

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 23-27 February 2015

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Outcome/Program: Outcome 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet
Topic: White Paper taskforces

Senator: Senator the Hon Penny Wong

Question reference number: 185

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 10 April 2015

Number of pages: 2

Question:

Can details of each White Paper taskforce in the department be provided, including:

(a) current staffing, including numbers and classifications of staff

In relation to each White Paper, can the following information be provided:

(a) timeline for the publication of issues papers, Green Papers and White Papers

(b) budget and cost to date

(c) details of any external contracts, including costs

Answer:

In relation to each White Paper taskforce in the department the following is provided as at 28 February 2015:

(a) staffing, including numbers and classifications of staff:

Reform of Federation White Paper		Northern Australia White Paper		Agriculture Competitiveness White Paper	
Classification	Number of staff	Classification	Number of staff	Classification	Number of staff
SES Band 2	1	SES Band 2	1	SES Band 2	1
SES Band 1	3	SES Band 1	1.7	SES Band 1	2
EL 2	5	EL 2	3	EL 2	2
EL 1	5	EL 1	5	EL 1	3
APS 6	4	APS 6	0	APS 6	2
APS 5	1	APS 5	1	APS 5	2
Other	1	Other	0	Other	0
Total	20	Total	11.7	Total	12

(a) proposed timeline for the publication of issues papers, Green Papers and White Papers

	Reform of Federation White Paper	Northern Australia White Paper	Agriculture Competitiveness White Paper
Issues Paper	Issues paper 1 published 12 September 2014 Issues papers 2 & 3 published 11 December 2014 Issues paper 4 published 23 December 2014 Issues paper 5 published 4 February 2015		Released 6 February 2014
Green Paper	¹ Likely in the second half of 2015	Released 10 June 2014	Released 20 October 2014
White Paper	¹ Likely in the first half of 2016	¹ By mid-2015	Within coming months as decided by Government

¹ Indicative only

(b) budget and cost to date¹

Reform of Federation White Paper		Northern Australia White Paper		Agriculture Competitiveness White Paper	
Budget 2013-14 and 2014-15	Cost ²	Indicative Budget 2013-14 and 2014-15	Cost ²	Indicative Budget 2013-14 and 2014-15	Cost ²
\$2.3 million	Approx \$2.4 million	\$2.9 million	Approx \$3.1 million	\$3.0 million	Approx \$2.7 million

¹ Figures provided as at 28 February 2015 and all costs are being absorbed within existing departmental budgets.

² The figures include – where applicable - the cost of resources supplied by the department, other state and Commonwealth government agencies and other external agencies.

(c) details of any external contracts, including costs

Reform of Federation White Paper	Nil as at 28 February 2015
Northern Australia White Paper	Nil as at 28 February 2015
Agriculture Competitiveness White Paper	Nil as at 28 February 2015