

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

Group 2

Program 1.1

Question No. 54

Senator Brandis asked the following question at the hearing on 12 February 2013:

1. At the last round of Supplementary Budget Estimates, the Department advised that in 2011-12, 95 reviews were opened in relation to reports of non-compliance with the legal services directions. The Department later advised in response to a question on notice of 16 October 2012 that 60 of those reviews were finalised.
 - a. Of the remaining 35, how many have now been finalised?
2. Since the Supplementary Budget Estimates:
 - a. How many new reviews have been opened in respect of compliance with the legal services directions?
 - b. Do any of these new reviews relate to a breach of the model litigant rules?

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

1. a. Of the 35 reviews referred to in the question, 22 have been finalised as at 1 March 2013.
2. a. In the 2012-13 financial year to date (as at 1 March 2013), the Department has opened 16 new reviews in respect of compliance with the *Legal Services Directions 2005*. Of these 16 reviews, 15 have been finalised as at 1 March 2013.
 - b. Of the 16 reviews referred to in the answer to question 2a. above, 7 relate to the model litigant obligation.