

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates

29 May – 31 May 2012

Question: BET 699

Topic: Reviews (IGT)

Hansard Page: Written (Received from Committee 13 June 2012)

Senator Bushby asked:

699. For this financial year to date:

- (a) How many Reviews are being undertaken?
- (b) What reviews have concluded, and for those that are still ongoing, when will those reviews be concluded?
- (c) Which of these reviews has been provided to Government?
- (d) When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?
- (e) What is the estimated cost of each of these Reviews?
- (f) What reviews are planned?
- (g) When will each of these reviews be concluded?

Answer:

699. a) Five.
- b) As at 31 May 2012:
- * Review into the ATO's administration of class rulings – publicly released in March 2012.
 - * Review into the ATO's compliance approaches to small and medium enterprises with annual turnovers between \$100 million and \$250 million and high wealth individuals – publicly released in April 2012.
 - * The Review into the ATO's use of Early and Alternative Dispute Resolution – publicly released in July 2012.
 - * The Review into the ATO's use of Benchmarking to Target the Cash Economy – submitted to the Minister in July 2012.
 - * The Review into improving the self assessment system – expected to be submitted to the Minister in August 2012.
- c) Refer to the response in (b) above.
- d) Review reports must be publicly released or tabled by the Minister within 25 Parliamentary sitting days after receipt by the Minister.
- e) Met out of existing budget.

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- f) All but one of the reviews on the current work program are expected to be completed by the end of August 2012. The one remaining review is the follow-up review into the ATO's implementation of IGT recommendations arising from IGT reports released since November 2008. This review is expected to commence in first quarter of the 2012-13 financial year. The IGT intends to settle a new work program of reviews in the first half of the 2012-13 financial year through public consultation. These reviews would commence upon announcement of their associated terms of reference.
- (g) The length of reviews can vary depending on the nature and extent of the reviews as well as resource availability. However, the agency generally aims to complete reviews within 6 to 12 months.