

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**BUDGET ESTIMATES (SUPPLEMENTARY HEARINGS) 2013-2014**

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

**Department/Agency:** Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman

**Outcome/Program:**

Outcome 1. Fair and accountable administrative action by Australian Government agencies by investigating complaints, reviewing administrative action and inspecting statutory compliance by law enforcement agencies.

**Topic:** Reviews

**Senator:** Senator Ludwig

**Question reference number:** 160

**Type of question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 17 January 2014

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

- (1) 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?
- (2) 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

- (3) Since 7 September 2013, what reviews are on-going? Please list them.
- (4) Since 7 September 2013, have any reviews been stopped, paused or ceased? Please list them.
- (5) Since Budget estimates, what reviews have concluded? Please list them.
- (6) Since 7 September 2013, 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?
  - f. If not, why not?

**Answer:**

- (1) Since 7 September 2013, the Office has not conducted any new Reviews.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) Not applicable.
- (4) Not applicable.
- (5) Not applicable.
- (6) Nil.
- (7) Not applicable.
- (8) Nil.