

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates Hearing 27 May-6 June 2013

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1 Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: COAG reports

Senator: Senator Payne

Question reference number: 33

Type of Question: FPA, Monday 27 May 2013, Page 96

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 12 July 2013

Number of pages: 2

Question:

Senator PAYNE: On the CRC website, it indicates that there a report was submitted on 30 April on housing affordability and there is an NPA on teacher quality as well. Where are they up to?

Ms Cross: They may not have been publicly released yet. The first five that Mr Hazlehurst read out have been provided to COAG and publicly released. The affordable housing one has not yet been publicly released.

Senator PAYNE: But it has been provided to COAG?

Mr Hazlehurst: Only one of the ones that I read out—or maybe two or three, possibly—have been publicly released.

Ms Cross: We will check that for you. Some of them have been provided to COAG and not yet publicly released.

Mr Hazlehurst: I do not believe that we have a report on affordable housing, though.

Senator PAYNE: It is one of the 2011-12 comparing performance across Australia reports.

Mr Hazlehurst: We will need to clarify.

Senator PAYNE: Can you also clarify on the teacher quality one, then, please?

Mr Hazlehurst: I have some information about that one, which is that, while the website shows that that report was submitted to COAG on 30 April, in fact the report is now at the consultation draft. The CRC intends to submit a final report to COAG by 12 June.

Senator PAYNE: That is a bit of a difference.

Mr Hazlehurst: That is the information that I have.

Senator PAYNE: They are ahead of themselves, are they, on their website?

Mr Hazlehurst: Yes, I guess so.

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Senator PAYNE: That is maybe also the case for the affordable housing one, then.

Mr Hazlehurst: It could be.

Senator PAYNE: If you could check that for me, that would be helpful.

Mr Hazlehurst: Yes.

Senator PAYNE: You were also going to tell me which ones have been publicly released and which ones have not.

Mr Hazlehurst: It may be that the information that I have in front of me is actually a bit out of date. I would like to confirm it. I believe that at least the first three of the ones that I read out before have been released. But let me check that and I will come back to the committee before the completion of PM&C's time at the table.

Answer:

The 2011-12 CRC report of the National Affordable Housing Agreement (NAHA) is focused on homelessness, and titled "Homelessness 2011-12: Comparing Performance across Australia". This is because the source of data for homelessness, which is one of the focus areas under the NAHA, is the census and only available every five years. All 2013 CRC reports to date are listed below.

CRC Reports	Submitted to COAG	Public Release Date
Coal Seam Gas and Large Coal Mining Development: Period 1 assessment report	28 February 2013	2 April 2013
Healthcare 2011-12: Comparing Performance Across Australia	30 April 2013	24 May 2013
Disability 2011-12: Comparing Performance Across Australia	30 April 2013	24 May 2013
Homelessness 2011-12: Comparing Performance Across Australia [NAHA report]	30 April 2013	5 June 2013
Indigenous Reform 2011-12: Comparing Performance Across Australia	30 April 2013	5 June 2013
National Partnership on Improving Public Hospital Services: Performance report for 2012	31 May 2013	13 June 2013
National Partnership on Improving Teacher Quality: Performance Report for 2012	12 June 2013	Scheduled for 10 July 2013