

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates

23 – 24 February 2011

Question No: AET 181

Topic: Superannuation Statistics and Stronger Super

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bushby asked:

Superannuation statistics and Stronger Super

The Cooper Review proposes that APRA should only develop superannuation performance data at an investment option level for MySuper products. This is inconsistent with APRA's pre-Cooper Review undertakings that performance data should be published as investment option level in all regulated funds.

From June 2010 Senate Estimates:

Senator BUSHBY—Does APRA intend to publish data at an investment option level or are you still holding off until the Cooper review comes out?

Mr Chapman (APRA)—The answer is yes and yes. We do intend to publish it but we are not going to start the process of designing the collection until after Cooper has reported and we know what is happening there. Then of course we will have the normal time lag problem of how long it is before we can publish that data.

- Now that Stronger Super has been released with a Government commitment that APRA should continue developing enhanced super statistics, how long does APRA estimate it will need to develop its new statistical collection?
- What is APRA's view of the Stronger Super endorsement of the Cooper recommendations in respect of superannuation performance data for consumers?
- Does APRA remain committed to producing investment option level performance data?

Answer:

1. APRA is awaiting the outcomes of Treasury's current consultation process on the Stronger Super reforms to guide the development of our statistical collection. A number of the reform areas have implications for data collection so APRA cannot fully specify its preferred collections until that consultation process has been completed. APRA expects to consult with industry on draft reporting standards in 2012 and to have new statistical collections in place when MySuper products become available, with a view to the first data being submitted to APRA for reporting periods after 1 July 2013.
2. APRA supports enhancing statistical data collections for superannuation. As stated above, APRA is awaiting the outcomes of Treasury's current consultation process to assist APRA's development of an approach to publishing investment

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performance data that would improve transparency, comparability and accountability in relation to fees, costs and investment returns, including for MySuper products.

3. APRA intends to collect and publish investment option level performance data for MySuper products as part of the enhanced statistical data collection. For non-MySuper products, APRA will consult with stakeholders on whether the additional data collection should be extended to each investment option or restricted to, for example, each of the top 15 by members or assets or for a minimum threshold in terms of assets or members, as proposed in APRA's May 2009 consultation package on enhanced data collection. APRA intends to continue with its fund-level performance collections and publications.