

The Senate

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade
Legislation Committee

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2014)

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Preface

Terms of reference

1. The committee is responsible for examining annual reports of departments and agencies within two portfolios: Defence (including the Department of Veterans' Affairs), and Foreign Affairs and Trade.

2. Under Standing Order 25(20), the committee is required to report on annual reports tabled by 31 October each year by the tenth sitting day of the following year, and on reports tabled by 30 April each year by the tenth sitting day after 30 June of that year. This report also examines annual reports that were tabled after 31 October 2013.

3. The standing order states:

Annual reports of departments and agencies shall stand referred to the committees in accordance with an allocation of departments and agencies in a resolution of the Senate. Each committee shall:

- a) Examine each annual report referred to it and report to the Senate whether the report is apparently satisfactory;
- b) Consider in more detail, and report to the Senate on, each annual report which is not apparently satisfactory, and on the other annual reports which it selects for more detailed consideration;
- c) Investigate and report to the Senate on any lateness in the presentation of annual reports;
- d) In considering an annual report, take into account any relevant remarks about the report made in debate in the Senate;
- e) If the committee so determines, consider annual reports of departments and budget-related agencies in conjunction with examination of estimates;
- f) Report on annual reports tabled by 31 October each year by the tenth sitting day of the following year, and on annual reports tabled by 30 April each year by the tenth sitting day after 30 June of that year;
- g) Draw to the attention of the Senate any significant matters relating to the operations and performance of the bodies furnishing the annual reports; and
- h) Report to the Senate each year whether there are any bodies which do not present annual reports to the Senate and which should present such reports.

Role of annual reports

4. Annual reports place a great deal of information about government departments and agencies on the public record. Accordingly, the tabling of annual reports continues to be an important element of accountability to Parliament and more broadly to the Australian people. The information provided in annual reports assists Parliament in the effective examination of the performance of departments and agencies and the administration of government programs. Indeed, as noted in the *Requirements for annual reports*:

Annual reports serve to inform the Parliament (through the responsible Minister), other stakeholders, educational and research institutions, the media and the general public about the performance of departments in relation to services provided. Annual reports are a key reference document and a document for internal management. They form part of the historical record.

...

Annual reports and Portfolio Budget Statements (PB Statements) are the principal formal accountability mechanisms between government and departments and from departments through (or on behalf of) government to the Parliament.¹

Assessment of annual reports

5. The committee examines annual reports to determine whether they are timely and 'apparently satisfactory' and whether they comply with the relevant requirements for the preparation of annual reports of departments and authorities.² The requirements are set down in the following instruments:

- for portfolio departments and bodies prescribed under the FMA Act: *Public Service Act 1999*, subsections 63(2) and 70(2), and the *Requirements for annual reports for departments, executive agencies and FMA Act bodies*, Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, 24 June 2013;
- for Commonwealth authorities and companies: the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997* (CAC Act); Commonwealth authorities and companies reporting under the CAC Act are required to comply with the *Commonwealth Authorities (Annual Reporting) Orders 2011* and the *Commonwealth Companies (Annual Reporting) Orders 2011*, respectively;
- and for non-statutory bodies: the guidelines are contained in the government response to the report of the Senate Standing Committee on Finance and

¹ *Requirements for annual reports for departments, executive agencies and FMA Act bodies*, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, 24 June 2013, p. 3.
www.dpmc.gov.au/guidelines/index.cfm

² Refer to Appendix 1 for a table of the reports referred to the committee for scrutiny.

Government Operations on Non-statutory Bodies, *Senate Hansard*, 8 December 1987, vol s124, pp. 2643–45 (requirements were modified in 1987).

6. For FMA Act bodies, significant amendments in the Requirements for Annual Reports for the 2012–13 period relate to:

- **Spatial reporting**—a new requirement has been added for selected portfolio agencies to report on expenditure in relation to the Spatial Reporting Framework.³

7. For Commonwealth authorities and companies, the annual reports for the 2011–12 financial year were the first annual reports to be prepared under the new orders with the exception of clauses dealing with related entity transactions, which apply to annual reports for each financial year ending on or after 30 June 2013.

Annual reports considered

8. The annual reports of the following organisations have been examined by the committee:

Defence portfolio

Department of Defence and Defence Materiel Organisation

AAF Company

ASC Pty Ltd

Army and Air Force Canteen Service (AAFCANS)

Australian Strategic Policy Institute

Defence Housing Australia

Royal Australian Air Force Welfare Recreational Company

Royal Australian Air Force Veterans' Residences Trust Fund

Royal Australian Navy Central Canteens Board

Services Trust Funds

Foreign Affairs portfolio

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID)

Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research

Australian Safeguards and Non-Proliferation Office

3 The committee notes that this requirement was not applicable to any of the FMA Act bodies under its portfolio coverage.

Trade portfolio

Australian Trade Commission

Export Finance and Insurance Corporation

Tourism Australia

Veterans' Affairs

Department of Veterans' Affairs, Repatriation Commission and Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission

Australian War Memorial

Repatriation Medical Authority

Veterans' Review Board

General comments on the annual reports*Timeliness in tabling reports*

9. Under Senate Standing Order 25(20)(c), the committee must report to the Senate any lateness in the presentation of annual reports.

10. In accordance with the *Requirements for Annual Reports* published in June 2013, agencies are required to present:

A copy of the annual report...to each House of Parliament on or before 31 October in the year in which the report is given. If Senate Supplementary Budget Estimates hearings are scheduled to occur prior to 31 October, it is best practice for annual reports to be tabled prior to those hearings.⁴

11. A number of annual reports were tabled late. On 31 October 2013, the Secretary of the Department of Defence wrote to Senator the Hon David Johnston, Minister for Defence, noting the finalisation of the annual report had been delayed due to significant demands on the time of both the Secretary and the Chief of the Defence Force as a result of unavoidable official travel and continuing operational requirements. The Secretary requested approval from the minister for an extension of the due date for tabling the report to 13 November 2013.⁵ The report was tabled in the Senate and the House of Representatives on 13 November 2013.

12. The Chair of AAF Company wrote to the Minister for Defence seeking an extension for the tabling of AAF Company's 2012–2013 Annual Report to

4 *Requirements for annual reports for departments, executive agencies and FMA Act bodies*, Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, 24 June 2013, Part 1, section 4.

5 Mr Dennis Richardson, Secretary of Defence to the Hon David Johnston, Minister for Defence, dated 31 October 2013.

30 November 2013 due to the delayed receipt of the ANAO's audit report.⁶ The report was presented out of sitting on 22 November 2013 and tabled in both houses of Parliament on 2 December 2013.

13. The Chairman of the Royal Australian Navy Central Canteens Board (RANCCB) likewise wrote to the Minister for Defence, seeking an extension of the tabling date to 29 November 2013 due to the late completion of the ANAO's audit report.⁷ The report was tabled in the House of Representatives on 12 December 2013 and in the Senate on 11 February 2014.

