

Senate Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates

2015 - 2016

Department/Agency: IGT

Question: SBT 2130-2137

Topic: Reviews

Reference: written - 30 October 2015

Senator: Wong, Penny

Question:

Since 1 January 2015:

2130. How many new reviews (defined as review, inter-departmental group, inquiry, internal review or similar activity) 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) Who is conducting the review
- i) the number of officers, and their classification level, involved in conducting the review
- j) the expected report date
- k) the budgeted, projected or expected costs
- l) If the report will be tabled in parliament or made public

2131. For any review commenced or ordered since Budget Estimates in June 2015, 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 is the cost associated with their involvement, including a break down for 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

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2132. Which reviews are on-going?
- Please list them.
 - What is the current cost to date expended on the reviews?
2133. Have any reviews been stopped, paused or ceased? Please list them.
2134. Which reviews have concluded? Please list them.
2135. How many reviews have been provided to Government? Please list them and the date they were provided.
2136. When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?
2137. What reviews are planned?
- When will each planned review be commenced?
 - When will each of these reviews be concluded?
 - When will government respond to each review?
 - Will the government release

Answer:

2130. **Two Inspector-General of Taxation (IGT) reviews, which are separately outlined below:**

- **Review into the ATO's employer obligations compliance activities:**
 - Announced as part of the IGT's work program on 10 April 2014.**
 - Terms of reference issued on 29 October 2015 and submissions close 11 December 2015.**
 - No minister is responsible for IGT reviews. However, upon completion of reviews, the IGT provides reports to the Minister who is required to publicly release them within 25 Parliamentary sitting days of receiving the reports.**
 - IGT**
 - A review into ATO's management of employer obligations compliance activities.**
 - The terms of reference and submission guidelines are outlined at: <http://igt.gov.au/files/2015/10/Employer-Obligations-Review-TOR.pdf>**
 - Refer to f) above.**
 - The IGT.**
 - An APS 5, APS 6, EL 1 and EL 2 officer, an SES Band 1 officer, and ultimately, the Deputy IGT and the IGT.**
 - Reviews generally take approximately twelve months from commencement depending on the level and number of issues to be explored.**
 - Met out of existing budget.**
 - Refer to c) above.**

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- **Review into the Taxpayers' Charter and taxpayer protections:**
 - a) **Announced as part of the IGT's work program on 10 April 2014.**
 - b) **Terms of reference issued on 2 November 2015 and submissions close 18 December 2015.**
 - c) **No minister is responsible for IGT reviews. However, upon completion of reviews, the IGT provides reports to the Minister who is required to publicly release them within 25 Parliamentary sitting days of receiving the reports.**
 - d) **IGT**
 - e) **A review into the Taxpayers' Charter and the rights and the protections afforded to taxpayers and related avenues for redress.**
 - f) **The terms of reference and submission guidelines are outlined at:**
<http://igt.gov.au/files/2015/10/Terms-of-reference-Taxpayers-Charter-review.pdf>
 - g) **Refer to f) above.**
 - h) **The IGT.**
 - i) **An APS 5, APS 6, EL 1 and EL 2 officer, an SES Band 1 officer, and ultimately, the Deputy IGT and the IGT.**
 - j) **Reviews generally take approximately twelve months from commencement depending on the level and number of issues to be explored.**
 - k) **Met out of existing budget.**
 - l) **Refer to c) above.**

2131. Not applicable.

- a) **Not applicable.**
- b) **Not applicable.**
- c) **Not applicable.**
- d) **Not applicable.**
- e) **Not applicable.**
- f) **Not applicable.**
- g) **Not applicable.**
- h) **Not applicable.**
 - i. **Not applicable.**
 - ii. **Not applicable.**
 - iii. **Not applicable.**
 - iv. **Not applicable.**
 - v. **Not applicable.**

2132. None.

- a) **Not applicable.**
- b) **Not applicable.**

2133. None.

2134. Concluded IGT reviews are:

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- **Review into the Australian Taxation Office's administration of valuation matters – publicly released 19 January 2015**
- **The management of tax disputes – publicly released 27 February 2015**
- **Debt Collection – publicly released 14 July 2015**
- **The Australian Taxation Office's services and support for tax practitioners – publicly released 20 July 2015**

2135. Nil as all reports provided to the Government have been released.

2136. Refer to SBT 2135 above.

2137. In 2016, the IGT plans to complete the two reviews referred to in SBT 2130 as well as develop a new work program of reviews.