

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013-2014

Finance Portfolio

Question reference number: F132

Senator: Wong

Topic: Advisory Bodies or Panels

Question:

1. How many advisory bodies or panels are there in the portfolio?
2. Can you provide details of these bodies or panels by name, date commenced, and brief description of their role?
3. Has Finance undertaken a review of these bodies or panels?
4. If so, who initiated the review?
5. Have any of these bodies or panels been made redundant or closed since the 2013 Federal Election?
6. If so, who made the decision?

Answer:

Department / Agency	Response
Finance	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Three. 2. <u>Comcover Advisory Council</u>: The council was established in 1998 to provide independent oversight over Comcover's operations. <u>Consolidated Financial Statements Audit Committee</u>: The committee was formed prior to 2007. Its role is to provide assurance and advice to the Secretary of Finance about the quality of the Australian Government Consolidated Financial Statements. <u>Procurement Consultation Committee</u>: The Committee was formed in October 2009 to provide input to the Commonwealth's Procurement Coordinator on how government procurement can be enhanced. 3. <u>Comcover Advisory Council</u>: Yes in 2003, 2006 and 2011, in line with scheduled reviews of Comcover's operations and mandate. <u>Procurement Consultation Committee</u>: Yes in 2013. 4. <u>Comcover Advisory Council</u>: Department of Finance – Comcover. <u>Procurement Consultation Committee</u>: the Commonwealth Procurement Coordinator. 5. No. 6. N/A.
AEC	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Three. 2. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Commissioner's Advisory Board on Electoral Research (CABER) Commenced: February 2011 Role: The role of CABER is to provide the Australian Electoral Commissioner with advice on electoral research. It provides advice on

	<p>progressing a strategic electoral research framework to better inform and support delivery of electoral services and influence electoral policy reform in Australia.</p> <p>b) Blind and Low Vision Reference Group Commenced: 2009 Role: The role of the Blind and Low Vision Reference Group is to work with the AEC to develop sustainable voting arrangements which will provide secure, secret and independent voting for electors who are blind or who have low vision. Such arrangements are authorised in Part XVB of the <i>Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918</i> and are supported by the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters.</p> <p>c) Disability Advisory Committee (DAC) Commenced: 2007-08 Role: The DAC was first convened to assist the AEC in developing the AEC Disability Action Plan 2008-11. This Committee includes representatives from the AEC, peak disability organisations, the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission and representatives from state electoral commissions. On advice from, and in consultation with the DAC, the AEC has made significant progress in improving electoral services for people with disabilities.</p> <p>3. No 4. N/A 5. No 6. N/A</p>
ComSuper	1. - 6. N/A.
Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation	<p>1. Nil 2. N/A 3. N/A 4. N/A 5. N/A 6. N/A</p>
Future Fund Management Agency	1.-6. Nil