

Explanatory Statement

Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997, Section 32 - Adjustments of Appropriations on Change of Agency Functions

The instrument to which this explanatory statement relates

This explanatory statement relates to an instrument (the instrument) entitled “Direction under Section 32, Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997”, dated 15 November 2005 and numbered 10 of 2005-2006.

The legislative authority under which the instrument is made

Section 32 of the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997* (the FMA Act) applies if a function of an Agency (the old Agency) becomes a function of another Agency (the new Agency), either because the old Agency is abolished or for any other reason.

Subsection 32(2)(a) of the FMA Act enables the Finance Minister to, amongst other things, issue one or more directions to transfer from the old Agency to the new Agency some or all of an amount that has been appropriated for the performance of that function by the old Agency.

As noted in the FMA Act, the Finance Minister has delegated his power under section 32 to the Chief Executive of the Department of Finance and Administration. By way of an instrument dated 30 November 2004, the Chief Executive of the Department of Finance and Administration has, in turn, delegated the power to the General Manager, Financial Management Group, and the Division Manager, Financial Reporting and Cash Management Division.

Purpose of the instrument

The instrument directs that non-lapsing appropriations from prior years totalling \$103,174.94, provided to the Department of Family and Community Services, be transferred to the Department of Education, Science and Training.

Background

On 26 October 2004, the Governor-General issued an Administrative Arrangements Order, which was gazetted in Special Notices Gazette S427 of 27 October 2004, transferring responsibility for income support and programmes for students and apprentices from the Department of Family and Community Services to the Department of Education, Science and Training.

An appropriation adjustment, pursuant to section 32 of the FMA Act, are required to ensure that the appropriation provided to the Department of Family and Community Services for performance of these functions is transferred, as agreed, to the Department of Education, Science and Training.

The amount to be transferred has been agreed between the Chief Financial Officers of the Department of Family and Community Services and the Department of Education, Science and Training in line with established processes.

Notes on the instrument

The instrument provides that the moneys listed in column 4 of the schedule for the Department of Family and Community Services item be transferred to the Department of Education, Science and Training item listed in column 1.