

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

**Question No. 101**

**Senator Humphries asked the following question at the hearing on 18 October 2011:**

Commissioned Reports

- a) How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in your portfolio for the year 2010-11? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.
- b) How much did each report cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?
- c) What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?
- d) How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in your portfolio FYTD? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.
- e) How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?
- f) What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?

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

No reports have been commissioned for 2010-11 or 1 July to 18 October 2011 for the following agencies: Australian Crime Commission, Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity, Australian Customs and Border Protection Service, Australian Federal Police, Australian Security Intelligence Organisation, Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions, CrimTrac, High Court of Australia, Insolvency and Trustee Service Australia, Office of Parliamentary Counsel.

**Attorney-General's Department**

One particular report, commissioned by the Attorney-General's Department and delivered during 2010-11, is not included in the response to this question on notice. Release of the particulars of this report is not in the public interest because it would be contrary to the longstanding convention that strict confidentiality attaches to the deliberations of Cabinet.

**Australian Human Rights Commission**

a)-c) Two reports (arising out of one review) have been commissioned in 2010-11. Further details are in the table below.

d)-f) No reports have been commissioned in the period 1 July 2011 to 18 October 2011.

**Australian Law Reform Commission**

a)-c) Three reports have been commissioned in 2010-11. Further details are in the table below.

d)-f) No reports have been commissioned in the period 1 July 2011 to 18 October 2011.

**Attorney-General's Portfolio – Commissioned Reports 2010-11**

Agency	Title	Date commissioned	Date received	Date released	Terms of reference	Committee members	Cost (exclusive of GST)	ALRC Staff (number and level)	Current status	Response date
Australian Human Rights Commission	Review into the Treatment of Women at the Australian Defence Academy (Phase 1) and the Australian Defence Force (Phase 2)	11/4/2011	24/10/2011	Report of Phase 1: 03/11/2011	<p>The Review Panel, led by the Sex Discrimination Commissioner, will review, report and make recommendations on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The treatment of women at the Australian Defence Force Academy with a particular focus on the adequacy and appropriateness of measures to: promote gender equality, ensure women's safety, and to address and prevent sexual harassment and abuse, and sex discrimination;</li> <li>• Initiatives required to drive cultural change in the treatment of women at the Australian Defence Force Academy, including the adequacy and effectiveness of existing initiatives and of approaches to training, education, mentoring and development;</li> <li>• The effectiveness of the cultural change strategies recommended by the Chief of the Defence Force Women's Reference Group in the Women's Action Plan including the implementation of these strategies across the Australian Defence Force;</li> <li>• Measures and initiatives required to improve the pathways for increased representation of women into the senior ranks and leadership of the Australian Defence Force; and</li> <li>• Any other matters the Panel considers appropriate that are incidental to the above terms of reference.</li> </ul> <p>Additionally, 12 months after the release of the Panel's report (the Report), a further independent Report will be prepared which:</p> <p>Audits the implementation of the recommendations in the Panel's Report by the Australian Defence Force Academy and the Australian Defence Force more broadly; and makes any further recommendations</p>	The reports are overseen by an Expert Panel comprising: Ms Elizabeth Broderick (Chair) Ms Sam Mostyn Mr Mark Ney Dr Damian Powell.	The cost of the Report into Phase 1 was \$690,872.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EL2 2</li> <li>• EL1 1</li> <li>• APS5 1</li> <li>• APS4 1</li> <li>• APS3 1</li> </ul>	The report of Phase 1 of the Review has been released. The Report into Phase 2 will be released in 2012.	This is a matter for the Minister for Defence

					<p>necessary to advance the treatment of women at the Australian Defence Force Academy and in the Australian Defence Force.</p> <p>The Panel will consult widely in conducting the Review.</p> <p>In preparing the Report the Panel may have regard to the evidence and available outcomes of the additional reviews announced by the Minister for Defence in April 2011.</p> <p>The Panel may release interim reports addressing different elements of the terms of reference ahead of the completion of the Report.</p>					
Australian Law Reform Commission	Commonwealth Laws and Family Violence	9/7/10	30/11/11	<p>Yet to be released.</p> <p>This is a matter for the Attorney-General</p>	<p>The Attorney-General refers to the Australian Law Reform Commission for inquiry and report, pursuant to subsection 20(1) of the <i>Australian Law Reform Commission Act 1996</i> (Cth), the issue of the treatment of family/domestic violence in Commonwealth laws, including child support and family assistance law, immigration law, employment law, social security law, superannuation law and privacy provisions in relation to those experiencing family/domestic violence.</p> <p>I request that the Commission consider what, if any, improvements could be made to relevant legal frameworks to protect the safety of those experiencing family/domestic violence.</p>	<p>The ALRC constituted five expert Advisory Panels for each area under review for this Inquiry</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Child support</b></p> <p>Prem Aleema, Director, Child Support Team, Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman</p> <p>Cameron Brown, Director, Cross Payment Management, Income Support Programs Branch, Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations</p> <p>Sally Cole, Solicitor, Legal Aid NSW</p> <p>Jennifer Cooke, First Assistant Secretary, Program Management, Child Support Agency</p> <p>Lee Hansen, Principal Solicitor, Welfare Rights Centre</p> <p>Professor Patrick Parkinson, Sydney Law School, University of Sydney</p> <p>Professor Bruce Smyth, Australian National University</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Employment</b></p> <p>Catherine Davis, Women's Committee, Australian Council of Trade Unions and Women's Officer, Australian Education Union</p> <p>David Gregory, Director Workplace Policy, Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry</p> <p>Therese MacDermott, Senior Lecturer, Macquarie Law School</p> <p>Ludo McFerran, Project Officer, Australian Domestic and Family Violence Clearinghouse</p>	\$426,718	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SLO (EL2) x 1</li> <li>• LO (EL1) x 4</li> <li>• APS 5 x 1</li> </ul>	Four Issues Papers were released in February 2011. A Discussion Paper was issued in August 2011. The Final Report will be completed by the end of November 2011.	This is a matter for the Attorney-General.