14. A table detailing the dates relating to the timeliness of presentation is at Appendix 1. It should be noted that, apart from those referred to above, the following annual reports were also tabled after 31 October 2013:

- ASC Pty Ltd—report tabled in both houses of Parliament on 13 November 2013;
- Australian Strategic Policy Institute Limited—report presented out of sitting on 6 November 2013 and tabled in the Senate on 12 November 2013;
- Defence Housing Australia—report presented out of sitting on 6 November 2013 and tabled in the Senate on 12 November 2013;
- Royal Australian Air Force Welfare Recreational Company—report tabled in the House of Representatives on 2 December 2013 and in the Senate on 3 December 2013;
- Royal Australian Air Force Veterans' Residences Trust Fund—report presented out of sitting on 7 November 2013 and tabled in the Senate on 12 November 2013; and
- Services Trust Funds—report presented out of sitting on 6 November 2013 and tabled in the Senate on 12 November 2013.

Matters of significance

15. In accordance with Senate Standing Order 25, the committee is to note any significant matters relating to the operations and performance of the bodies presenting their annual reports. The committee notes that on 18 September 2013, the Prime Minister, the Hon Tony Abbott MP, announced Machinery of Government changes and released revised Administrative Arrangement Orders. The changes included the integration of AusAID into the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

6 Brigadier P. Northard AM CSC, Chair, AAF Company to the Minister for Defence, dated 10 October 2013.

7 Rear Admiral C.W. Thomas AM CSC, Chairman, RANCCB to the Minister for Defence, dated 4 October 2013.

and the inclusion of tourism in the Trade portfolio.⁸ As such, the 2012–13 annual report will be last from AusAID and for the first time, Tourism Australia falls under this committee's portfolio coverage.

Comments made in the Senate

16. In accordance with Standing Order 25(20)(d), the committee notes that the annual report of AusAID was the subject of comment in the Senate.

17. Senator Faulkner remarked that the AusAID annual report provided:

...a valuable insight into the management of Australia's foreign aid program for the 2012-13 financial year. I think that recent events in the Philippines in the wake of Supertyphoon Haiyan are a very stark reminder of the importance of our aid program in lending a hand to some of the world's most vulnerable people. Australia's aid program also serves our national interests, of course, by promoting stability and prosperity in our region and around the world.⁹

18. Senator Faulkner commended the AusAID annual report and credited "the former AusAID, now merged with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and other participating government agencies for their excellent work".¹⁰

Bodies not presenting annual reports to the Senate

19. The committee is required to report to the Senate each year on whether there are any bodies that do not present annual reports to the Senate and which should present such reports. The committee is satisfied that there are no bodies within these portfolios that do not meet their reporting requirements to the Senate.

Standard of reports

20. The committee found all reports to be generally of a high standard. They effectively described the function, activities and financial positions of the various departments and agencies. The committee therefore found all of the annual reports to be 'apparently satisfactory'.

8 'The Coalition will restore strong, stable and accountable government', *Media Release*, the Prime Minister, the Hon Tony Abbott MP, 18 September 2013.

9 Senator Faulkner, *Senate Hansard*, 12 December 2013, p. 1711.

10 Senator Faulkner, *Senate Hansard*, 12 December 2013, p. 1711.

Chapter 1

Annual reports of departments

Department of Defence

1.1 The Department of Defence annual report 2012–13 was tabled in the House of Representatives and in the Senate on 13 November 2013.

Reviews by the Secretary and the Chief of the Defence Force

1.2 Mr Dennis Richardson AO, the Secretary, stated in his review:

Some hard financial choices were made in order to meet the Government's expectations of the department during the last financial year. We pursued a strategy designed to protect ADF personnel and Defence operations, and to minimise impacts on core capabilities. The department prioritised investments and reduced administration costs. Budget volatility made all of this difficult.¹

1.3 Looking forward, the Secretary noted:

The single biggest challenge for the next 12 months will be the department's ability to continue to deliver agreed strategic objectives should budget volatility continue. There will be a need for continued APS downsizing to ensure we live within our means.²

Operations

1.4 General David Hurley, AC, DSC, Chief of the Defence Force (CDF) noted that the Australian Defence Force (ADF) had concluded two overseas operations during the reporting period—Timor-Leste and the Solomon Islands.³

1.5 The process of transition of security responsibility from the International Security Assistance Force to the Afghan National Security Forces started formally in July 2011. The CDF noted that a key milestone was achieved in October 2012 when:

...four Australian-mentored Afghan National Army (ANA) infantry Kandaks assumed the lead for independent operations in Uruzgan. Australian Force elements handed over Uruzgan's Patrol Bases and Forward Operating Bases to the ANA and the resulting change in posture allowed the ADF to move from a Mentoring Task Force to a smaller Advisory Task Force.⁴

1.6 Other operations in 2012–13, included deployments of ADF personnel to five peacekeeping operations throughout the Middle East and North Africa, four Royal

1 *Defence Annual Report 2012–2013, Department of Defence*, p. 2.

2 *Defence Annual Report 2012–2013, Department of Defence*, p. 4.

3 *Defence Annual Report 2012–2013, Department of Defence*, p. 7; see also pp. 85–100.

4 *Defence Annual Report 2012–2013, Department of Defence*, p. 7; see also pp. 85–100.

Australian Navy frigates patrolling the Middle East Area of Operations, and the ADF's contribution to Australia's maritime security and border protection.⁵

1.7 The ADF provided disaster relief and assistance in Fiji, Samoa and the Solomon Islands, as well as Queensland, New South Wales, Tasmania and Western Australia.⁶

Cultural reform

1.8 Both the Secretary and the CDF commented on the progress of cultural reform in Defence. The CDF noted:

In addition to our operational commitments, Defence has continued to make progress on our cultural reform program, known as Pathway to Change. On 26 November 2012, I apologised publicly to those who have suffered sexual, physical or mental abuse while serving in the ADF. This was a significant step in acknowledging past actions and a statement of support for reform actions. Throughout 2013, Defence has worked with the Honourable Len Roberts-Smith and the Defence Abuse Response Taskforce as they have undertaken their important work.

In keeping with my commitment to ensure we provide a fair, just and inclusive work environment for all our members, women already serving in the ADF have, since January, been able to apply to become mine warfare and clearance diving officers in the Navy; airfield defence guards and ground defence officers in the Air Force; and to join the infantry and armoured corps, explosive ordnance disposal and combat engineer squadrons in the Army. Giving women the opportunity to take on these positions complements our commitment to cultural reform under the Pathway to Change strategy.⁷

1.9 The Secretary also noted:

Our efforts on cultural reform will continue. The Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Response Office was opened in July 2013 to offer services to those in the Australian Defence Force affected by sexual misconduct. Restricted reporting guidelines have been adopted and policy will be rewritten to support it.⁸

Matters relating to the operations and performance of the department

Defence's financial statements

1.10 The committee is required to note any significant matters relating to the operations and performance of the bodies presenting their annual reports. The committee draws attention to the department's financial statements.

