

## APPENDIX B.8

### DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

#### Summary

Finance reported one measure<sup>1</sup> during the year, with a total net regulatory saving of \$15.7 million per year.

In 2015, the Department of Finance developed streamlined and standardised tender and contract documentation for trial on new panel arrangements across the Australian Government. Building on the Commonwealth Contracting Suite, the trial is being finalised for standard deeds, contracts, work orders and tender documentation for future panels. Businesses bidding for inclusion on future new panels are expected to benefit from standardised templates, reduced administrative effort and fewer legal costs. The new suite of standard panel documentation is expected to be available to Commonwealth entities later in 2016.

In addition, fourteen of the former eighteen procurement-connected policies (PCPs) were removed from the procurement framework to improve administrative efficiencies across procurement activities and enable businesses greater access to Commonwealth contracts. PCPs are policies of the Commonwealth for which procurement has been identified as a means of delivery. The updated list of PCPs can be found on the Finance website at [www.finance.gov.au](http://www.finance.gov.au).

A new framework has also been introduced to ensure any newly proposed grants-connected policies or PCPs are measurable and operate for defined periods with appropriate review mechanisms and have minimal impost on businesses contracting with the Commonwealth.

The Australian Government Telecommunications Arrangements have been discontinued. It has become redundant and creates unnecessary red tape for suppliers because of the dated legal requirements and practical inefficiencies. Current agreements will remain in place until their expiration. The business impact on industry currently using the Australian Government Telecommunications Arrangements Head Agreement is expected to be minimal.

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<sup>1</sup> Measures counted here only include decisions with a regulatory impact. Measures with a zero regulatory impact have been excluded.

## 2015 regulatory measures, previously reported in conjunction with the Autumn and Spring Repeal Days

These measures below are reproductions of the 2015 Autumn and Spring Repeal Day overview descriptions and have not been amended.<sup>2</sup> Where necessary, supplementary information is shown as blue text.

Finance	Repealing Appropriations Acts (Spring)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• As part of the 2015 Spring Repeal Day, several annual Appropriation Acts are proposed for repeal. Amounts appropriated by these Acts are largely exhausted, reduced, no longer required, or, to a minor extent, will be considered for re-appropriation through future Appropriation Bills. Entities have been informed of these proposed repeals.</li><li>• The following 2012-2013 Acts will be repealed:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <i>Appropriation Act (No. 1) 2012-2013</i></li><li>○ <i>Appropriation Act (No. 2) 2012-2013</i></li><li>○ <i>Appropriation Act (No. 3) 2012-2013</i></li><li>○ <i>Appropriation Act (No. 4) 2012-2013</i></li><li>○ <i>Appropriation (Implementation of the Report of the Expert Panel on Asylum Seekers) Act (No. 1) 2012-2013</i></li><li>○ <i>Appropriation (Implementation of the Report of the Expert Panel on Asylum Seekers) Act (No. 2) 2012-2013</i></li><li>○ <i>Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) Act (No.1) 2012-2013</i></li></ul></li><li>• The following 2013-2014 Acts will be repealed:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <i>Appropriation Act (No. 1) 2013-2014</i></li><li>○ <i>Appropriation Act (No. 2) 2013-2014</i></li><li>○ <i>Appropriation Act (No. 3) 2013-2014</i></li><li>○ <i>Appropriation Act (No. 4) 2013-2014</i></li><li>○ <i>Appropriation Act (No. 5) 2013-2014</i></li><li>○ <i>Appropriation Act (No. 6) 2013-2014</i></li><li>○ <i>Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) Act (No. 1) 2013-2014</i></li><li>○ <i>Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) Act (No. 2) 2013-2014</i></li></ul></li><li>• <b>NB: These measures were part of the Omnibus Repeal Day (Spring 2015) Bill. There are no regulatory savings or burden associated with this proposal.</b></li></ul>	

<sup>2</sup> To align this table with the 2015 calendar year, any measures accounted for in the previous annual report have been excluded.

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Finance

Further reforming procurement and grant administration  
(Spring)

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- In 2015 the Department of Finance streamlined and standardised tender and contract documentation associated with panel arrangements.
- Building on the Government Contracting Suite, standard deed, contract, work order and tender documentation for panel arrangements have been developed. Businesses bidding for inclusion on a new panel will benefit from standardised templates, reducing administrative effort and legal costs. The new suite of standard panel documentation will be available from 1 January 2016.
- The Department of Finance has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$15.7 million in compliance costs.

**Further update:**

- **Steps have been taken to implement this measure through a trial of new panel arrangements, with standard panel documentation expected to be available to Commonwealth entities later in 2016.**
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### Further information

If you have a question about the information provided here, please email Ms Yvette Sims, Assistant Secretary, Procurement Policy, Business, Procurement and Asset Management from the Department of Finance at [yvette.sims@finance.gov.au](mailto:yvette.sims@finance.gov.au).