

Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Department of the Senate

Budget Estimates

26-30 May 2014

Question: 16
Topic: Reviews
Written: 12 June 2014

Senator LUDWIG asked:

1. Since Additional Estimates in February 2014, how many new reviews (defined as review, inter-departmental group, inquiry, internal review or similar activity) have been commenced? Please list them including:
 - a) the date they were ordered;
 - b) the date they commenced;
 - c) the Minister responsible;
 - d) the department responsible;
 - e) the nature of the review;
 - f) their terms of reference;
 - g) the scope of the review;
 - h) whom is conducting the review;
 - i) the number of officers, and their classification level, involved in conducting the review;
 - j) the expected report date;
 - k) the budgeted, projected or expected costs; and
 - l) if the report will be tabled in parliament or made public.

2. For any review commenced or ordered since Additional Estimates in February 2014, have any external people, companies or contractors being engaged to assist or conduct the review?
 - a) If so, please list them, including their name and/or trading name/s and any known alias or other trading names.
 - b) If so, please list their managing director and the board of directors or equivalent.
 - c) If yes, for each is the cost associated with their involvement, including a break down for each cost item.
 - d) If yes, for each, what is the nature of their involvement.
 - e) If yes, for each, are they on the lobbyist register, provide details.
 - f) If yes, for each, what contact has the Minister or their office had with them.
 - g) If yes, for each, who selected them.
 - h) If yes, for each, did the Minister or their office have any involvement in selecting them.
 - i) If yes, please detail what involvement it was
 - ii) If yes, did they see or provided input to a short list
 - iii) If yes, on what dates did this involvement occur.

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- iv) If yes, did this involve any verbal discussions with the department
 - v) If yes, on what dates did this involvement occur
3. Since Additional Estimates in February 2014, what reviews are on-going?
 - a) Please list them.
 - b) What is the current cost to date expended on the reviews?
 4. Since Additional Estimates in February 2014, have any reviews been stopped, paused or ceased? Please list them.
 5. Since Additional Estimates in February 2014, what reviews have concluded? Please list them.
 6. Since Additional Estimates in February 2014, how many reviews have been provided to Government? Please list them and the date they were provided.
 7. When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?
 8. What reviews are planned?
 - a) When will each planned review be commenced?
 - b) When will each of these reviews be concluded?
 - c) When will government respond to each review?
 - d) Will the government release each review?
 - e) If so, when?
 - f) If not, why not?

Answer:

The department has not commissioned any reviews since Additional Estimates in February 2014.

The department has no ongoing reviews and no reviews were stopped, paused or ceased.