

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Budget Estimates Hearings May 2014
Communications Portfolio
Department of Communications

Question No: 543

Program No. 1.1

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Independent cost-benefit analysis and review of regulation

Senator Urquhart asked:

In reference to the *Independent cost-benefit analysis and review of regulation*:

- a. At the hearing Senator Pratt asked in relation to the CBA “Why not use independent bureaucrats? You have some very good people....You have some very good people within Treasury and other places that could do this work?” Because of interjections the question was not answered. Could you provide the answer?

Answer:

- (a) Governments have a range of options in terms of commissioning advice on policy issues. In this case the Government considered an independent expert panel that brought significant relevant background, expertise and experience provided the most independent, robust and transparent process. Treasury and Department of Finance officers have assisted the panel.