5 *Defence Annual Report 2012–2013, Department of Defence*, p. 7; see also pp. 85–100.

6 *Defence Annual Report 2012–2013, Department of Defence*, p. 7; see also pp. 85–100.

7 *Defence Annual Report 2012–2013, Department of Defence*, p. 9; see also Chapter 4.

8 *Defence Annual Report 2012–2013, Department of Defence*, p. 4; see also pp. 106–107.

1.11 It is mandatory under section 57 of the Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997 for the annual report to include a copy of the audited financial statements and the Auditor-General's report thereon.

Australian National Audit Office audit

1.12 The Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) report for the Department of Defence stated:

During the 2012–13 final audit phase, Defence resolved six moderate audit issues previously reported. The resolved issues relate to asset reporting, revaluation and disposal processes; processes over Navy inventory returns; accounting for special public monies and the Defence Fraud Control Plan.

Five moderate audit issues were identified during the 2012–13 final audit phase. These moderate audit issues relate to special account management, the inconsistent application of policy requirements for assessing specialist military equipment asset values, accounting for goods and services received as a result of settlements for asset construction contract disputes, civilian employee leave recording and management of termination payments, and the recording and reporting processes associated with Military Support Items (MSI).⁹

1.13 The areas where moderate audit issues remain outstanding in the 2012–13 audit include:

- Military information logistics information system (MILIS);
- General assets management; and
- Financial management information system (ROMAN) [Resource and Output Management and Accounting Network].¹⁰

1.14 New audit issues were identified in the following areas during the 2012–13 audit:

- Internal control and financial reporting;
- Inventory and assets management; and
- Human resource management.¹¹

9 Australian National Audit Office, ANAO Audit Report No.13 2013–14: *Audits of the financial statements of Australian Government Entities for the period ended 30 June 2013*, pp. 128–129.

10 Australian National Audit Office, ANAO Audit Report No.13 2013–14: *Audits of the financial statements of Australian Government Entities for the period ended 30 June 2013*, pp. 130–131.

11 Australian National Audit Office, ANAO Audit Report No.13 2013–14: *Audits of the financial statements of Australian Government Entities for the period ended 30 June 2013*, pp. 131–134.

Summary

1.15 The committee finds the annual report of the Department of Defence to be 'apparently satisfactory' in complying with the relevant requirements for the preparation of annual reports.

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

1.16 The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) annual report 2012–2013 was presented out of sitting on 30 October 2013 and tabled in the Senate on 12 November 2013.

Secretary's Review

1.17 Mr Peter Varghese AO, the Secretary of the Department, took the opportunity in his first Secretary's Review to thank his predecessor Mr Dennis Richardson for 'leaving the department in such fine shape'.¹²

1.18 The secretary noted the department's role in advancing Australia's national interests abroad. He noted that:

It is our 95 overseas posts that do much of the heavy lifting in building networks of influence for Australia, advocating Australian interests abroad, supporting official visits, providing analysis, and assisting Australians in distress. The role of the department in Canberra and our offices across Australia is to provide policy advice to ministers and the government, negotiate bilateral and regional trade agreements, lead whole-of-government engagement in regional organisations such as APEC and the East Asia Summit (EAS), engage with business and community groups, deliver passports and consular services to Australians and provide corporate services for the organisation, both at home and abroad.¹³

Significant issues and developments

1.19 The Secretary noted that during the reporting period:

The department dedicated considerable resources and diplomatic attention to our six core bilateral relationships—the United States, China, Japan, Indonesia, India and the Republic of Korea, recognising that Australia's prosperity is tied to that of our key partners.¹⁴

1.20 The Secretary reported on the department's ongoing focus on our immediate neighbourhood, with the engagement centred on a desire for security, stability and prosperity shared through the region. He also noted the importance of regional institutions for Australia, with the department focusing its diplomatic efforts on ASEAN and the East Asia Summit.¹⁵

12 *Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Annual Report 2012–2013*, p. 9.

13 *Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Annual Report 2012–2013*, p. 9.

14 *Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Annual Report 2012–2013*, p. 10.

15 *Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Annual Report 2012–2013*, pp. 10–11.

1.21 Globally, the department led a whole-of-government effort to secure Australia's election to the UN Security Council as a non-permanent member for 2013 and 2014. The Secretary stated:

In the first six months we have established ourselves as a constructive and capable council member, contributing to international sanctions work, and playing an important role in the council's approach to Afghanistan, the debate on Syria, as well as counter-terrorism.¹⁶

1.22 The Secretary recognised the importance of trade policy in maximising economic opportunity. He stated:

We are pursuing Australia's objectives of free trade through complementary routes. Both bilateral FTAs and regional agreements such as the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) underpin Australia's interest in expanding global free trade.¹⁷

1.23 In regards to trade, the secretary also discussed the importance of Australia's membership of APEC and the G20. In particular, he noted:

In preparation for Australia's G20 presidency from December 2013, the department contributed policy advice on trade, development, food security and energy issues. We escalated our advocacy efforts with G20 countries and a range of international organisations to build support for the G20 forum and its forward agenda.¹⁸

Delivering services to Australians

1.24 The Secretary noted that a significant dimension of the department's work is to provide Australians with high-quality consular and passport services. The department is working to develop the next generation of passports, the P-series, scheduled to be issued in August 2014, to ensure the ongoing security of Australian passports.

1.25 The Secretary noted that Australians are travelling abroad in ever greater numbers. He stated:

With 8.8 million departures by Australian citizens and permanent residents over the past year, we issued just over 1.7 million passports and assisted 11 927 Australians in difficulty overseas. Many of those consular cases were in remote places and under challenging circumstances. Over the year, a number of high-profile cases involving detention and legal proceedings required substantial resources.¹⁹

16 *Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Annual Report 2012–2013*, p. 11.

17 *Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Annual Report 2012–2013*, p. 11.

18 *Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Annual Report 2012–2013*, pp. 11–12.

19 *Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Annual Report 2012–2013*, p. 12.

Corporate governance and management

1.26 The Secretary commented that:

The past year has been challenging, requiring careful reflection on Australia's current and future interests and allocation of resources.²⁰

Outlook

1.27 In his discussion of the outlook for the department, the Secretary stated:

The world is becoming more complex and our strategic environment more crowded. Australia cannot assume that our interests and values, or the international rules which we helped shape and continue to adopt, will remain unchallenged. As China and India assume great power status, we must adapt to a changing strategic arena. Our priority interests are better considered now in the multipolar context of the Indo-Pacific, including the security of maritime passages so vital to our increasingly globalised trade.²¹

1.28 The Secretary acknowledged that the department's greatest assets remain its people and its work overseas. He noted that:

In the tight fiscal environment, the corporate challenge for the department will be to maintain an effective overseas network and adequately staffed Canberra-based operation.²²

External Scrutiny

1.29 The annual report provided information on the significant developments in external scrutiny of the department and the department's response.

