligible young people will also receive the National Green Jobs Corps supplement of \$41.60 per fortnight. National Green Jobs Corps will run from 1 January 2010 to 31 December 2011. Eligible young people will undertake accredited training at Certificate level 1 or above.

Further information can be found in the press release of 30 July 2009 issued by the Prime Minister.

Safe Work Australia — establishment

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Safe Work Australia	-	8.8	9.0	9.2	9.3
Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations	-	-12.8	-13.2	-13.5	-13.7
Total	-	-4.0	-4.3	-4.3	-4.4

The Australian Government will establish Safe Work Australia as a national independent body to lead the development of and improve occupational health and safety and workers' compensation arrangements across Australia. This new body will be responsible for harmonising the occupational health and safety laws and promoting awareness of occupational health and safety and workers' compensation.

Safe Work Australia will replace the Australian Safety and Compensation Council that operated within the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations. The Australian Government will retain functions specific to implementation of harmonised occupational health and safety practices within its jurisdiction, including matters that impact on criminal law and processes for which the Australian Government is responsible.

The Australian Government will contribute \$36.3 million over four years to fund 50 per cent of Safe Work Australia; the remaining 50 per cent will be funded by the States and Territories in proportion to their population. The abolition of the Australian Safety and Compensation Council and the transfer of functions to the new body will result in a net saving of \$17.0 million over four years.

Further information can be found in the press release of 7 September 2009 issued by the Minister for Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

Student Amenities Higher Education Loans Program — deferral

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations	-	-28.3	-	-	-

The Government will delay by 12 months the introduction of the Higher Education Loans Program for Student Amenities fees.

The Student Amenities Higher Education Loans Program (SA-HELP) will provide loans, capped at \$250 per student per year, to ensure that student amenities fees are not a financial barrier to participation in higher education.

This measure will provide savings of \$28.3 million in 2009-10 as a result of reduced debt and deferral costs under the Higher Education Loans Program.

Student income support — delay increase in personal income test threshold

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations	-	-	-55.5	-114.6	-

The Government announced in the 2009-10 Budget that the level of income at which Youth Allowance and Austudy begins to be reduced would increase from \$236 to \$400 per fortnight from 1 January 2011. The Government will delay the increase in the personal income test threshold applying under Youth Allowance and Austudy. The change will now apply from 1 July 2012.

This measure will provide savings of \$170.2 million over two years to offset the cost of extending the time available for eligible 'gap year' students, who need to move away from home to study, to establish eligibility for Independent status under Youth Allowance under the existing workforce participation criteria.

See also the related expense measure titled *Youth Allowance — transitional arrangements for claiming independence*.

Further information can be found in the press release of 26 August 2009 issued by the Minister for Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

Student income support — various refinements

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations	-	-0.8	-1.7	-1.7	-1.7

The Government will refine measures announced in the 2009-10 Budget as part of *An Innovation and Higher Education System for the 21st Century – Student Income Support*.

The refinements include:

- \$4.9 million over four years to provide more generous income testing arrangements for student income support. Under current arrangements, student income support payments are subject to both a parental and a personal income test. This measure will mean that only one income test is applied (whichever produces the largest reduction in payment amount);
- \$0.4 million over four years to index (according to movements in the CPI) the maximum amount of income from merit and equity scholarships that is exempt from the personal income testing for higher education student income support;
- \$2.6 million over four years to provide a \$4,000 payment to eligible dependent higher education students who move away from home after their first year of study; and
- Providing that the special circumstances under which the Relocation Scholarship is payable to independent students, will not include students who are married or in a de facto relationship. This refinement of the eligibility criteria for accessing the Relocation Scholarship will provide savings of \$13.8 million over four years.

This measure will provide overall net savings of \$5.9 million over four years.

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

Youth Allowance — transitional arrangements for claiming independence

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations	-	7.6	47.3	47.4	47.6

The Government will provide \$149.9 million over four years to put in place transitional arrangements for establishing eligibility for Independent status under Youth Allowance. Under this measure, students who completed school in 2008, who have taken a 'gap year' in 2009, and who need to move because their family home is located more than 90 minutes away from the university of their choice, will have until 1 July 2010 to establish eligibility for Independent status under the existing workforce participation criteria.

The Government announced in the 2009-10 Budget that two of the three workforce participation criteria for establishing eligibility for Independence under Youth Allowance would be removed from 1 January 2010. This measure extends access to these workforce participation criteria to 'gap year' students for six months. These students will remain eligible for Youth Allowance as independent students for the duration of their course.

See also the related expense measure titled *Student Income Support – delay increase in personal income test threshold*.

Further information can be found in the press release of 26 August 2009 issued by the Minister for Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

ENVIRONMENT, WATER, HERITAGE AND THE ARTS

Culture and Recreation Portal — closure

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts	-	-	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3

The Government will close the Culture and Recreation Portal at culture.gov.au from 1 July 2010 in order to reduce duplication with other websites that provide information on Australia's cultural and recreational resources.

This measure will provide savings of \$0.8 million over three years from 2010-11.

Economic Stimulus Plan Recalibration — Energy Efficient Homes package — modification

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts	-	-310.0	-300.0	-250.0	-

The Government has closed the Low Emission Assistance Plan for Renters in response to lower-than-expected demand. The program provided rebates of up to \$1,000 to owners of private sector rental homes to help with the cost of installing insulation. Landlords and renters who install insulation in private sector rental homes are now eligible to receive rebates under the Home Insulation Program.

The Government will also modify the Home Insulation Program. The program will meet the costs of installing ceiling insulation up to a cap of \$1,200 per home. The program previously met the cost up to a cap of \$1,600. Funding for the Home Insulation Program has also been capped at \$2.45 billion over the two years from 2009-10.

This measure will provide net savings of \$860.0 million over three years. Of these savings, funding of \$610.0 million from the closure of the Low Emission Assistance Plan for Renters has been redirected to the Primary Schools for the 21st Century element of the Building the Education Revolution (BER) program.

Further to this measure, the Government is providing additional funding of \$985.8 million in 2009-10, which has been brought forward from 2010-11 (\$695.8 million) and 2011-12 (\$290.0 million), to meet an increased demand for rebates under the Home Insulation Program.

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

These changes are part of the Government's recalibration of the stimulus program to ensure it continues to provide an appropriate level of support to the economy, taking into account the demand for individual programs, evolving labour market conditions and the need to provide continued value for money. The recalibration complements the withdrawal of stimulus that is already built into the design of the fiscal strategy. The Government will continue to monitor the stimulus program, as well as its overall fiscal settings, to ensure they remain suited to economic conditions.

Further information on the transition of landlords and renters to the Home Insulation Program can be found in the Commonwealth Coordinator-General's Progress Report issued on 27 August 2009 by the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Government Service Delivery.

Economic Stimulus Plan Recalibration — Solar Hot Water Rebate — modification

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts	-	-	-	-	-

The Government has decided that the 3,400 households whose homes were destroyed or left uninhabitable in the February 2009 Victorian bushfires will be able to access the Solar Hot Water Rebate when rebuilding, provided they also install a rainwater tank at the property that meets the criteria for the Victorian five-star building standard. The rebate is not usually available for new homes.

