



**Australian Government**

**The Treasury**

**THE TREASURY**



**NO. 2**

### **SECRETARY'S ADDRESS TO STAFF - 14 MARCH 2007**

In the interest of putting the record straight, I am today releasing the full text of my [speech](#) to Treasury staff on 14 March 2007, an edited version of which was published in today's press.

Contrary to media reporting, this speech did not deliver "a scathing assessment of the federal government's water and climate-change policies", nor does it criticise government policy or processes.

The theme of the speech was Treasury's effectiveness in the current environment. It was aimed at assisting staff in fulfilling our mission: 'to improve the wellbeing of the Australian people by providing sound and timely advice to the Government, based on objective and thorough analysis of options...'.

The speech drew on examples where Treasury has been very effective, including the intergenerational report, the national reform agenda and superannuation, and the greater challenge of being effective in non-Treasury portfolio areas such as water and the environment. My point was that to be effective, Treasury needs not only to provide deep analytical rigour and economy-wide thinking but also to be persuasive in communicating its views.

Dr Ken Henry  
Secretary to the Treasury