1.30 In 2012–13, the Auditor-General tabled in parliament two reports by the ANAO relating to the department's operations:

- Report No. 16: Audits of the Financial Statements of Australian Government Entities for the period ended 30 June 2012; and
- Report No. 51: The Interim Phase of the Audit of Financial Statements of Major General Government Sector Agencies for the year ending 30 June 2013.²³

Summary

1.31 The committee finds that the DFAT annual report adequately complies with all reporting requirements for a department.

Department of Veterans' Affairs

1.32 The Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) is the primary service delivery agency that develops and implements programs to assist the veteran and defence force

20 *Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Annual Report 2012–2013*, p. 12.

21 *Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Annual Report 2012–2013*, p. 13.

22 *Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Annual Report 2012–2013*, p. 13.

23 *Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Annual Report 2012–2013*, p. 164.

communities. It provides administrative support to the Repatriation Commission and the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission. The Repatriation Commission administers the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*, and is responsible for granting pensions, allowances and other benefits, providing treatment and other services. The Military and Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission is responsible for the administration of benefits and arrangements under the *Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004*.

1.33 DVA's annual report 2011–2012 was presented out of sitting on 29 October 2013 and tabled in the Senate on 12 November 2013. The report also included separate reports of both the Repatriation Commission and the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission. They described how each commission interrelates with DVA, its membership and the main activities for the reporting period. The reports do not include performance reporting, which is covered in DVA's report.

Secretary's year in review

1.34 In the Secretary's year in review, Mr Simon Lewis observed that:

The Repatriation Commission, the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission (MRCC) and the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) continued to witness significant demographic changes in the veteran and ex-service community and the consequent altering of service delivery expectations placed upon the Department.²⁴

1.35 The Secretary acknowledged the outgoing Secretary, Mr Ian Campbell PSM, who retired in July 2013 after more than 10 years of service in DVA and 42 years in the Australian Public Service. The Secretary stated:

Under [Mr Campbell's] leadership the Department acknowledged and acted upon the need to change its service delivery capabilities. In a time of diminishing budgets, he ensured that resources continued to allow staff to carry out their roles to a high standard. He has left the Department well placed to deal with challenges in the years ahead. I would like to thank him on behalf of staff and the veteran community for his vision and leadership.²⁵

Review of military compensation arrangements

1.36 The Government response to the Review of Military Compensation Arrangements was announced in the 2012-13 Budget. As part of that response, the Government accepted 96 of the 108 recommendations made in the review and allocated \$17.4 million over four years for the implementation of these recommendations. A further three recommendations were deferred for further consideration.

24 *Repatriation Commission, Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission, Department of Veterans' Affairs, Annual Reports 2012–2013*, p. 2.

25 *Repatriation Commission, Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission, Department of Veterans' Affairs, Annual Reports 2012–2013*, p. 2.

1.37 The Secretary noted that during the reporting period, significant work has occurred in order for the implementation of the accepted recommendations to begin from 1 July 2013. Some of the significant changes which will be implemented in 2013–14 include:

- an increased rate of weekly compensation for dependent children of deceased members;
- increased compensation for advice – including legal advice in addition to financial advice;
- earlier payment of compensation for permanent impairment (PI) claimants with more than one accepted condition;
- greater use of interim PI compensation;
- a new method for calculating transitional PI compensation;
- the issuing of treatment cards to clients under the *Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988* (SRCA); and
- the extension of non-liability health care for psychiatric conditions to those with ADF peacetime service from April 1994 and to include treatment for alcohol and drug dependence.²⁶

Mental health strategy

1.38 The Secretary noted that a new Veteran Mental Health Strategy was launched in May 2013. The new strategy provides a 10-year framework for the provision of mental health care in the veteran and ex-service community. The strategy:

- sets the context for the provision of mental health services in the veteran and ex-service community and for addressing mental health needs;
- identifies strategic objectives and priority actions to guide mental health policy and programs; and
- ensures the best possible outcomes for individual mental health and wellbeing.²⁷

Access to mental health support and advice online

1.39 The Secretary outlined a number of online applications which were launched during the reporting period. The applications are designed to provide help to veterans and their families, as well as service providers, who require information and advice regarding mental health conditions, including post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). These include:

26 *Repatriation Commission, Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission, Department of Veterans' Affairs, Annual Reports 2012–2013*, p. 3.

27 *Repatriation Commission, Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission, Department of Veterans' Affairs, Annual Reports 2012–2013*, p. 4.

- the redevelopment and expansion of the main DVA mental health website, the *At Ease Mental Health Portal* to include discreet sections to provide tailored advice, tools, information and downloadable resources;
- two online training programs were developed and released to assist health practitioners—*Understanding the Military Experience* and *vetAWARE: Assist Wisely and Refer Effectively*;
- *PTSD Coach Australia*, a smartphone application aimed at helping current and former serving members identify and manage mental health issues was released in February 2013;
- *ON TRACK with the Right Mix*, a second smartphone application to help people manage their alcohol consumption and learn about the health impacts of alcohol on their wellbeing and lifestyle was released in March 2013.²⁸

In-home telemonitoring for veterans trial

1.40 DVA's in-home telemonitoring for veterans trial began in June 2013 in Armidale, NSW. Through use of telemonitoring equipment, veterans and war widow/ers with chronic conditions and complex care needs are able to have their health monitored by health professionals from their home. The Secretary reported that positive results have already been achieved with the first participants. The trial will continue until June 2015 with up to 300 veterans and war widow/ers being recruited.²⁹

Anzac centenary

1.41 On 21 April 2013, the Government released the Anzac Centenary Advisory Board's report and the Government's response. The Government accepted all of the Board's recommendations—22 in full and three in principle—and provided \$25 million towards the Anzac Centenary program. This was in addition to the \$83.5 million over seven years allocated to the Anzac Centenary program in 2012. The Secretary noted that the funding will support initiatives such as:

- an Anzac Centenary travelling exhibition;
- an Albany Convoy commemorative event;
- the protection and preservation of, and the education campaign for, the submarine AE2;
- development and screening of 10 hours of documentary programming related to the Anzac Centenary by ABC television and Screen Australia;
- the digitisation of a sample of the First World War repatriation records of those who survived both Gallipoli and the Western Front;

28 *Repatriation Commission, Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission, Department of Veterans' Affairs, Annual Reports 2012–2013*, p. 5.

29 *Repatriation Commission, Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission, Department of Veterans' Affairs, Annual Reports 2012–2013*, p. 4.