The Government has also decided to reduce the rebate on heat pump hot water systems from \$1,600 to \$1,000, for eligible systems purchased after 4 September 2009. This change will better align the gap that eligible householders pay for heat pump and solar hot water systems. The \$1,600 rebate on eligible solar hot water systems remains unchanged.

The cost of this measure will be met from within the existing resourcing for the Solar Hot Water Rebate program, which has been capped at \$644.2 million over three years from 2009-10.

This measure is part of the Government's recalibration of the stimulus program to ensure it continues to provide an appropriate level of support to the economy, taking into account the demand for individual programs, evolving labour market conditions and the need to provide continued value for money. The recalibration complements the withdrawal of stimulus that is already built into the design of the fiscal strategy. The Government will continue to monitor the stimulus program, as well as its overall fiscal settings, to ensure they remain suited to economic conditions.

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

Further information can be found in the joint press release of 4 September 2009 issued by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts and the Parliamentary Secretary for Victorian Bushfire Reconstruction.

Graves and memorials of eminent Australians — conservation

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts	-	-	-	-	-

The Government will provide up to \$0.4 million over four years for the conservation of graves and memorials of eminent Australian civilians in Australia and overseas. This measure will assist in giving recognition to Australians who have made significant contributions to the nation and the world.

The cost of this measure will be met from within the existing resourcing of the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts.

Further information can be found in the press release of 23 July 2009 issued by the Prime Minister.

Kokoda Track — safety upgrade

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts	-	-	-	-	-

The Government will provide \$1.8 million in 2009-10 for a range of safety projects along the Kokoda Track. The measure includes funding to install safety equipment at six airstrips, including Kokoda, improve the radio network, undertake maintenance work on the Owers Corner Road and construct footbridges at key points along the Kokoda Track.

This funding is in addition to \$15.8 million over four years provided in the 2008-09 Budget to assist Papua New Guinea with management of the Kokoda Track and the Owen Stanley Ranges.

The cost of this measure will be met from within the existing resourcing of AusAID.

Further information can be found in the joint press release of 5 September 2009 issued by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts and the Papua New Guinea Minister for Culture and Tourism.

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

National Solar Schools Program — reduced funding

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts	-	-	-7.9	-8.1	-
Department of the Treasury	-	-	-18.4	-18.8	-
Total	-	-	-26.2	-26.8	-

The Government will reduce funding for government and non-government schools under the National Solar Schools Program. The program provides grants of up to \$50,000 to Australian schools to install solar panels and for energy and water efficiency improvements. Funding to install these types of improvements is also being provided under the Building the Education Revolution program.

This measure will provide savings of \$53.1 million over two years from 2010-11, comprising a saving of \$15.9 million in payments by the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts to non-government schools and a saving of \$37.2 million in payments by the Australian Treasury to the States and Territories in relation to government schools.

Solar Homes and Communities Plan — additional funding

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts	-	510.8	23.2	-	-

The Government will provide an additional \$534.0 million over two years to meet commitments under the Solar Homes and Communities Plan. The program was terminated on 9 June 2009. The program provided rebates of up to \$8,000 for the installation of solar power panels in homes, and grants for up to half the cost of a 2 kilowatt system for community buildings.

The program has now been replaced by the Solar Credits Scheme, which is part of the expanded Renewable Energy Target. The scheme provides assistance to households, small businesses and community groups with the upfront costs of eligible small-scale renewable energy systems installed after 9 June 2009.

Further information can be found in the joint press release of 9 June 2009 issued by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts and the Minister for Climate Change and Water, and the press release of 10 September 2009 issued by the Minister for Climate Change and Water.

Water for the Future — National Rainwater and Greywater Initiative — reduced funding

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts	-	-13.0	-31.4	-	-

The Government will reduce funding for the National Rainwater and Greywater Initiative in response to lower-than-expected demand. The initiative provides rebates of up to \$500 towards the cost of installing rainwater tanks or new piping for greywater use, or up to \$10,000 to surf life saving clubs to install a rainwater tank or as a contribution towards a larger water-saving project.

The initiative will now provide \$204.7 million over five years from 2009-10.

This measure will provide savings of \$44.4 million over two years from 2009-10.

Water for the Future — Water Smart Australia — reduced funding

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts	-	-10.0	-10.0	-	-

The Government will reduce funding for project contingencies under the Water Smart Australia program. The program will now provide \$386.4 million over two years from 2009-10. The program provides grants to projects that aim to accelerate the development and uptake of smart water technologies and practices across Australia.

This measure will provide savings of \$20.0 million over two years from 2009-10.

Zelman Cowen Gallery of Australian Jewish History — contribution

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts	-	-	-	-	-

The Government will provide \$200,000 in 2009-10 as a contribution to the development of the Zelman Cowen Gallery of Australian Jewish History at the Jewish Museum of Australia in Melbourne.

The cost of this measure will be met from within the existing resourcing of the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts.

Further information can be found in the joint press release of 30 September 2009 issued by the Prime Minister and the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts.

FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS

Alice Springs Transformation Plan

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs	25.0	-	-	-	-

The Government provided \$25.0 million in funding to the Northern Territory Government in 2008-09 for social support services for Aboriginal residents and visitors in Alice Springs, particularly in town camps. This funding will:

- expand alcohol rehabilitation, family support and family violence services, and early childhood facilities;
- improve mainstream tenancy management services, including 'good neighbour' agreement initiatives, life skills training and intensive case management; and
- enhance early intervention programs to vulnerable families by providing additional funding for the Communities for Children program.

Further information can be found in the press release of 2 May 2009 issued by the Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs.

Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payment — Queensland and New South Wales floods May 2009

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs	8.0	6.1	-	-	-

The Government is providing \$14.2 million over two years to assist people adversely affected by the floods in Queensland and New South Wales which began in May 2009.

Payments of \$1,000 per eligible adult and \$400 per eligible child were made available to people who, as a direct result of the flooding, were adversely affected. This includes people who were seriously injured, have lost an immediate family member, or were the carer of a dependent child who was adversely affected, and people whose principal place of residence sustained major damage or was destroyed.

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

Further information can be found in the joint press release of 25 May 2009 issued by the Prime Minister, the Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, and the Attorney-General.

Community Investment Program — reduction

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs	-	-2.8	-	-	-

The Government will reduce expenditure on the Community Investment Program by \$2.8 million in 2009-10. Funding of \$68.3 million in 2009-10 will remain available for this program, with a total of \$276.9 million available over the forward estimates period.

The Community Investment Program provides grants to community organisations to undertake local community projects.

Office for Remote Indigenous Housing — establishment

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs	-	-	-	-	-

The Government will provide \$11.7 million over four years to establish an Office for Remote Indigenous Housing within the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs. The Office will provide policy advice and work with State and Territory governments to oversee the implementation of the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Housing.

The cost of this measure will be met from within the existing resourcing of the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs.

