

**Senate Economics Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Additional Estimates

2015 - 2016

**Department/Agency: ACNC**

**Question: AET 1466-1468**

**Topic: Commissioned reports**

**Reference: written - 19 February 2016**

**Senator: Ludwig, Joe**

**Question:**

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1466. 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.

1467. 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?

1468. What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?

**Answer:**

1466. No reports have been commissioned by the ACNC during the time period specified. However, four ACNC commissioned reports that were procured prior to the period were delivered in the period specified.

a) On 22 May 2015, the ACNC commissioned the Centre for Social Impact at the University of NSW to produce a series of reports based on 2014 Annual Information Statement data. The series include four reports delivered to the ACNC between November 2015 and April 2016. These reports are launched publicly, but are not delivered to government, or subject to Terms of Reference or Committee members.

The reports and dates of release are:

- *Australian Charities 2014* report released 4 December 2015.
- *Australia's Disability Charities 2014* released 10 December 2015.
- *Australian Charities and Red Tape 2014* estimated release in April 2016.
- *Australia's International Charities 2014*: estimated release in May/June 2016.

1467. The total cost of the 2014 Annual Information Statement analysis reports is \$188,695 plus GST. The cost attributed to each report is:

- *Australian Charities 2014* report and planning for the series of reports: \$111,847 plus GST.
- *Australia's Disability Charities 2014*: \$24,539 plus GST.
- *Australian Charities and Red Tape 2014*: \$24,229 plus GST.
- *Australia's International Charities 2014*: \$28,080 plus GST.

\$122,248 plus GST of the costs of the report program was incurred after 14 September 2015.

The report program was coordinated by an EL1 Policy Manager. The ACNC Commissioner and three EL2 directors had some involvement on an advisory basis. Communications staff (1 x EL1, 1 x APS6, 1 x APS5) were involved in planning the design and launch of the reports. One EL2 Director of Information Technology produced the dataset for analysis by University of NSW.

1468. The status of each report:

- *Australian Charities 2014* released in December 2015.
- *Australia's Disability Charities 2014* was released in December 2015.
- *Australian Charities and Red Tape 2014* has been completed, and will be released in the first half of 2016.
- *Australia's International Charities* will be completed on 4 April 2016 and will be released during the first half of 2016.

No response is expected or required of government to any of these reports.