

Question on notice no. 284

Portfolio question number: SQ25-002488

2025-26 Supplementary Budget estimates

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee, Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts Portfolio

Senator the Hon. Matthew Canavan: asked the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts on 1 December 2025—

Senator CANAVAN: [...] Presumably not much will happen over Christmas, unless you tell me otherwise, so it will soon be two years since this review was presented to the minister. Are there any particular factors that have caused this delay?

Mr R Wood: I think, as the secretary indicated, part of the findings of the review may relate to future budget processes, so that would presumably be in the May budget sessions, if government decides to work on that basis.

Mr Betts: It's also provided in a reference point for previous budget decisions as well.

Senator CANAVAN: But there are ongoing concerns about the funding pressures that ATSB faces, so how does this give confidence to people that the government is taking these matters seriously when it looks like there's going to be a two-year delay in responding to a review?

Senator Chisholm: They were provided with additional money in the most recent budget—that's my understanding.

Mr R Wood: That's correct.

Senator CANAVAN: Why not just respond to the review and clear it up?

Senator Chisholm: I'm happy to take on notice when that will happen, but—

Senator CANAVAN: That was my next question: is there a deadline or a timeline?

Senator Chisholm: I did point out that we did provide additional money in the most recent budget.

Answer —

Please see PDF attachment.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport

QUESTION ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2025-2026

Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

Committee Question Number: 284

Departmental Question Number: SQ25-002488

Division/Agency Name: Ministerial Office - C.King's Office

Hansard Reference: Spoken, Page No. 103 (01 December 2025)

Topic: Ministerial response to the Skerritt review

Senator Matthew Canavan asked:

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Answer:

The Australian Government is currently considering the review to ensure safety agencies remain financially sustainable in the long term.