

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2014-15 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: Cross Outcome - Across Programs

Question No: 60

Topic: Commissioned reports

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Ludwig asked:

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

1. How many reports (including paid external advice) have been commissioned by the Minister, department or agency?
 - a) Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.
2. How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost? How many departmental or external staff were involved in each report and at what level?
3. What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?

Answer:

The definition of a 'report' used in providing an answer to this question on notice is any report authorised by Government, finalised, handed to Government and subsequently made public. Documents produced as a component of work for Cabinet committees, inter-departmental committees, Council of Australian Government (COAG) working groups and internal committees are excluded.

The reports that have been commissioned since the Budget Estimates in June 2014 are below.

Ministerial Dementia Forum – Options Paper	
Minister/Department/Agency	Minister Fifield, Department of Social Services
Date Commissioned	29 August 2014
Date Report Handed to Government	31 October 2014
Public Release Date	To be advised
Terms of Reference	N/A
Committee Members	70 Stakeholders including consumers, providers, practitioners and other experts led by a working group comprising: Associate Professor Susan Koch Ms Sue Pieters-Hawke Mr Glenn Rees Dr Stephen Judd Associate Professor Mark Yates Ms Natasha Chadwick Ms Louise O'Neill Facilitation was provided by KPMG

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Cost	\$60,000
No. of Staff Involved (by level)	Deputy Secretary, Group Manager x2, Branch Manager x3, EL2, EL1, APS5
Status	With Minister Fifield for review/approval
Government Response Due	Not applicable

Australia's State of Housing Affordability Report	
Minister/Department/Agency	Department of Social Services
Date Commissioned	23 June 2014
Date Report Handed to Government	The report is expected to be delivered to DSS by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) by 30 June 2015.
Public Release Date	To be determined by the AIHW in consultation with DSS
Terms of Reference	The report aims to provide a baseline set of indicators measuring dwelling and rental affordability in Australia. The commissioned work includes a scoping study to identify appropriate data sources and development of robust measures, to be followed by data collection, analysis and the report of findings.
Committee Members	Relevant staff members of AIHW and DSS are working in partnership on this project.
Cost	\$150,000 (GST exclusive)
No. of Staff Involved (by level)	DSS staff at different levels from the Housing and Homelessness Branch will be involved from time to time overseeing the project including managing the funding agreement. No DSS staff will be working on this full-time.
Status	Draft Scoping paper and baseline indicators are scheduled to be provided to DSS before the end of 2014.
Government Response Due	Not applicable