

Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit

Question On Notice No. 1 – Improvement in areas of weakness

Dr Andrew Southcott MP asked on 13 February 2014:

The weaknesses that were identified in Defence were around time frames and slow implementation of recommendations. Can you point to areas where that has improved? I am asking not so much about the processes you have implemented but about actual measurable things. For example, ANAO found that there is an average delay of 88 days compared with your original time frames for completion. Are you able to point to where this has improved since the report?

Response:

The figure of 88 days is based on a combination of data originating from audits in 2007-08 and 2009-10.

Since that time there has been a measurable improvement in completing recommendations. For example, a comparative sample for recommendations arising from all audits in 2011-12 shows that the average delay in completion of recommendations is 53 days.