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

Secure and Sustainable Pensions — public information campaign

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs	-	2.8	-	-	-

The Government will provide \$2.8 million for an information campaign to ensure that pensioners and those actively planning for retirement are informed of the September 2009 changes made to the pension system as part of the 2009-10 Budget Secure and Sustainable Pensions package. The pension package contains significant changes for Australia's pensioners and those approaching retirement, including pension increases, changes to the rate at which support is withdrawn as income rises, establishment of a new Work Bonus to encourage and reward workforce participation, and an increase in the Age Pension age, commencing in 2017.

This measure complements the direct mail campaign that was undertaken by Centrelink and the Department of Veterans' Affairs in September 2009, by also providing information to those currently approaching the Age Pension age and those first to be affected by the change in Age Pension age from 65 to 67 (those currently aged 52 to 54). The information campaign will be provided via press, radio and the Internet.

Social Security Agreement — Australia and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Centrelink	-	-	2.9	0.3	0.3
Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs	-	-	0.3	0.7	0.7
Australian Taxation Office	-	-	0.2	0.2	0.1
Total	-	-	3.4	1.1	1.2

The Government will provide \$5.6 million over three years to extend the current network of reciprocal social security agreements to include the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM).

This agreement will commence on 1 January 2011 and will improve access to the Age Pension for people who have spent part of their working life in both Australia and the FYROM. Australia and the FYROM will share responsibility for the pension, each paying a portion of their pension based on relevant eligibility criteria and the period of residence or insurance that recipients have accrued in each country.

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

These arrangements also deal with 'double coverage' of superannuation where employees are seconded to work overseas. To avoid superannuation being paid by employers in both jurisdictions, the agreement clarifies that the obligation will only apply in the employee's home country.

Further information can be found in the joint press release of 26 October 2009 issued by the Prime Minister and the Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs.

Victorian Fires Income Recovery Subsidy — extension

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs	-	2.0	-	-	-

The Government will provide \$3.7 million in 2009-10 to extend the Victorian Fires Income Recovery Subsidy by a further 13 weeks to 10 November 2009. This funding will be partially offset by redirecting \$1.7 million from funding previously provided for income recovery payments that was not required.

The Victorian Fires Income Recovery Subsidy is an ex-gratia payment up to the maximum rate of Newstart Allowance, available to employees, small business owners and farmers who lost their income as a direct result of the bushfires that began in late January 2009. This measure extends the 26 weeks of income support previously provided to support those adversely affected by the bushfires.

Further information can be found in the joint press release of 7 August 2009 issued by the Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and the Parliamentary Secretary for Victorian Bushfire Reconstruction.

FINANCE AND DEREGULATION

Desktop computing equipment — whole-of-government coordinated procurement

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Finance and Deregulation	-	2.3	0.9	1.0	1.0
Various Agencies	-	-	-1.7	-1.7	-1.7
Total	-	2.3	-0.8	-0.7	-0.7

The Government will provide \$5.2 million over four years to the Department of Finance and Deregulation from 2009-10 to establish and manage the coordinated procurement of desktop computing equipment by agencies subject to the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*.

These implementation costs will be fully recovered from agencies as purchases are made through the coordinated procurement arrangements, and will deliver ongoing savings beyond the forward estimates.

Office of Evaluation and Audit — Indigenous Programs transfer to the Australian National Audit Office

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian National Audit Office	-	1.9	4.0	4.0	4.1
Department of Finance and Deregulation	-	-2.7	-5.3	-5.4	-5.4
Total	-	-0.8	-1.3	-1.4	-1.3

The Government will transfer the Office of Evaluation and Audit — Indigenous Programs from the Department of Finance and Deregulation to the Australian National Audit Office from 1 January 2010. This transfer will allow the consolidation of the external audit and evaluation of Indigenous programs within the Australian National Audit Office.

This consolidation will result in savings of \$4.8 million over four years due to operational efficiencies.

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

Parliamentary entitlements — reform

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Finance and Deregulation	-	-0.2	-1.5	-1.3	-1.2

The Government has announced a package of reforms to parliamentary entitlements to increase transparency and accountability.

The reforms include a 25 per cent reduction in the printing entitlement, capping expenditure on office consumables, establishing a vetting and checking system for the printing entitlement, introducing an enhanced advisory service to enable parliamentarians to obtain written advice regarding the application of the parliamentary entitlements framework, reforming the newspaper and periodical allowance and expanding the current reporting system to publish all entitlements expenditure.

An independent review of the entitlements framework has also been established and will report to Government within six months on the next stage for reform.

The reforms form part of the Government's response to an audit of the administration of parliamentary entitlements published by the Australian National Audit Office on 8 September 2009.

Further information can be found in the press release of 8 September 2009 issued by the Special Minister of State.

Superannuation pension overpayments — reduction

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Finance and Deregulation	-	-0.1	-0.2	-0.3	-0.4

The Government will reduce the incidence of overpayment of Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme pensions through enhanced data analysis, data matching between agencies and improved internal processes within ComSuper. This is expected to result in \$1.0 million in savings over four years from 2009-10.

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

Telecommunications services — whole-of-government coordinated procurement

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Finance and Deregulation	-	3.9	-	-	-
Various Agencies	-	-	-8.8	-20.1	-18.5
Total	-	3.9	-8.8	-20.1	-18.5

The Government will introduce coordinated procurement arrangements for its telecommunications services. These arrangements will include central purchasing of Internet-based network connections within Australia and whole-of-government panels for the supply of commoditised items (such as mobile phones), invoice reconciliation and telecommunication management services.

Funding of \$3.9 million will be provided to the Department of Finance and Deregulation in 2009-10 to implement and administer the new arrangements. The costs of implementing and administering the arrangements will be offset by whole-of-government savings which are expected to be \$47.4 million over three years from 2010-11.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE

Brand Australia

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Trade Commission	-	4.5	5.4	5.0	5.0

The Government will provide \$20.0 million over four years to develop an international business brand to promote Australia as a global citizen and business partner, building on the success of the 'Australian made' campaign. This measure will help to advance Australia's image and reputation in areas such as tourism, trade, investment, innovation, diplomacy and international education.

Further information can be found in the press release of 26 August 2009 issued by the Minister for Trade.

Foreign Affairs and Trade portfolio — efficiencies

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Trade Commission	-	-1.9	-5.0	-5.0	-5.1
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	-	-7.0	-21.9	-33.0	-25.3
Total	-	-8.8	-26.9	-38.0	-30.4
<i>Related capital (\$m)</i>					
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	-	-0.7	0.1	-0.5	-

The Government will reduce costs in the Foreign Affairs and Trade portfolio by: rationalising the provision of diplomatic services and scaling back accommodation plans at foreign posts; reducing operating costs of the Overseas Property Office; and rationalising Austrade's onshore office network to better target service locations and improve online information provision.

This measure will provide savings of \$105.2 million over four years.

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

Italian earthquake recovery effort — Australian Government's contribution

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	-	-	-	-	-

The Government will provide up to \$1.5 million in 2009-10 towards the Italian earthquake recovery effort. The Australian Government will match the Italian-Australian community's own fundraising efforts dollar-for-dollar up to \$1.5 million. This will be used to support the reconstruction efforts following the April 2009 earthquake in L'Aquila.

The cost of this measure will be met from within the existing resourcing of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Further information can be found in the Prime Minister's speech of 3 July 2009.