					<p>Sarah McKinnon, Principal Government Lawyer, Bargaining and Coverage Branch, Workplace Relations Legal Group, Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Migration</b></p> <p>Professor Mary Crock, Sydney Law School, University of Sydney</p> <p>Robert Day, Director, Family Section, Family and Health Policy Branch, Department of Immigration and Citizenship</p> <p>Chris Yuen, then Principal Solicitor, Immigration Advice and Rights Centre Inc</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Social Security</b></p> <p>Cameron Brown, Director, Cross Payment Management, Income Support Programs Branch, Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations</p> <p>Professor Terry Carney, Sydney Law School, University of Sydney</p> <p>Jennifer Cooke, First Assistant Secretary, Program Management, Child Support Agency</p> <p>Paul Cramer, Section Manager, Communities NSW/ACT, Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs</p> <p>Alison Frame, First Assistant Secretary, Social Policy Delivery and Planning, Department of Human Services</p> <p>Lee Hansen, Principal Solicitor, Welfare Rights Centre</p> <p>Justine Jones, Director, Social Support Team, Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Superannuation</b></p> <p>Tom Garcia, Policy and Regulatory Manager, Australian Institute of Superannuation Trustees</p> <p>David Graus, General Manager Policy and Industry Practice, Association of Superannuation Funds of Australia</p> <p>Tony Keir, Senior Policy Adviser, Association of Superannuation Funds of Australia</p> <p>Michelle Levy, Law Council of Australia Superannuation Committee (Legal Practice Section) and Partner, Mallesons Stephen Jaques.</p>				
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Australian Law Reform Commission	National Classification Scheme Review.	24/3/11	Due 30/1/12	<p>Yet to be released.</p> <p>This is a matter for the Attorney-General</p>	<p>The Attorney-General referred to the ALRC for inquiry and report pursuant to subsection 20(1) of the <i>Australian Law Reform Commission Act 1996</i>, matters relating to the extent to which the <i>Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995</i> (the Classification Act), State and Territory Enforcement legislation, Schedules 5 and 7 of the Broadcasting Services Act 1992, and the Intergovernmental Agreement on Censorship and related laws continue to provide an effective framework for the classification of media content in Australia.</p>	<p>Dr Jeffrey Brand, Associate Dean and Head of School of Communication and Media, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Bond University.</p> <p>Associate Professor Jane Burns, Chief Executive Officer, Co-operative Research Centre for Young People, Technology and Well-being.</p> <p>Simon Bush, CEO, Australian Home Entertainment Distributors Association.</p> <p>Simon Cordina, Assistant Secretary, Cyber-Safety and Trade, Department of Broadband Communications and the Digital Economy.</p> <p>David Court, Head of the Centre for Screen Business, Australian Film, Television and Radio School.</p> <p>Ron Curry, CEO, Interactive Games &amp; Entertainment Association.</p> <p>Jane Fitzgerald, Assistant Secretary, Classification Branch, Attorney-General's Department.</p> <p>Iarla Flynn, Head of Public Policy and Government Affairs, Google Australia and New Zealand.</p> <p>Fiona Jolly, CEO, Advertising Standards Bureau.</p> <p>Tom Kennedy, Executive Director, Group Digital Services, Omnilab Media.</p> <p>Bryce Menzies, Marshall + Dent Lawyers.</p> <p>Donald McDonald AC, Director, Classification Board.</p> <p>Louise McElvogue, Convergence Review Committee.</p> <p>Jonquil Ritter, Executive Director, Citizen &amp; Community Branch, Australian Communications and Media Authority.</p> <p>Tim Watts, Regulatory Manager, Regulatory Affairs, Strategy &amp; Corporate Services, Telstra.</p> <p>The Hon Justice Susan Kenny, Federal Court, Melbourne</p> <p>The Hon Justice Berna Collier, Federal Court, Brisbane</p>	\$77,467	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PLO(EL2) x 1</li> <li>• SLO (EL2)x 2</li> <li>• PO (EL1) x 1(on secondment from AGD)</li> <li>• APS 5 x 1</li> </ul>	<p>Issues Paper and Discussion Paper have been released. Over 2,500 submissions have been received to date. Final Report due at end of January 2012.</p>	<p>This is a matter for the Attorney-General.</p>
----------------------------------	--	---------	-------------	---	---	--	----------	---	--	---