

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry Portfolio
Additional Budget Estimates Hearing 2013-14
27 February 2014

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY

TOPIC: Aged Care Workforce Innovation Network Reform Ready Review

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Xenophon

QUESTION No.: AI-153

In April 2012, the former Government announced the Living Longer, Living Better aged care reform. As part of this reform, the Government established an initiative known as the Workforce Innovation Network, managed by the Community Services and Health Industry Skills Council, to undertake reform ready reviews of aged care providers. These reviews, as I understand, were offered in a limited number of local government areas and were designed to assist providers prepare their respective organisations for the Living Longer, Living Better aged care reforms. Can you please advise the following:

1. What is the current status of this initiative?
2. How many reviews have occurred?
3. What mechanisms are in place to determine the effectiveness of the review?
4. What will become of the reform ready review process from 1 July 2014?

ANSWER

1. The project commenced on 27 June 2012. Reviews are continuing and the project is expected to end as contracted on 30 June 2014.
2. There are 193 reviews. 144 have been completed and 49 are in progress as at 14 March 2014.
3. The effectiveness of the project is monitored using progress reports, which are provided quarterly in accordance with the reporting schedule set out in the funding agreement with the Department of Industry. A final project report will be provided by 30 August 2014.
4. The project is funded until 30 June 2014.