

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates 26 May-6 June 2014

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1 Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: Reviews

Senator: Senator the Hon Joe Ludwig

Question reference number: 310

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 11 July 2014

Number of pages: 3

Question:

1. Since Additional Estimates in February, 2014, 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. 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. the budgeted, projected or expected costs
 - l. If the report will be tabled in parliament or made public
2. For any review commenced or ordered since Additional Estimates in February, 2014, 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

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- 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
3. Since Additional Estimates in February, 2014, what reviews are on-going?
- a. Please list them.
 - b. What is the current cost to date expended on the reviews?
4. Since Additional Estimates in February, 2014, have any reviews been stopped, paused or ceased? Please list them.
5. Since Additional Estimates in February, 2014, what reviews have concluded? Please list them.
6. Since Additional Estimates in February, 2014, how many reviews have been provided to Government? Please list them and the date they were provided.
7. When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?
8. 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?
 - e. If so, when? If not, why not?

Answer:

1. Nil

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2. N/A

3. Ongoing reviews since Additional Estimates in February 2014:

a. Name	b. Current cost to date
Renewable Energy Target (RET) Review Expert Panel	\$326,167 has been expended as at 31 May 2014. This does not include salaries of the Secretariat staff.
White Paper on Developing Northern Australia	Refer to PM 91
White Paper on the Reform of the Federation	Refer to PM 91
White Paper on Agriculture Competitiveness	Refer to PM 91
Industry Investment and Competitiveness Agenda Taskforce	Refer to PM 113
Review of Indigenous Training and Employment Programs	\$269,140 has been expended as at 30 April 2014. Costs incurred include travel, accommodation for public consultations, site visits and stakeholder meetings and communication costs (advertising, printing, courier services, Aboriginal language interpreters and the delivery of Welcome to Country).

4. None.

5. Three – The Interdepartmental Committee on Intercountry Adoption; the Indigenous Programme Review; and the Review of the roles and function of native title organisations.

6. Two – The Review of the roles and function of native title organisations was handed to the Government on 28 March 2014 and the Report of the Interdepartmental Committee on Intercountry Adoption was submitted to the Prime Minister on 17 April 2014

7. The Prime Minister noted the Report of the Interdepartmental Committee on Intercountry Adoption on 30 April 2014. The Prime Minister issued a media release on 5 May 2014 outlining reform and action on intercountry adoption, arising from the recommendations in the Report.

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The time frame for a response to Review of the roles and function of native title organisations is a matter for the Government to decide.

8. Any new reviews are a matter for the Government to decide.