

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Group: Written

Program: Other Agency

Question: BE14/066

Senator Waters asked the following question at the hearing on 26-29 May 2014:

Regarding recent reports which described perceptions that women have equal career opportunities, but are themselves to blame for failing to reach the top,

1. Does the Sex Discrimination Commissioner agree that these perceptions are prevalent?
2. Why do you think this is the case?
3. Is there a policy response to these perceptions which anyone in government is adopting?
4. Do such perceptions reinforce the need for strong Workplace Gender Equality reporting requirements?

Regarding your recent work on Supporting Working Parents: Pregnancy and Return to Work National Review,

5. When is the final report due? Is it on track for the end of June 2014?

Regarding the 2014/15 Federal Budget,

6. Are there any particular budget plans that you would caution the Government against following through on?
7. Did you have the opportunity prior to the budget being finalised to advise the Government on sex discrimination issues relevant to budget measures?
8. Have you had the opportunity to input post budget on its implications?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

1-4: This is asking for an opinion.

5: The final report for the *Supporting Working Parents: Pregnancy and Return to Work National Review* will be publicly launched at the end of July 2014.

6-8: This is asking for an opinion.