- a history grants scheme provided to encourage academic and non-academic research into Australian involvement in the First World War; and
- and the development of publicly accessible material from the 2000 interviews of the Australians at War film archive.³⁰

The year ahead

1.42 The Secretary noted:

The coming year will be another busy one for the Department as the official commencement of the Anzac Centenary Program draws ever closer and the Department works to implement the suite of policies and programs designed to enhance access to mental health services and support funded from the 2013-14 Budget.³¹

1.43 In particular, the Secretary discussed the strengthening of the relationship with Defence, which will be supported by the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between Defence and DVA in February 2013. He stated:

The MoU pledges closer cooperation between the two departments in order to provide improved support services for current and former ADF members. It sets out the key principles which will govern the cooperative delivery of care and support and establishes effective governance arrangements designed to ensure that the support arrangements remain effective.³²

Data-matching program

1.44 The Department of Veterans' Affairs Data-matching Program Report on Progress 2011 to 2013 is included in the annual report at Appendix C.

1.45 In the 1990-91 Budget, the then government announced new measures to detect incorrect payments in the income support system. This involved a program of computer matching of identity and income data held by a limited number of government agencies, including the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

1.46 Under sections 12 of the *Data-matching Program (Assistance and Tax) Act 1990*, DVA is required to table in parliament a standard report every year and a comprehensive report every three years. A comprehensive report was last submitted by DVA in 2010.³³

30 *Repatriation Commission, Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission, Department of Veterans' Affairs, Annual Reports 2012–2013*, pp. 6–7.

31 *Repatriation Commission, Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission, Department of Veterans' Affairs, Annual Reports 2012–2013*, p. 8.

32 *Repatriation Commission, Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission, Department of Veterans' Affairs, Annual Reports 2012–2013*, p. 8.

33 *Repatriation Commission, Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission, Department of Veterans' Affairs, Annual Reports 2012–2013*, pp. 320–324.

Summary

1.47 The committee finds that the DVA annual report complies adequately with all reporting requirements for a department.

Chapter 2

Annual reports of non-statutory authorities and government companies

Defence portfolio

Defence Materiel Organisation

2.2 The annual report of the Defence Materiel Organisation (DMO) is contained in Defence's annual report. It was tabled in the House of Representatives and in the Senate on 13 November 2013.

2.3 The DMO is a prescribed agency under the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*. This means that although the DMO remains inextricably linked to Defence, it is required to account directly to the Minister for Defence on its financial management. The annual report noted:

As a prescribed agency, the DMO uses a purchaser-provider model, underpinned by service agreements, to deliver commercial, engineering, logistics and project management services in an accountable, outcome-focused and business-like manner.¹

Review by the Chief Executive Officer

2.4 Mr Warren King, Chief Executive Officer, DMO, drew attention to the DMO's 2013–15 Strategic Framework released in February 2013. Mr King explained that, as part of the continued drive to reform all elements of the DMO's operations, the framework better positions the DMO to deliver customer requirements and become more accountable to the Government for its performance.²

2.5 In his review of the year, Mr King stated:

Given the size and complexity of the DMO's business, as well as its challenging responsibilities, a key priority throughout 2012–13 has been ensuring that DMO employees are empowered with the skills they need and supported by an organisational structure that enables them to deliver critical outcomes both now and into the future. Although it is still early days, and organisational changes are still being implemented, I am very proud of the progress that has been made so far.³

1 *Defence Annual Report 2011–2012: Part 4 Defence Materiel*, p. 177.

2 *Defence Annual Report 2011–2012: Part 4 Defence Materiel*, p. 175.

3 *Defence Annual Report 2011–2012: Part 4 Defence Materiel*, p. 175.

List of requirements

2.6 The committee notes that the *Requirements for annual reports for departments, executive agencies and FMA Act bodies* states:

The List of Requirements must be included as an appendix to the annual report. If an item specified in the checklist is not applicable to an agency, it should be reported as not applicable rather than omitted from the list. Agencies should include a column indicating the location of the information in the annual report.⁴

2.7 As the committee noted in last year's report on annual reports, prior to the 2011–12 annual report, the Defence and DMO annual reports have been produced as two separate volumes. The reports have now been combined in a single volume. This has meant that the list of requirements has also been combined. The committee notes that combining the Defence and DMO lists creates ambiguity as the entries for Defence and DMO have not been clearly distinguished.

External Scrutiny

2.8 The *Requirements for annual reports for departments, executive agencies and FMA Act bodies* also states:

The annual report must provide information on the most significant developments in external scrutiny of the department and the department's response, including particulars of:

- (a) judicial decisions and decisions of administrative tribunals that have had, or may have, a significant impact on the operations of the department; and
- (b) reports on the operations of the department by the Auditor General (other than the report on financial statements), a Parliamentary committee or the Commonwealth Ombudsman.⁵

2.9 As the committee noted in last year's report on annual reports, the DMO annual report does not appear to provide information on external scrutiny. As noted above, the Defence and DMO annual reports have now been combined in the same volume. DMO's completion of this mandatory reporting requirement is unclear. External scrutiny is only covered in the Department of Defence section of the annual report and it is unclear if this is intended to also cover external scrutiny of the DMO.⁶

4 *Requirements for annual reports for departments, executive agencies and FMA Act bodies*, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, 24 June 2013, p. 32.
www.dpmc.gov.au/guidelines/index.cfm

5 *Requirements for annual reports for departments, executive agencies and FMA Act bodies*, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, 24 June 2013, p. 9.
www.dpmc.gov.au/guidelines/index.cfm

6 *Defence Annual Report 2012–2013*, p. 118–122.

Summary

2.10 The committee finds that the DMO annual report adequately complies with the relevant requirements for the preparation of annual reports.

Australian War Memorial

2.11 The Australian War Memorial was established as a statutory authority under the *Australian War Memorial Act 1980*. The performance of the Memorial and the accountability of its council and management are subject to the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*. The Memorial is also subject to other legislation that bears on its operation, and is accountable to the government through the Minister for Veterans' Affairs. The Council of the Australian War Memorial is responsible for the conduct and control of the activities of the Memorial. Its numerous functions and responsibilities include:

- establishing the Memorial's strategic direction and vision;
- approving the Memorial's goals and key objectives;
- approving the annual budget and monitoring expenditure and reporting; and
- ensuring that the Memorial has adequate financial resources to meet known and planned future resources.⁷

2.12 The Australian War Memorial's annual report 2012–2013 was presented out of sitting on 25 October 2013 and tabled in the Senate on 12 November 2013.

2.13 Rear Admiral Ken Doolan AO RAN (Ret'd), Chairman, commented that the redevelopment of the Memorial's First World War galleries has been a particular focus in the lead-up to the centenary of ANZAC. The Chairman also noted another centenary project, the ANZAC Centenary Touring Exhibition, with which the Memorial is involved in conjunction with the ANZAC Centenary Advisory Board. In particular, he noted that the Government recently announced an allocation of \$10 million in seed funding to the Memorial to allow work on this project to commence.⁸

2.14 On behalf of the Council, the Chairman commended the outstanding service rendered by the Director, the Honourable Dr Brendan Nelson, his distinguished predecessor, Major General Steve Gower AO AO(Mil) (Ret'd), and the Ms Nola Anderson, Acting Director for much of 2012. The Chairman also noted that:

We are deeply appreciative of all that has been and is being done by the many dedicated Australians whose efforts are directed at ensuring the Memorial remains the pre-eminent national commemorative icon.⁹

7 *Australian War Memorial Annual Report 2012–2013*, pp. 4–5.

