

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Legislation Committee**  
Answers to questions on notice  
**Environment portfolio**

**Question No:** 149  
**Hearing:** Supplementary Budget Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 3  
**Programme:** Australian Antarctic Division  
**Topic:** 20 YEAR AUSTRALIAN ANTARCTIC REVIEW  
**Hansard Page:** N/A  
**Question Date:** 29 October 2014  
**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Urquhart asked:**

How will the changes to the Division as a result of Budget cuts impede the AAD's ability to implement the Strategic Vision's recommendations?

**Answer:**

Dr Press was engaged as an independent expert to develop a report on a 20 Year Australian Antarctic Strategic Plan. Dr Press' report gives a frank assessment of the current situation and makes suggestions for how Australia's Antarctic interests might be advanced.

Recommendations in the report have not been costed. Some recommendations could be progressed by the Department of the Environment within existing resources. Other recommendations involve other agencies and longer-term decisions that will require careful consideration.

The Government will take an appropriate time to consider the report in detail and develop a response to its recommendations in coming months. Any new funding requirements will need to be considered as part of the normal budget process.