Overseas development assistance — International Finance Facility for Immunisation — contribution

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
AusAID	-	-	3.0	5.0	5.0

The Government will provide \$250.0 million over 20 years to the expanded International Finance Facility for Immunisation (IFFIm) to help the world's poorest countries deliver better health care to their people.

The IFFIm is an innovative mechanism that converts long-term aid commitments into immediate funding for health services by raising funds on international capital markets backed by binding commitments from donors like Australia.

The funding will be used to train health staff, purchase essential drugs, provide basic maternal and child health care services, and continue support for immunisation programs.

Funding will be assigned from the unallocated provision for expanded aid funding held in the Contingency Reserve.

This measure is part of the Government's commitment to increase Australia's overseas development assistance over the long term.

Further information can be found in the press release of 24 September 2009 issued by the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

Overseas development assistance — Office of Deployable Civilian Capability

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
AusAID	-	7.8	10.1	10.8	11.0
<i>Related capital (\$m)</i>					
AusAID	-	1.2	..	..	..

The Government will provide \$52.3 million (including \$1.4 million in capital funding for fit-out costs) over five years, including \$11.3 million in 2013-14, to implement an overseas Deployable Civilian Capability (DCC). This measure establishes an Office of DCC within AusAID to commence planning and recruiting for possible overseas deployments. The DCC will support the rapid deployment of trained civilians into conflict, post-conflict and disaster zones around the world to assist in stabilisation and recovery activities.

Funding will be assigned from the unallocated provision for expanded aid funding held in the Contingency Reserve.

This measure is part of the Government's commitment to increase Australia's overseas development assistance over the long term, and is an initiative of the Australia 2020 Summit.

Further information can be found in the press release of 25 October 2009 issued by the Prime Minister.

HEALTH AND AGEING

E-Health — development of a business case for individual electronic health records

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Health and Ageing	-	3.7	-	-	-
Department of Finance and Deregulation	-	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1
Total	-	3.8	0.2	0.1	0.1

The Government will provide \$4.2 million over four years to fund a business case for establishing a national individual electronic health record system. Individual electronic health records have the potential to improve patient care by enabling health professionals across the health system to share patient information with the patient's consent. The business case, to be completed in early 2010, will help inform the Government's future decisions on e-Health.

As part of this measure, the Government is committing \$0.5 million over four years to fund a Gateway Review of the implementation of individual electronic health records. The Gateway Review process provides quality assurance during the implementation of major government projects so that the intended outcomes of the projects are achieved. This funding will be returned to the budget should it be determined that the development of individual electronic health records is not to proceed.

General Practice Super Clinics — further five clinics

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Health and Ageing	-	-	-	-	-

The Government will provide \$26.3 million over four years for five additional General Practice Super Clinics to further improve access to, and support for, better integrated primary health care services.

The five additional General Practice Super Clinics will be located in:

- Cockburn, WA;
- Gunnedah, NSW;
- Portland, Vic;

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

- Wodonga, Vic; and
- South Morang, Vic.

The Government has provided \$275.2 million over five years to establish General Practice Super Clinics across Australia. The additional Super Clinics will be funded from the existing program allocation.

The level of capital funding provided for each Super Clinic has been determined according to the particular health needs of the local community and whether the particular clinic is to be purpose-built or an upgrade of an existing facility. Each clinic will focus on particular health issues that relate to its service area. These include increased child and maternal health services, increased access to diabetes-related allied health services, the reduction of avoidable hospital admissions and chronic disease self-management.

Further information can be found in various press releases issued by the Minister for Health and Ageing.

Medicare Benefits Schedule — new and revised listings

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Health and Ageing	-	1.0	0.6	-0.3	-1.3
Medicare Australia	-	0.1	..	-0.1	-0.1
Department of Veterans' Affairs	-	0.1	..	-0.1	-0.3
Total	-	1.2	0.6	-0.4	-1.6

The Government has added several new items to the Medicare Benefits Schedule and Veterans' Benefits since the 2009-10 Budget. The new listings are estimated to provide savings of \$0.3 million over four years due to the expected reduction in the use of other Medicare Benefits Schedule listings.

The additions to the Medicare Benefits Schedule are:

- magnetic resonance imaging items for better detection of rectal carcinoma;
- deep brain stimulation items for the management of tremor conditions;

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

- endoscopic ultrasound items to assist in the diagnosis of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, and endobronchial ultrasound items to assist in the diagnosis of peripheral lung lesions; and
- positron emission tomography items for the detection of liver, lung and head and neck cancers.

Further information is available in the summary of changes included in the Medicare Benefits Schedule issued by the Department of Health and Ageing.

Medicare Benefits Schedule — promoting better use of selected spinal x-ray items

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Medicare Australia	-	..	..	..	..
Department of Veterans' Affairs	-	..	..	..	..
Department of Health and Ageing	-	-2.0	-4.6	-5.0	-5.5
Total	-	-2.0	-4.6	-5.0	-5.5

The Government will amend schedule fees for two Medicare Benefits Schedule spinal x-ray items to limit allied health professionals to being able to request one of these spinal x-ray items per patient per episode of care.

This measure will help ensure that these x-ray items are not overused and will reduce the risk of unnecessary exposure of patients to high levels of radiation.

Patients will still be able to have more than one spinal x-ray per episode of care if deemed necessary by their general practitioner or specialist.

This measure will take effect from 1 January 2010 and will result in savings of \$17.1 million over four years.

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Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme — additional therapeutic groups

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Medicare Australia	-	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1
Department of Veterans' Affairs	-	-0.1	-1.0	-1.0	-1.0
Department of Health and Ageing	-	-1.2	-13.8	-14.7	-16.0
Total	-	-1.0	-14.7	-15.6	-16.8

The Government will establish three new therapeutic groups covering selected bisphosphonate drugs and selected antidepressants on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. Consistent with current practice, once the groups have been established, the Government will use the cheapest medicine in the group as the basis for the price paid for other medicines within the same group. The Government will maintain current arrangements whereby doctors can obtain an exemption from Medicare Australia for individuals who, for clinical reasons, require a higher priced medicine within a group. Under these arrangements, patients requiring the higher priced medicine will not pay a premium.

These additional therapeutic groups are expected to deliver savings of \$48.2 million over four years commencing 1 April 2010.

Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme — chemotherapy drugs — deferred implementation

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Health and Ageing	-	33.4	-	-	-
Department of Veterans' Affairs	-	2.9	-	-	-
Total	-	36.3	-	-	-
<i>Related revenue (\$m)</i>					
Department of Health and Ageing	-	nfp	-	-	-

The Government will defer the implementation of the 2008-09 Budget measure *Responsible Economic Management – Chemotherapy Drugs – more efficient arrangements*.

The measure, when implemented, will put in place more efficient arrangements for funding chemotherapy drugs listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme and under the Chemotherapy Pharmaceuticals Access Program by only funding the amount of active ingredient used, rather than by the number of vials used. The deferral will allow further consultation with industry stakeholders to address implementation issues.

