

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2014-15

Finance Portfolio

Department/Agency: Finance

Outcome/Program: General

Topic: Commission of Audit recommendations - general

Senator: Ludwig

Question reference number: F251

Type of question: Written

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Number of pages: 1

Question:

What recommendations in the media release of 13 May 2014 relating to the Commission of Audit recommendations of 13 May 2014 that have the status "...will be considered following the 2014-15 Budget" have been ruled out as not being further considered, apart from recommendation 28 on the Minimum Wage?

With regards to the all the recommendations in the media release of 13 May 2014 that are under consideration by the Government, who is responsible for overseeing them? Is there a central coordinating agency or are individual departments/agencies responsible for the recommendations that are relevant to them?

Is any further work being done by Finance in relation to any recommendations that have already been reflected in some way in the 2014-15 Budget?

If so, can you detail which ones?

If so, can you provide a short description of the type of work being done in relation to those recommendations?

Answer:

The National Commission of Audit report is a report to the Government; it is not a report by the Government. The National Commission of Audit report shows that the spending trajectory is unsustainable and needs to be addressed, and recommends a range of reforms.

The National Commission of Audit was an important input to the Government's policy deliberations and many of the policy issues raised in the National Commission of Audit have been considered by Government when preparing the 2014-15 Budget. It is up to the Government to determine what recommendations will be considered further.

Budget measures managed in the Finance portfolio are being progressed in accordance with decisions of Government, not in accordance with recommendations of the National Commission of Audit. All Budget measures that Finance is responsible for are being implemented.