

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates

20-21 November 2013

Question: SBT 162-169

Topic: Reviews

Written: 25 November 2013

Senator LUDWIG asked:

162. Since 7 September 2013, how many new Reviews have been commenced? Please list them including:
- a. the date they were ordered
 - b. the date they commenced
 - c. the minister responsible
 - d. the department responsible
 - e. the nature of the review
 - f. their terms of reference
 - g. the scope of the review
 - h. Whom is conducting the review
 - i. the number of officers, and their classification level, involved in conducting the review
 - j. the expected report date
 - k. If the report will be tabled in parliament or made public
163. For any review commenced or ordered since 7 September 2013, have any external people, companies or contractors being engaged to assist or conduct the review?
- a. If so, please list them, including their name and/or trading name/s and any known alias or other trading names
 - b. If so, please list their managing director and the board of directors or equivalent
 - c. If yes, for each what are the costs associated with their involvement, broken down to each cost item
 - d. If yes, for each, what is the nature of their involvement
 - e. If yes, for each, are they on the lobbyist register, provide details.
 - f. If yes, for each, what contact has the Minister or their office had with them
 - g. If yes, for each, who selected them
 - h. If yes, for each, did the minister or their office have any involvement in selecting them,
 - i. If yes, please detail what involvement it was
 - ii. If yes, did they see or provided input to a short list
 - iii. If yes, on what dates did this involvement occur
 - iv. If yes, did this involve any verbal discussions with the department
 - v. If yes, on what dates did this involvement occur
164. Since 7 September 2013, what reviews are on-going? Please list them.
165. Since 7 September 2013, have any reviews been stopped, paused or ceased? Please list them.

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates

20-21 November 2013

166. Since Budget estimates, what reviews have concluded? Please list them.
167. Since 7 September 2013, how many reviews have been provided to Government? Please list them and the date they were provided.
168. When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?
169. What reviews are planned?
- a. When will each planned review be commenced?
 - b. When will each of these reviews be concluded?
 - c. When will government respond to each review?
 - d. Will the government release each review?
 - i. If so, when?
 - ii. If not, why not?

Answer:

162. Details on these questions are contained in the response to SBT40. The Treasurer is the responsible Minister for the Commission's work. All the Commission's reports are released publicly or tabled by the Government.
163. The Commission consults widely in the course of conducting reviews. No contractors have been engaged in undertaking its current reviews.
164. All the reviews listed in SBT40 that commenced since 7 September 2013 are ongoing.
165. Two reviews that were commenced prior to 7 September 2013 concluded recently: a study of Regulator Engagement with Small Business (released on 9 October 2013) and a study on Major Project Development Assessment Processes (released on 10 December 2013). The reports for these reviews were released publicly. Two safeguards inquiry reports, on Processed Fruit Products and Processed Tomato Imports, were also provided to Government on 12 December 2013 and are yet to be tabled.
166. Details are contained in the response to SBT165.
167. Details are contained in the response to SBT165.
168. The timing of Government responses is not known by the Productivity Commission.
169. Future review planning is decided by the Government.