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

The deferral will reduce savings to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme and Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme by \$36.3 million in 2009-10. This includes an impact on the listing of Avastin® (bevacizumab), a drug used in the treatment of bowel cancer. There will also be an associated impact on revenue as pricing agreements between the Government and drug manufacturers allow for offsets to the gross cost of certain cancer drugs.

Further information can be found in the press release of 20 August 2009 issued by the Minister for Health and Ageing.

Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme — listing of Revlimid® (lenalidomide)

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Health and Ageing	-	15.6	25.5	26.1	26.7
Department of Veterans' Affairs	-	1.6	2.5	2.5	2.4
Medicare Australia	-	..	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total	-	17.2	28.0	28.6	29.2
<i>Related revenue (\$m)</i>					
Department of Health and Ageing	-	<i>nfp</i>	<i>nfp</i>	<i>nfp</i>	<i>nfp</i>

The Government will list Revlimid® (lenalidomide) on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme and Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme from 1 November 2009, at an estimated cost of \$103.0 million over four years. This includes funding for administering payments through Medicare Australia. A pricing agreement negotiated between the Government and the drug manufacturer allows for offsets to the gross cost of Revlimid®.

Revlimid® is used for the treatment of multiple myeloma, a cancer of the bone marrow.

Each patient requires approximately seven prescriptions per year, resulting in an average annual cost to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme of approximately \$47,000 per patient. General consumers will pay a \$32.90 co-payment per prescription and concession card holders will pay a \$5.30 co-payment per prescription.

Further information can be found in the press release of 10 October 2009 issued by the Minister for Ageing.

Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme — minor new listings

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Health and Ageing	-	21.7	32.8	41.6	47.4
Department of Veterans' Affairs	-	1.1	1.6	1.8	2.0
Medicare Australia	-	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Total	-	23.2	34.7	43.7	49.8
<i>Related revenue (\$m)</i>					
Department of Health and Ageing	-	<i>nfp</i>	<i>nfp</i>	<i>nfp</i>	<i>nfp</i>

The Government has agreed to a number of minor new listings on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme and Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme since the 2009-10 Budget, at a cost of \$151.4 million over four years. This includes funding for administering payments through Medicare Australia. Pricing agreements negotiated between the Government and the drug manufacturers allow for offsets to the gross cost of some of the minor new listings.

The minor new listings (including extensions to current listings) are medicines that have been listed at either no additional cost to the budget (because they replace existing listings) or at an estimated cost each of less than \$10.0 million per annum.

Minor new listings include:

- Enbrel®, for the treatment of chronic plaque psoriasis, a relapsing and inflammatory skin disorder;
- Intelence®, for the treatment of HIV;
- Xarelto®, for the prevention of venous thromboembolism, the formation of a blood clot within a vein, in patients who have undergone total hip or knee replacement; and
- Oxytrol®, for the treatment of urinary incontinence.

Further information can be found in the press releases of 1 June 2009, 1 July 2009, 1 August 2009 and 1 September 2009 issued by the Minister for Health and Ageing and the updates to the Schedule of Pharmaceutical Benefits issued by the Department of Health and Ageing.

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

Protection against bovine spongiform encephalopathy

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Food Standards Australia New Zealand	-	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7
Department of Health and Ageing	-	-	-	-	-
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7

The Government will provide \$3.9 million over four years to ensure that imported beef and beef products available on the Australian domestic market remain safe for human consumption while meeting Australia's obligations under the World Trade Organisation Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures Agreement. As part of this agreement, the Government will implement a new range of risk mitigation strategies to ensure a safe food supply in Australia is maintained.

The cost of this measure for the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry of \$1.0 million over four years and for the Department of Health and Ageing of \$0.2 million over two years will be met from within the existing resources of these departments. Additional funding of \$2.7 million over four years will be provided to Food Standards Australia New Zealand.

Further information can be found in the joint press release of 20 October 2009 issued by the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, the Minister for Trade, the Minister for Health and Ageing and the Parliamentary Secretary for Health.

Seasonal influenza vaccine — expanded eligibility

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Health and Ageing	-	10.8	10.3	11.3	11.4
Medicare Australia	-	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1
Total	-	10.7	10.2	11.2	11.4

The Government will provide \$43.5 million over four years to expand access to the seasonal influenza vaccine to all pregnant women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 15 to 49 years and people medically at risk aged six months to 64 years, such as those suffering chronic diseases including diabetes, cystic fibrosis and cardiac disease.

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

These new groups will be eligible for free vaccinations under the National Immunisation Program from 1 January 2010. This measure is expected to increase uptake of seasonal influenza vaccinations under this program from 860,000 to 1.7 million people per year.

Further information can be found in the press release of 19 July 2009 issued by the Minister for Health and Ageing.

Skin cancer awareness campaign — continuation of funding

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Health and Ageing	-	-	-	-	-

The Government will provide \$2.5 million in 2009-10 to continue funding for a further year for the National Skin Cancer Awareness Campaign. This campaign maintains public awareness about the dangers of sun exposure and actions that should be undertaken to prevent skin cancer. This extension of funding will enable the campaign to continue, pending consideration of a review conducted in 2009 on the future of the campaign.

The cost of this measure will be met from within the existing resourcing of the Department of Health and Ageing.

Swine flu (H1N1 influenza virus) pandemic response

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Health and Ageing	-	45.2	0.8	0.3	0.3
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	45.2	0.8	0.3	0.3
<i>Related capital (\$m)</i>					
Department of Health and Ageing	-	26.0	-	-	-

The Government will provide \$229.6 million over five years (including \$21.0 million in 2008-09) in response to the H1N1 influenza virus pandemic. This funding supports the following activities designed to manage this pandemic and to enhance preparedness for any future pandemics:

- storage, compounding and distribution of antivirals and personal protective equipment;
- purchase of H1N1 influenza vaccine and associated clinical trials;

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

- production, processing and distribution of immunisation consent forms;
- monitoring and policy development;
- immunisation awareness campaign;
- purchase of the antiviral Relenza®; and
- immediate communications, border protection, surveillance and health care worker support and training in 2008-09. This included expenditure by the Department of Health and Ageing of \$15.3 million, by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry of \$4.2 million and by the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service of \$1.5 million.

Funding for these programs will consist of up to \$72.6 million of additional funding, with the remaining \$152.8 million of the cost of this measure being met from within the existing resourcing of the Department of Health and Ageing and the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service. The Government will also provide an equity injection of \$4.2 million in 2009-10 to the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry as reimbursement for costs incurred in 2008-09.

HUMAN SERVICES

Centrelink efficiencies — reduction in paper-based claims and correspondence

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Centrelink	-	12.4	-43.0	-50.1	-57.2
<i>Related capital (\$m)</i>					
Centrelink	-	6.6	-	-	-

The Government will reduce the use of paper-based claim forms and correspondence within Centrelink by increasing the use of document scanning and enhancing systems to better manage and handle all forms and correspondence. From 1 July 2010, paper forms received by Centrelink each day will be scanned at, or as close as possible to, the point of receipt. This will increase efficiency by reducing the cost of transferring paper forms between Centrelink sites and record management units, and by reducing storage costs for paper documents.

This measure is expected to deliver net savings of \$131.3 million over four years and includes capital funding of \$6.6 million in 2009-10.