8 *Australian War Memorial Annual Report 2012–2013*, pp. 2–3.

9 *Australian War Memorial Annual Report 2012–2013*, p. 2.

Index of annual report requirements

2.15 The committee notes that the *Commonwealth Authorities (Annual Reporting) Orders 2011* states:

To assist readers to locate the information required by the CAC Act (including these Orders) or other applicable legislation, the Annual Report of Operations must provide an index of annual report requirements, identifying where relevant information can be found in the annual report.¹⁰

2.16 The committee notes that while the Australian War Memorial has included a compliance index, it has been prepared in compliance with *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies (Reports of Operations) Orders 2008*, and not the current reporting orders. As such it is unclear whether new reporting requirements such as those in clause 15 relating to 'related entity transactions' have been met or if they are not applicable to the Australian War Memorial.

Summary

2.17 The committee finds that the Australian War Memorial's annual report to be 'apparently satisfactory' in complying with the relevant requirements for the preparation of annual reports.

Foreign Affairs and Trade portfolio*Australian Agency for International Development*

2.18 The annual report of the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) for the financial year 2012–2013 was presented out of sitting on 30 October 2013 and tabled in the Senate on 12 November 2013.

2.19 AusAID was the Australian government agency responsible for managing Australia's overseas aid program. AusAID was an executive agency within the Foreign Affairs and Trade portfolio, reporting to the Minister for Foreign Affairs. As noted in the preface of this report, on 18 September 2013 it was announced that AusAID will be integrated into the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. As such this will be AusAID's final annual report.

Director General's review

2.20 The Director General of AusAID, Mr Peter Baxter, noted that the first Annual Review of Aid Effectiveness was released in January 2013. The review found that Australia's aid program:

- made a major contribution towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in our region and across the world;

10 *Commonwealth Authorities (Annual Reporting) Orders 2011*, clause 21.

- achieved strong results against each of its five strategic goals: saving lives, promoting opportunities for all, sustainable economic development, effective governance, and humanitarian and disaster preparedness and response; and
- is effective, efficiently delivered and in good repair.¹¹

Program highlights during the year

2.21 The Director General outlined some of the highlights of the reporting period:

- Announcing the Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development initiative on 30 August 2012;
- Responding to multiple disasters across the Pacific, providing life-saving assistance to more than 50 000 affected people. These disasters included Cyclone Evan in Fiji and Samoa in December, an earthquake and tsunami in the Solomon Islands in February and a subsequent dengue fever outbreak, and severe drought in the Marshall Islands in April;
- Australia also continued to help alleviate the suffering arising from the humanitarian crisis in Syria;
- Growing development engagement in Myanmar as the Myanmar Government continued important political and economic reforms;
- Moving our relationship with China to a new phase by signing a development cooperation partnership memorandum of understanding in Beijing on 9 April.
- Hosting the second Mining for Development Conference in May 2013, alongside the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative Global Conference.
- Confirming Australia's leadership role internationally, and in the Pacific, in promoting and supporting disability-inclusive development through the 2012 mid-term review of AusAID's strategy *Development for all: towards a disability-inclusive Australian aid program 2009–2014*.¹²

Australian National Audit Office audit

2.22 The Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) report for AusAID stated that matters giving rise to the legislative breach relating to section 83 of the Constitution, which had been noted in the committee's previous report, have been resolved. The audit report stated:

The notes to AusAID's 2011–12 financial statements referred to 13 breaches of section 83 of the Constitution totalling \$29 000 in relation to various payments made by ComSuper on behalf of AusAID under the Papua New Guinea (Staffing Assistance) Act 1973 (PNG Super Act).

¹¹ *AusAID Annual Report 2012–2013*, p. 2.

¹² *AusAID Annual Report 2012–2013*, p. 6.

In 2012–13 the Financial Framework Legislation Amendment Act (No.1) 2013 was passed. The amendment took effect from 14 March 2013 and was enacted to reduce the risk of non-compliance in relation the PNG Super Act. The amendment allows Comsuper to continue making payments under the PNG Super Act until ComSuper is notified of a benefit recipient's death, without resulting in a section 83 breach.

During 2012–13, AusAID reported six breaches of section 83 of the Constitution totalling \$6 000. As at 30 June 2013, \$4 000 of the overpaid amounts had been recovered. All breaches occurred prior to the effective date of the amendment referred to above.¹³

Summary

2.23 The committee finds that the AusAID annual report adequately complies with all reporting requirements for an executive agency.

Tourism Australia

2.24 Tourism Australia's annual report for 2012–2013 was presented out of sitting on 31 October 2013 and tabled in the Senate on 12 November 2013.

2.25 As noted in the preface of this report, following the Prime Minister's announcement on 18 September 2013, tourism is now part of the Trade portfolio. As such, this is the first time Tourism Australia's report has been examined by this committee. Tourism Australia is a Commonwealth authority established under the *Tourism Australia Act 2004* and is subject to the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*. Tourism Australia is Australia's national tourism organisation. It aims to increase international and domestic leisure tourism, international business events, and promote Australia as a compelling visitor destination.¹⁴

Operational matters

2.26 In the Chairman's report, Mr Geoff Dixon observed that during the reporting period there were 6.3 million international arrivals, an increase of nearly 5 per cent, spending \$28 billion, an increase of almost 6 per cent from the previous financial year.¹⁵

2.27 In his report, the Managing Director, Mr Andrew McEvoy highlighted Tourism Australia's role in encouraging the tourism industry to harness the potential of social media. The Managing director also remarked on the importance of

13 Australian National Audit Office, *ANAO Audit Report No.13 2013–14: Audits of the financial statements of Australian Government Entities for the period ended 30 June 2013*, p. 195.

14 *Tourism Australia Annual Report 2012–13*, p. 2.

15 *Tourism Australia Annual Report 2012–13*, p. 10.

partnership marketing, noting Tourism Australia works best when commercial and state territory partners help leverage its message *There's nothing like Australia*.¹⁶

Reporting requirements

2.28 Previous annual reports from Tourism Australia have been examined by the Senate Economics Legislation Committee.¹⁷ The committee notes that a number concerns raised by the Economics Committee have not been resolved in the 2012–13 annual report. The committee notes that:

- The report provides list of requirements contained in the *Requirements for annual reports for departments, executive agencies and FMA Act bodies*, but not a *Commonwealth Authorities (Annual Reporting) Orders 2011* compliance index. The reporting requirements for Commonwealth authorities differ from the requirements for FMA Act bodies.
- The letter of transmittal should include details of when and how the report was adopted, and state that directors are responsible for the preparation of contents of the report, as prescribed by the *Commonwealth Authorities (Annual Reporting) Orders 2011*.
- The report does not contain a reference to any ministerial directions, which is a requirement under the *Commonwealth Authorities (Annual Reporting) Orders*.

