

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2011-2012

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Australian Public Service Commission
Outcome/Program: Cross Portfolio
Topic: Reviews

Senator: Fifield

Question reference number: 136

Type of question: Written

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Number of pages: 2

Question:

1. How many Reviews are currently being undertaken by all departments and agencies in each portfolio?
2. When will each of these reviews be concluded?
3. What reviews have been concluded FYTD?
4. Which of these reviews has been provided to Government?
5. When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?
6. What is the estimated cost of each of these Reviews?
7. What further reviews are planned for 2010 - 11 FY?

Answer:

1-6. Consistent with previous responses to this question, a 'review' is taken to be a formal examination of an area of government policy undertaken by the Australian Public Service Commission and to which a Government response is expected. On that basis, the following reviews have been, or are being undertaken:

	Title	When review is expected to be concluded	Reviews concluded FYTD	Whether provided to Government	When Government will be responding	Estimated cost of review
1	Review of APS Enterprise Bargaining Arrangements		Yes	Yes	The Government responded in January 2011.	Review undertaken by APSC staff and secondees from other departments – cost absorbed.

	Title	When review is expected to be concluded	Reviews concluded FYTD	Whether provided to Government	When Government will be responding	Estimated cost of review
2	Review of APS Senior Executive Service		Yes	Yes	The Government is considering the Report.	\$482,480 consultants' costs. APSC staff assisted.
3	APS Capability Reviews	A series of capability reviews of individual departments is currently being piloted.	As at the end of June 2011, one pilot capability review has been completed and one is underway.	No. The outcomes of individual capability reviews are provided to the Secretary of the department concerned.	The Government is expected to consider whether to establish an ongoing program of capability reviews in late 2011.	The first pilot review was undertaken using consultants and APSC staff. Consultants cost \$244,211. Costs are not as yet available for the pilot currently underway.
4	APS Values and Legislation		Yes	Yes	The Government has considered the outcomes of the review of APS Values as part of the broader suite of proposals on legislative amendment to be brought before Parliament in the Spring Sitting 2011.	Review undertaken by APSC staff—cost absorbed.

7. No further reviews are planned for 2010-11.