

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

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Mr D B Feldman (COPE-Gauteng) to ask the Minister of Finance:

- (1) Whether the Government has ordered a reprioritisation of any of its programmes as a result of the change in government structure in 2009; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, which programmes were (a) pushed (i) forward and (ii) back, (b) abandoned in the midstream and (c) redesigned to fit the new government structure;
- (2) whether all programmes were allowed to run to finality; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

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REPLY:

- (1) No, the change in government structure did not itself result in a reprioritisation of government programmes: the position is rather that shifts in government's priorities were taken into account in the new government structure.

The restructuring of government programmes by budget vote, to provide for the new national government structure, was undertaken during 2009/10. Details were set out in the *Adjusted Estimates of National Expenditure*, published in October 2009 (summarised on pages xvi-xvii). Further information is contained in the 2010 *Estimates of National Expenditure*. The reprioritisation of government expenditure plans is a much larger undertaking, taking into account changes in the economic outlook, social and developmental policy considerations and the effectiveness and readiness of programmes and implementing agencies. Detailed explanations of these considerations and associated revisions to spending plans are set out in the 2010 *Budget Review*, the *Estimates of National Expenditure*, departmental strategic plans and provincial plans and budget documents.

- (2) Falls away.