Fraud and compliance — increased compliance activity

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Centrelink	-	2.3	5.3	2.8	-0.3
Department of Veterans' Affairs	-	0.5	0.2	-0.5	-0.8
Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs	-	..	-3.7	-6.5	-4.0
Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations	-	-0.8	-18.2	-30.3	-31.4
Total	-	2.0	-16.4	-34.5	-36.5

The Government will undertake additional activities as part of the compliance program for social welfare payments. The Government will extend Centrelink's data mining capability to more efficiently identify Newstart Allowance customers at risk of being incorrectly paid.

This measure also includes data matching initiatives to detect the undeclared transfer of foreign funds to recipients of Centrelink payments (including private income, capital, inheritances and foreign repatriation). The cases for review will be identified by monitoring foreign funds transfers.

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

In addition, the measure will also increase the number of reviews the Department of Veterans' Affairs undertakes of pensioners assessed as at risk of being incorrectly paid.

The Government will provide \$11.7 million over four years to administer this program, with welfare overpayments expected to be reduced by \$97.1 million over four years, resulting in net savings of \$85.3 million over four years.

Human Services delivery research — reduction in scope

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Centrelink	-	-1.0	-1.0	-1.0	-

The Government will reduce the scope of research activities carried out under the Human Services Delivery Research Alliance, delivering savings of \$3.0 million over three years from 2009-10. The program is a five-year research program on service delivery innovation. The Government will continue to provide Centrelink with \$12.0 million over five years to contribute to this research.

Job seeker contacts with Centrelink — streamlined arrangements

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Centrelink	-	14.5	-36.1	-36.6	-37.0

The Government will streamline the arrangements for job seekers who need to contact Centrelink. From 1 July 2010, fortnightly income reporting requirements will be met through electronic lodgement over the Internet, or by telephone utilising interactive voice recognition software. In addition, the frequency of face-to-face workforce participation interviews with Centrelink staff will be reduced under this measure.

This measure is expected to deliver net savings of \$95.2 million over four years.

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP

Biometrics for visa and border processing — commencement

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Immigration and Citizenship	-	-	-	-	-

The Government will provide \$0.8 million in 2009-10 to enhance border security and identity verification in visa processing systems. The funding will enable the Department of Immigration and Citizenship to continue discussions with overseas counterparts on the implementation of biometrics in visa processing systems and the collection and matching of some biometric data.

The cost of this measure will be met from within the existing resourcing of the Department of Immigration and Citizenship.

Student visa integrity — enhancement

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Immigration and Citizenship	-	-	-	-	-

The Government will provide \$0.2 million in 2009-10 to strengthen the integrity of the student visa program.

The measure will improve checks of student visa holders' documents, better combat cases of document fraud, and streamline visa processing arrangements for postgraduate research students.

The cost of this measure will be met from within the existing resourcing of the Department of Immigration and Citizenship.

Further information can be found in the press release of 20 August 2009 issued by the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship.

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

Temporary Business (Long Stay) Visa (Subclass 457) reform — implementation of streamlined arrangements

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Immigration and Citizenship	-	-	-	-	-
Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-

The Government will provide \$3.3 million over four years to improve the operation of the Temporary Business (Long Stay) Visa (Subclass 457) program. Funding will facilitate reforms to improve the program's responsiveness to Australian labour market conditions and enable responsible and compliant employers to quickly sponsor 457 applicants. Reforms include employer accreditation, streamlining labour agreements, establishing a single Registered Employment Authority in each State and Territory, and requiring visa holders to be responsible for taking out mandatory health insurance.

This measure complements the measure *Temporary Business (Long Stay) Visa (Subclass 457) reform – implementation* announced in the 2009-10 Budget.

The cost of this measure will be met from within the existing resourcing of the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

Working Holiday visa (Subclass 417) — integrity enhancements

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Immigration and Citizenship	-	-	-	-	-

The Government will provide \$1.7 million over four years to enhance the integrity of the Working Holiday visa program. Enhancements include requiring specified employers to register the employment of any Working Holiday visa holder with the Department of Immigration and Citizenship, and reducing the period visa holders are allowed to remain with specified employers. The purpose is to better monitor the Working Holiday visa program.

The cost of this measure will be met from within the existing resourcing of the Department of Immigration and Citizenship.

INFRASTRUCTURE, TRANSPORT, REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Community Infrastructure Program — further funding

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government	-	-	-	-	-

The Government will provide \$220 million to local councils under the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program and provide \$25 million to establish a Local Government Reform Fund.

Funding provided under the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program will support investment in community infrastructure, such as libraries, community centres, sports grounds and environmental infrastructure, and will be delivered in two streams:

- \$100 million shared between all of the nation's councils and shires; and
- \$120 million for larger strategic projects, provided on a competitive basis.

The Local Government Reform Fund will help councils better manage their infrastructure and plan for future needs. It will fast-track local government infrastructure financial and asset management and planning under nationally consistent guidelines. It will also encourage cooperation between councils to improve their capacity to serve local communities.

This funding is in addition to the \$300 million provided in 2008-09 for the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program announced at the Australian Council of Local Government on 18 November 2008 and the \$500 million over two years announced on 3 February 2009 in the *Updated Economic and Fiscal Outlook*.

Provision for this funding has already been included in the forward estimates.

Further information can be found in the joint press release of 25 June 2009 by the Prime Minister and the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government.

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

Rugby League Central Multipurpose Centre project — grant

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government	-	-	-	-	-

The Government will provide \$10.4 million as a contribution to the National Rugby League's (NRL) Central Multipurpose Centre project. The centre will include a Learning with League Education Centre; an Indigenous Dreamtime Centre; Living in Harmony programs; volunteer recognition; and a Women in League section.

The cost of this measure will be met from within the existing resourcing of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government.

Further information can be found in the press release of 3 October 2009 issued by the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government.

INNOVATION, INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

Ford Australia — cessation of grant

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research	-	-10.0	-	-10.0	-

In July 2007 the Government announced it would provide \$20 million to Ford Australia to assist in the assembly of the next generation Ford Focus at Ford's Broadmeadows plant.

In July 2009, Ford Australia announced that the Ford Focus project would be cancelled. The Government will no longer provide the \$20.0 million in assistance which will result in savings of \$10.0 million in 2009-10 and \$10.0 million in 2011-12.

Green Car Innovation Fund — reprofile

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research	-	-	-	-17.5	-20.0

The Government will reprofile funding for the Green Car Innovation Fund. Funding will be reduced by \$17.5 million in 2011-12 and \$20.0 million in 2012-13 and increased by \$8.8 million in 2013-14 and by \$28.8 million in 2014-15. This will more closely match the expected demand from industry for assistance from the fund.

Procurement strategy — strengthening the Australian Industry Participation National Framework and streamlining AusTender

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research	-	3.5	5.2	5.3	5.2
Department of Finance and Deregulation	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	3.5	5.2	5.3	5.2

The Government will provide \$19.1 million over four years to strengthen the Australian Industry Participation (AIP) National Framework and for related initiatives to help ensure that Australian industry can participate in investment projects and government procurement.