2.29 The committee notes that as Tourism Australia has not included an index of annual report requirements relating to the *Commonwealth Authorities (Annual Reporting) Orders 2011*, it is unclear whether new reporting requirements such as those in clause 15 relating to 'related entity transactions' have been met or if they are not applicable to the Tourism Australia.

Summary

2.30 The committee finds that Tourism Australia's annual report to be 'apparently satisfactory' in complying with the relevant requirements for the preparation of annual reports.

Other reports

2.31 The committee noted that Commonwealth authorities and companies reporting under the CAC Act are required to comply with the *Commonwealth Authorities (Annual Reporting) Orders 2011* and the *Commonwealth Companies (Annual Reporting) Orders 2011*, respectively. The committee draws these reporting orders to the attention of the following agencies:

16 *Tourism Australia Annual Report 2012–13*, p. 12.

17 Senate Economics Legislation Committee, *Annual Reports (No 1 of 2013)*, 14 March 2013.

Defence portfolio

- AAF Company (tabled 2 December 2013, received out of session 22 November 2013);
- ASC Pty Ltd (tabled 13 November 2013);
- Australian Strategic Policy Institute (tabled 12 November 2013, received out of session 6 November 2013);
- Royal Australian Air Force Welfare Recreational Company (tabled 2 December 2013);
- Royal Australian Air Force Veterans' Residences Trust Fund (tabled 12 November 2013, received out of session 7 November 2013);
- Royal Australian Navy Central Canteens Board (tabled 12 December 2013); and
- Services Trust Funds (tabled 12 November 2013, received out of session 6 November 2013).

2.32 Other portfolio authorities, agencies and/or companies which had their annual reports examined by the committee, but were not otherwise commented upon in this report, include:

Defence portfolio

- Army and Air Force Canteen Service (AAFCANS) (tabled 12 November 2013, received out of session 28 October 2013); and
- Defence Housing Australia (tabled 12 November 2013, received out of session 6 November 2013).

Foreign Affairs portfolio

- Australian Safeguards and Non-Proliferation Office (tabled 12 November 2013, received out of session 18 October 2013); and
- Australian Centre for International Agriculture Research (tabled 23 October 2013, erratum received 21 January 2014).

Trade portfolio

- Australian Trade Commission (tabled 12 November 2013, received out of session 28 October 2013); and
- Export Finance and Insurance Corporation (tabled 12 November 2013, received out of session 28 October 2013).

Veterans' Affairs

- Repatriation Medical Authority (tabled 12 November 2013, received out of session 31 October 2013); and

- Veterans' Review Board (tabled 12 November 2013, received out of session 29 October 2013).

2.33 The committee considers that all the annual reports of the above-mentioned organisations adequately met their respective reporting requirements.

Senator Alan Eggleston
Chair

Appendix 1

Compliance table of the annual reports referred to the committee for scrutiny for the period 2012–2013

Scrutiny of reports due to be tabled by 31 October 2013				
Department/agency	Enabling legislation and timeliness	Date on letter of transmittal	@ Date report submitted to minister (if known) % Date report received by minister (if known)	* Date report presented to President # Date tabled in the Senate ^ Date tabled in H/Representatives
Defence Portfolio				
Department of Defence	<i>Australian Constitution and Administrative Arrangements Order. The Department may engage members of the Australian Defence Force under the Defence Act 1903, the Naval Defence Act 1910 and the Air Force Act 1923.</i>	31 Oct 2013	@31 Oct 2013 %31 Oct 2013	#13 Nov 2013 ^13 Nov 2013
Incorporating the report of...	<i>Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997 (FMA Act)</i> To be tabled by 31 October.			
Defence Materiel Organisation (DMO) and;	Prescribed agency FMA Act. To be tabled by 31 October.			

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180	181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	223	224	225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239	240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252	253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260	261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269	270	271	272	273	274	275	276	277	278	279	280	281	282	283	284	285	286	287	288	289	290	291	292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299	300	301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310	311	312	313	314	315	316	317	318	319	320	321	322	323	324	325	326	327	328	329	330	331	332	333	334	335	336	337	338	339	340	341	342	343	344	345	346	347	348	349	350	351	352	353	354	355	356	357	358	359	360	361	362	363	364	365	366	367	368	369	370	371	372	373	374	375	376	377	378	379	380	381	382	383	384	385	386	387	388	389	390	391	392	393	394	395	396	397	398	399	400	401	402	403	404	405	406	407	408	409	410	411	412	413	414	415	416	417	418	419	420	421	422	423	424	425	426	427	428	429	430	431	432	433	434	435	436	437	438	439	440	441	442	443	444	445	446	447	448	449	450	451	452	453	454	455	456	457	458	459	460	461	462	463	464	465	466
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Department/agency	Enabling legislation and timeliness	Date on letter of transmittal	@ Date report submitted to minister (if known) % Date report received by minister (if known)	* Date report presented to President # Date tabled in the Senate ^ Date tabled in H/Representatives
Defence Portfolio				
Department of Veterans' Affairs	<i>Australian Constitution and Administrative Arrangements Order</i>	15 Oct 2013	@ 10 Oct 2013 % 14 Oct 2013	*29 Oct 2013 #12 Nov 2013 ^13 Nov2013
Incorporating the reports of ... Repatriation Commission and	FMA Act To be tabled by 31 October. <i>Veterans' Entitlement Act 1986, s215.</i> Minister to table within 15 days of receiving report.			
Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission	<i>Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004, s385 and Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988, s161.</i> [As soon as possible after 30 June]			

Scrutiny of reports tabled by 31 October 2012

Department/agency	Enabling legislation and timeliness	Date on letter of transmittal	@ Date report submitted to minister (if known) % Date report received by minister (if known)	* Date report presented to President # Date tabled in the Senate ^ Date tabled in H/Representatives
Defence Portfolio				
AAF Company	Commonwealth company, limited by guarantee <i>Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997</i> (CAC Act) To be tabled by 31 October.	16 Oct 2013	@ 10 Oct 2013 % 30 Oct 2013	* 22 Nov 2013 # 2 Dec 2013 ^ 2 Dec 2013
ASC Pty Ltd	ASC Pty Ltd is a proprietary company limited by shares registered under the Corporations Act and is subject to the CAC Act To be tabled by 31 October. *Forwarded to the Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee	4 Oct 2013	@ 4 Oct 2013 % 9 Oct 2013	# 13 Nov 2013 ^ 13 Nov 2013