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

Under the AIP National Framework, all levels of government are encouraged to adopt a consistent national approach to maximising Australian industry participation in Australian and overseas investment projects. Specific initiatives under this measure include:

- enhancement of the Industry Capability Network, to link Australian companies to public and private sector project opportunities in Australia and overseas;
- establishment of Supplier Advocates to champion Australian industry in the marketplace and improve competitiveness; and
- a requirement that all firms bidding for major Commonwealth contracts and work on Commonwealth-funded infrastructure projects, including projects supported by the Building Australia Fund, submit AIP plans that indicate how the bidder will encourage Australian small and medium businesses to participate in major Commonwealth contracts.

The Department of Finance and Deregulation will also, within its existing resourcing:

- establish a Procurement Coordinator to advise on the procurement framework and respond to concerns regarding procurement policy and its implementation; and
- improve the quality and searchability of agencies' published Annual Procurement Plans by streamlining AusTender.

Retooling for Climate Change — reduced funding

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research	-	-6.0	-7.0	-6.0	-

The Government will reduce the funding for the Retooling for Climate Change program by \$19.0 million over three years as a result of lower-than-expected demand. The Retooling for Climate Change program was established to assist small and medium-sized Australian manufacturers to reduce their environmental footprint, through projects that improve the energy and/or water efficiency of their production processes, by providing grants between \$10,000 and \$500,000 up to a maximum of half the cost of each project. This program will continue to provide assistance to support Australian manufacturers in improving their energy and/or water efficiency.

PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET

National Archives Preservation Facility — Gateway review funding

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Finance and Deregulation	-	0.1	-	-	-
National Archives of Australia	-	-0.1	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-

The Government will provide \$0.1 million in 2009-10 to fund the initial Gateway review of the National Archives Preservation Facility (NAPF). The NAPF project is developing options for storage and preservation facilities for the National Archives of Australia.

The cost of this proposal has been fully offset from within the National Archives of Australia.

The Gateway Review Process provides quality assurance during the implementation of major government projects so that the intended outcomes of the projects are achieved.

RESOURCES, ENERGY AND TOURISM

Economic Stimulus Plan Recalibration — Clean Energy Initiative — reprofiling

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research	-	-100.0	-	-	-
Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism	-	-200.0	-	-	-
Total	-	-300.0	-	-	-

The Government will rephase \$300 million in funding for the Clean Energy Initiative from 2009-10 to 2013-14. This will better align the funding profile for the program with the expected timing of payments.

The Government's \$4.5 billion Clean Energy Initiative has been established to support a series of substantial new measures to encourage further innovation in clean energy generation and low emissions technologies, which will contribute to Australia's transition to a low-carbon economy.

This measure is part of the Government's recalibration of the stimulus program to ensure it continues to provide an appropriate level of support to the economy, taking into account the demand for individual programs, evolving labour market conditions and the need to provide continued value for money. The recalibration complements the withdrawal of stimulus that is already built into the design of the fiscal strategy. The Government will continue to monitor the stimulus program, as well as its overall fiscal settings, to ensure they remain suited to economic conditions.

National Offshore Petroleum, Minerals and Greenhouse Gas Storage Regulator — establishment

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism	-	2.5	9.4	6.9	-
<i>Related revenue (\$m)</i>					
Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism	-	-	12.5	6.4	-

The Government will establish a National Offshore Petroleum, Minerals and Greenhouse Gas Storage Regulator, to be operational by 1 January 2012. The new regulatory agency will operate on a full cost recovery basis, with the establishment fully funded by industry fees levied between 1 July 2010 and 31 December 2011. This decision has been taken in response to the Productivity Commission report *Review of Regulatory Burden on the Upstream Petroleum (Oil and Gas) Sector* which was released on 30 April 2009.

The new regulator will streamline the regulatory regimes for upstream petroleum, mineral and greenhouse gas storage activities. It will replace the existing joint administration of upstream petroleum, minerals and greenhouse gas storage by the Commonwealth, States and the Northern Territory for the offshore area.

Further information can be found in the press release of 5 August 2009 issued by the Minister for Resources and Energy.

TREASURY

Australian Taxation Office — Reduction in campaign advertising funding

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Taxation Office	-	..	..	..	-

The Government has identified savings of \$0.1 million over three years from 2009-10 by reducing campaign advertising funding to the Australian Taxation Office for the *Nation Building and Jobs Plan – Tax bonus for working Australians* measure announced in the February 2009 *Updated Economic and Fiscal Outlook*, and the *Private health insurance – fair and sustainable support for the future* measure announced in the 2009-10 Budget.

Economic Stimulus Plan Recalibration — Nation Building and Jobs Plan — investment in social housing — reduced funding

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of the Treasury	-	-150.0	-450.0	-150.0	-

The Government will reduce funding provided for additional public and community housing dwellings under the Nation Building and Jobs Plan by \$750 million. This will reduce total funding provided for this element of the Nation Building and Jobs Plan from \$6.0 billion to \$5.2 billion. Generous land contributions by State and Territory governments and leveraging by community housing organisations have meant that the average cost of the new homes is lower than was originally expected. These funds have been redirected to the Primary Schools for the 21st Century Program.

This measure is part of the Government's recalibration of the stimulus program to ensure it continues to provide an appropriate level of support to the economy, taking into account the demand for individual programs, evolving labour market conditions and the need to provide continued value for money. The recalibration complements the withdrawal of stimulus that is already built into the design of the fiscal strategy. The Government will continue to monitor the stimulus program, as well as its overall fiscal settings, to ensure they remain suited to economic conditions.

Further information can be found in the Commonwealth Coordinator-General's *Progress Report 3 February 2009 – 30 June 2009*, released in August 2009.

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Scheme — transitional assistance

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of the Treasury	-	-	130.0	-	-

The Government will provide \$130.0 million in 2010-11 to the New South Wales Government to assist entities adversely affected by the transition from the New South Wales Greenhouse Gas Reduction Scheme to the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme.

Funding of \$80.0 million will be provided to assist holders of unused New South Wales Greenhouse Gas Abatement Certificates. The remaining \$50.0 million will be available to adversely affected landfill gas and avoided methane generators.

Further information can be found in the press release of 2 September 2009 issued by the Minister for Climate Change and Water.

International Monetary Fund — additional contribution

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of the Treasury	-	30.0	-	-	-

The Government will provide \$30.0 million to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust interest subsidy account to support increased IMF concessional lending to low-income countries in the context of the global recession. Australia's contribution is part of the G-20 Leaders' commitment at the London Summit in April 2009 to double the IMF's assistance to low-income countries by providing an additional US\$6.0 billion of concessional and flexible finance to the poorest countries over the next two to three years.

Funding will be assigned from the unallocated provision for expanded aid funding held in the Contingency Reserve.

This measure is part of the Government's commitment to increase Australia's overseas development assistance over the long term.

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

Supervision of Australia's financial markets — reform

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Securities and Investments Commission	-	1.6	10.4	11.0	11.0
<i>Related revenue (\$m)</i>					
Australian Securities and Investments Commission	-	-	15.1	12.8	12.8
<i>Related capital (\$m)</i>					
Australian Securities and Investments Commission	-	1.1	5.0	-	-

The Government will provide \$40.0 million over four years (including capital funding of \$6.0 million) to the Australian Securities and Investments Commission for its new role as whole-of-market supervisor of domestic financial markets.