Scrutiny of reports tabled by 31 October 2012				
Department/agency	Enabling legislation and timeliness	Date on letter of transmittal	@ Date report submitted to minister (if known) % Date report received by minister (if known)	* Date report presented to President # Date tabled in the Senate ^ Date tabled in H/Representatives
Defence Portfolio				
Army and Air Force Canteen Service (AAFCANS)	Established by regulations under the <i>Defence Act 1903</i> Commonwealth authority CAC Act To be tabled by 31 October.	20 Sept 2013	@19 Sept 2013 %20 Sept 2013	*28 Oct 2013 #12 Nov 2013 ^13 Nov 2013
Australian Strategic Policy Institute Limited	Commonwealth company, limited by guarantee CAC Act To be tabled by 31 October.	9 Oct 2013	@22 Oct 2013 %28 Oct 2013	*6 Nov 2013 #12 Nov 2013 ^13 Nov 2013
Australian War Memorial	<i>Australian War Memorial Act 1980, s4</i> Commonwealth authority CAC Act To be tabled by 31 October.	14 Aug 2013	@19 Sept 2013 %23 Sept 2013	*25 Oct 2013 #12 Nov 2013 ^13 Nov 2013
Defence Housing Australia	<i>Defence Housing Authority Act 1987, s4</i> Statutory Agency Commonwealth authority CAC Act To be tabled by 31 October.	15 Oct 2013	@22 Oct 2013 %29 Oct 2013	*6 Nov 2013 #12 Nov 2013 ^13 Nov 2013
Repatriation Medical Authority (RMA)	<i>Veterans' Entitlement Act 1986, s196B</i> No statutory reporting requirement	8 Oct 2013	@9 Oct 2013 %10 Oct 2013	*31 Oct 2013 #12 Nov 2013 ^13 Nov 2013

Scrutiny of reports tabled by 31 October 2012

Department/agency	Enabling legislation and timeliness	Date on letter of transmittal	@ Date report submitted to minister (if known) % Date report received by minister (if known)	* Date report presented to President # Date tabled in the Senate ^ Date tabled in H/Representatives
Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) Welfare Recreational Company	Commonwealth company, limited by guarantee CAC Act To be tabled by 31 October.	16 Oct 2013	@28 Oct 2013 %22 Nov 2013	#3 Dec 2013 ^2 Dec 2013
Royal Australian Air Force Veterans' Residences Trust Fund	<i>Royal Australian Air Force Veterans' Residences Act 1953</i> , s3 Commonwealth company, limited by guarantee CAC Act To be tabled by 31 October.	19 Sept 2013	@27 Sept 2013 %21 Oct 2013	*7 Nov 2013 #12 Nov 2013 ^13 Nov 2013
Royal Australian Navy Central Canteens Board (RANCCB)	Established by regulations under the <i>Defence Act 1910</i> . Commonwealth authority CAC Act To be tabled by 31 October.	5 Oct 2012	@28 Nov 2013 %6 Dec 2013	#11 Feb 2014 ^12 Dec 2013
Services Trust Funds—Royal Australian Navy Relief Trust Fund, Australian Military Forces Relief Trust Fund; and Royal Australian Air Force Welfare Trust Fund	<i>Services Trust Funds Act 1947</i> Commonwealth authorities CAC Act To be tabled by 31 October.	3 Oct 2013 4 Sept 2013 29 Aug 2013 respectively	@22 Oct 2013 %29 Oct 2013	*6 Nov 2013 #12 Nov 2013 ^13 Nov 2013

Scrutiny of reports tabled by 31 October 2012

Department/agency	Enabling legislation and timeliness	Date on letter of transmittal	@ Date report submitted to minister (if known) % Date report received by minister (if known)	* Date report presented to President # Date tabled in the Senate ^ Date tabled in H/Representatives
Veterans' Review Board	<i>Veterans' Entitlement Act 1986</i> , s215(4). Report to be submitted to the Minister as soon as practicable after 30 June. Minister to table within 15 sitting days of receiving report.	17 Sept 2013	@9 Oct 2013 %9 Oct 2013	*29 Oct 2013 #12 Nov 2013 ^13 Nov 2013

Scrutiny of reports tabled by 31 October 2012

Department/agency	Enabling legislation and timeliness	Date on letter of transmittal	@ Date report submitted to minister (if known) % Date report received by minister (if known)	* Date report presented to President # Date tabled in the Senate ^ Date tabled in H/Representatives
Foreign Affairs and Trade Portfolio				
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	<i>Australian Constitution and Administrative Arrangements Order</i> FMA Act To be tabled by 31 October.	19 Sept 2013	@10 Oct 2013 %10 Oct 2013	*30 Oct 2013 #12 Nov 2013 ^13 Nov 2013
Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID)	<i>Financial Management and Accountability Regulations 1997</i> Executive Agency Prescribed Agency FMA Act To be tabled by 31 October.	4 Oct 2013	@10 Oct 2013 %10 Oct 2013	*30 Oct 2013 #12 Nov 2013 ^13 Nov 2013
Australian Centre for International Agriculture Research (ACIAR)	<i>Australian Centre for International Agriculture Research Act 1982</i> , s4 Statutory Agency. Prescribed Agency FMA Act To be tabled by 31 October.	Oct 2013 (letter not dated)	@25 Sept 2013 %25 Sept 2013	*23 Oct 2013 [Erratum received 21 January 2014] #12 Nov 2013 ^13 Nov 2013

Scrutiny of reports tabled by 31 October 2012

Department/agency	Enabling legislation and timeliness	Date on letter of transmittal	@ Date report submitted to minister (if known) % Date report received by minister (if known)	* Date report presented to President # Date tabled in the Senate ^ Date tabled in H/Representatives
Australian Safeguards and Non-Proliferation Office	<i>Nuclear Non-Proliferation (Safeguards) Act 1987</i> , s51; <i>Chemical Weapons (Prohibition) Act 1994</i> , s96; <i>Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Act 1998</i> , s71. Minister to table within 15 sitting days of receiving report. Prescribed Agency FMA Act To be tabled by 31 October.	7 Oct 2013	@8 Oct 2013 %8 Oct 2013	*18 Oct 2013 #12 Nov 2013 ^13 Nov 2013
Australian Trade Commission (Austrade)	<i>Australian Trade Commission Act 1985</i> , s92. Minister to table within 15 sitting days of receiving report. Prescribed Agency FMA Act To be tabled by 31 October.	23 Sept 2013	@23 Sept 2013 %23 Sept 2013	*28 Oct 2013 #12 Nov 2013 ^13 Nov 2013
Export Finance and Insurance Corporation (EFIC)	<i>Export Finance and Insurance Corporation Act 1991</i> , s 6 Commonwealth authority CAC Act To be tabled by 31 October.	–	@15 Oct 2013 %15 Oct 2013	*28 Oct 2013 #12 Nov 2013 ^13 Nov2013

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Tourism Australia	<i>Tourism Australia Act 2004 s 5</i> Commonwealth authority CAC Act To be tabled by 31 October.	15 Oct 2013	@15 Oct 2013 %15 Oct 2013	*31 Oct 2013 #12 Nov 2013 ^13 Nov2013