The proposal will streamline supervision arrangements and provide complete supervision for all on-market trading, overcome perceived conflicts of interest associated with the current self-regulatory arrangements and create an environment where competition amongst market operators is enhanced.

The cost of this proposal will be fully offset by industry levies over the forward estimates.

Further information can be found in the joint press release of 24 August 2009 issued by the Treasurer and the Minister for Financial Services, Superannuation and Corporate Law.

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

Victorian bushfire reconstruction and recovery

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of the Treasury	-	41.2	6.9	-	-
Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs	-	-0.1	-	-	-
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government	-	-1.5	-	-	-
Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations	-	-10.0	-5.4	-	-
Total	-	29.7	1.5	-	-

The Government will provide \$48.2 million over two years from 2009-10 to fund a range of projects by the Victorian Bushfire Reconstruction and Recovery Authority to assist the long-term recovery of bushfire-affected communities in Victoria. The additional funding to Victoria includes \$17.1 million under the exceptional circumstances provisions of the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements.

Costs of \$17.0 million for this measure will be met from existing resources of the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations, the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government.

More information can be found in the press release of 16 October 2009 issued by the Prime Minister.

VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme — minor new listings

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Veterans' Affairs	-	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2

The Government will list five additional items on the Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme at an estimated cost of \$0.8 million over four years. The minor new listings are medicines and dressings that each have an estimated cost of less than \$1.0 million per annum. The new listings are:

- Coloxyl® for the treatment of constipation;
- Lyrica® for the treatment of refractory neuropathic pain which is not controlled by the use of other drugs;
- Mepitac® which is a range of dressings used for fixing medical devices and protecting the skin under medical devices;
- Mepitel® which is a preferred range of dressings which reduce trauma to a wound and the surrounding skin; and
- Solaraze® for the treatment of the skin condition known as actinic keratosis.

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

Support for veterans — recognition of service of personnel on HMAS Canberra during Operation DAMASK VI

Expense (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of Veterans' Affairs	-	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1
Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations	-	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1
Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs	-	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1
Total	-	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0

The Government will provide \$0.3 million over four years to recognise the service of Australian Defence Force personnel who rendered service on board *HMAS Canberra* as part of Operation DAMASK VI, in the Red Sea north of the 20th parallel, from 13 January 1993 to 19 January 1993, during a period of heightened operational activity. *HMAS Canberra* was part of the Multinational Interception Force responsible for ensuring compliance with economic sanctions imposed on Iraq after its invasion of Kuwait.

The measure will provide around 164 Australian Defence Force personnel with access to a range of income and health support measures under the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*. Some personnel and their partners will transfer to Veterans' Affairs payments from payments made under the *Social Security Act 1991*.

Capital Measures

Table A3: Capital measures since the 2009-10 Budget^(a)

Page		2008-09 \$m	2009-10 \$m	2010-11 \$m	2011-12 \$m	2012-13 \$m
	ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S					
	<i>Attorney-General's Department</i>					
162	Enhanced crisis coordination facilities – stage two(b)	-	12.4	-2.0	-3.5	-3.5
	Portfolio total	-	12.4	-2.0	-3.5	-3.5
	ENVIRONMENT, WATER, HERITAGE AND THE ARTS					
	<i>Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts</i>					
223	Water for the Future – accelerated water buy-backs for the Murray-Darling Basin	-	320.0	-220.0	-100.0	-
	Portfolio total	-	320.0	-220.0	-100.0	-
	FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE					
	<i>AusAID</i>					
193	Overseas development assistance – Office of Deployable Civilian Capability(b)	-	1.2	..	..	..
	<i>Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade</i>					
191	Foreign Affairs and Trade portfolio – efficiencies(b)	-	-0.7	0.1	-0.5	-
	Portfolio total	-	0.5	0.2	-0.5	..
	HEALTH AND AGEING					
	<i>Department of Health and Ageing</i>					
201	Swine flu (H1N1 influenza virus) pandemic response(b)	-	26.0	-	-	-
	Portfolio total	-	26.0	-	-	-
	HUMAN SERVICES					
	<i>Centrelink</i>					
203	Centrelink efficiencies – reduction in paper-based claims and correspondence(b)	-	6.6	-	-	-
	Portfolio total	-	6.6	-	-	-
	TREASURY					
	<i>Australian Office of Financial Management</i>					
224	Residential mortgage-backed securities – extension	-	-	-	-	-

Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2009-10 Budget

Table A3: Capital measures since the 2009-10 Budget^(a) (continued)

Page	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
TREASURY (continued)					
<i>Australian Securities and Investments Commission</i>					
216	Supervision of Australia's financial markets – reform(b)	-	1.1	5.0	-
	Portfolio total	-	1.1	5.0	-
	Decisions taken but not yet announced	-	34.2	-	-
	Depreciation expense	-	0.9	-0.7	-2.5
	Total capital measures(c)	-	401.6	-217.6	-106.5

* The nature of the measure is such that a reliable estimate cannot be provided.

.. Not zero, but rounded to zero.

- Nil.

nfp not for publication.

(a) A minus sign before an estimate indicates a reduction in capital, no sign before an estimate indicates increased capital.

(b) These measures can also be found in the expense measures summary table.

(c) Measures may not add due to rounding.

ENVIRONMENT, WATER, HERITAGE AND THE ARTS

Water for the Future — accelerated water buy-backs for the Murray-Darling Basin

Capital (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts	-	320.0	-220.0	-100.0	-

The Government will bring forward \$320.0 million of funding to 2009-10 from 2010-11 and 2011-12 in the Restoring the Balance in the Murray-Darling Basin program, under the Water for the Future package. This bring forward will accelerate the purchase of water entitlements from willing sellers and expedite the return of water to the environment.

TREASURY

Residential mortgage-backed securities — extension

Capital (\$m)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Australian Office of Financial Management	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Related revenue (\$m)</i>					
Australian Office of Financial Management	-	*	*	*	*

The Government will invest up to a further \$8.0 billion in Australian residential mortgage-backed securities, depending on market conditions. This will be financed from Commonwealth Government Securities issued by the Australian Office of Financial Management. This is a temporary extension to the Government's original \$8 billion investment announced in 2008, which will further support competition in Australia's mortgage lending market.

Eligibility for the program will also be extended to AAA-rated residential mortgage-backed securities backed by a greater proportion of prime residential mortgages used by small business owners to fund their business. This will assist small business owners who access finance for their business using loans secured against residential property.

Residential mortgage-backed securities purchased under this initiative are treated as financial assets and therefore do not impact on the fiscal balance. Interest earned on the securities is offset by interest paid on the Commonwealth Government Securities issued to finance the securities' purchase. The net interest revenue from the transaction will result in a variation in the fiscal balance which is accounted for in the budget estimates.

The Government has also announced that it will consult with industry on the merits of delivering part of this additional support through a fee-based liquidity facility rather than direct investment in securities.

Further information can be found in the press release of 11 October 2009 issued by the Treasurer.