

**THE SPEAKER'S SCHEDULE OF  
OUTSTANDING GOVERNMENT RESPONSES  
TO REPORTS OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND  
JOINT COMMITTEES**

(also incorporating reports tabled and details of Government responses  
made in the period between  
3 December 2015, the date of the last schedule, and 4 May 2016)

5 May 2016

## **THE SPEAKER'S SCHEDULE OF OUTSTANDING GOVERNMENT RESPONSES TO COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The attached schedule lists committee reports tabled and government responses to House and joint committee reports made since the last schedule was presented on 3 December 2016. It also lists reports for which the House has not received a government response. Schedules of outstanding responses will continue to be presented at approximately six monthly intervals, generally in the last sitting weeks of the winter and spring sittings.

The schedule does not include advisory reports on bills introduced into the House of Representatives unless the reports make recommendations which are wider than the provisions of the bills and which could be the subject of a government response. The Government's response to these reports is apparent in the resumption of consideration of the relevant legislation by the House. Also not included are reports from the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, the House of Representatives Committee of Privileges and Members' Interests, and the Publications Committee (other than reports on inquiries). Reports from the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights are only listed where the committee has examined and reported on a specific item(s) of existing legislation. Not listed are that committee's regular reports on the human rights compatibility of bills and legislative instruments that come before either House of Parliament.

Government responses to reports of the Public Works Committee are usually reflected in motions for the approval of works after the relevant report has been presented and considered. Reports from other committees which do not include recommendations are only included when first tabled.

Reports of the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit primarily make administrative recommendations but may make policy recommendations. A government response is required in respect of such policy recommendations made by the committee. Responses to administrative recommendations are made in the form of an Executive Minute provided to, and subsequently tabled by, the committee. Agencies responding to administrative recommendations are required to provide an Executive Minute within six months of the tabling of a report.

The attached schedule now includes a table which provides a summary of responses received and responses outstanding for the last four parliaments.

5 May 2016

Table of responses received and outstanding (current as of 4 May 2016):

<b>Parliament</b>	<b>Awaiting response (six month period expired)</b>	<b>Awaiting response (six month period not expired)</b>	<b>Response received (six month period expired)</b>	<b>Response received (six month period not expired)</b>
<b>41st</b>	1			
<b>42nd</b>	6			
<b>43rd</b>	17		2	
<b>44th</b>	23	23	10	4

Description of Report	Date Tabled or Published <sup>1</sup>	Date of Government Response <sup>2</sup>	Responded in Period Specified <sup>3</sup>
<b>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs (House, Standing)</b>			
Everybody's Business: Remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Stores	16-11-09	No response to date <sup>4</sup>	No
Sport: More than just a game—Contribution of sport to Indigenous wellbeing and mentoring	24-06-13	No response to date	No
<b>Agriculture and Industry (House, Standing)</b>			
Circumvention: closing the loopholes—Inquiry into Australia's anti-circumvention framework in relation to anti-dumping measures	01-06-15	15-03-16	No
Smart farming—Inquiry into agricultural innovation	04-05-16	No response to date	Time has not expired
<b>Agriculture, Resources, Fisheries and Forestry (House, Standing)</b>			
Report on the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation Annual Report 2011-12	28-05-13	11-02-16	No
<b>Australia Fund Establishment (Joint, Select)</b>			
Joint Select Committee on the Australia Fund Establishment: Report 2015	25-06-15	No response to date	No
<b>Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity (Joint, Statutory)</b>			
Integrity of overseas Commonwealth law enforcement operations	24-06-13	No response to date	No
Examination of the Annual Report of the Integrity Commissioner 2014-15	02-03-16	No response to date	Time has not expired

Description of Report	Date Tabled or Published <sup>1</sup>	Date of Government Response <sup>2</sup>	Responded in Period Specified <sup>3</sup>
<b>Broadcasting Legislation (Joint, Select)</b>			
Three broadcasting reform proposals	24-06-13	No response to date	No
<b>Climate Change, Environment and the Arts (House, Standing)</b>			
Managing Australia's biodiversity in a changing climate: the way forward—Final report	17-06-13	02-05-16	No
<b>Constitutional Recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples (Joint, Select)</b>			
Progress report	27-10-14	No response to date	No
Final report	25-06-15	No response to date	No
<b>Corporations and Financial Services (Joint, Statutory)</b>			
Report on the 2012-13 Annual Reports of bodies established under the ASIC Act	19-03-14	No response to date	No
Statutory oversight of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission, the Takeovers Panel and the Corporations Legislation	26-11-14	No response to date	No
Inquiry into proposals to lift the professional, ethical and education standards in the financial services industry	19-12-14	No response to date	No
<b>Economics (House, Standing)</b>			
Review of the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority annual report 2014 (Third report)	7-12-15	No response required	

Description of Report	Date Tabled or Published <sup>1</sup>	Date of Government Response <sup>2</sup>	Responded in Period Specified <sup>3</sup>
Review of the Reserve Bank of Australia annual report 2015 (First report)	13-04-16	No response to date	Time has not expired
Review of the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority Annual Report 2015 (First Report)	13-04-16	No response required	
Review of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission Annual Report 2015 (First Report)	13-04-16	No response required	
<b>Education and Training (House, Standing)</b>			
Adolescent Overload? Report of the inquiry into combining school and work: supporting successful youth transitions	16-11-09	No response to date <sup>5</sup>	No
<b>Education and Employment (House, Standing)</b>			
International education support and collaboration: Review of the 2010-2011 annual report of the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations	27-05-13	15-03-16	No
TAFE: an Australian asset—Report of the inquiry into TAFE and its operation	24-11-14	No response to date	No
Getting business booming: Report on the inquiry into barriers for small business employment	15-03-16	No response to date	Time has not expired
<b>Electoral Matters (Joint, Standing)</b>			
Inquiry into the implications of the <i>Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Amendment (Automatic Enrolment) Act 2009</i> (NSW) for the conduct of Commonwealth elections	25-02-10	No response to date <sup>6</sup>	No

<b>Description of Report</b>	<b>Date Tabled or Published<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Date of Government Response<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Responded in Period Specified<sup>3</sup></b>
The 2010 Federal Election: Report on the conduct of the election and related matters	07-07-11	No response to date <sup>7</sup>	No
Report on the funding of political parties and election campaigns	09-12-11	No response to date <sup>8</sup>	No
Review of the AEC analysis of the FWA report on the HSU	20-09-12	No response to date <sup>9</sup>	No
Interim report on the inquiry into the conduct of the 2013 Federal Election: Senate voting practices	09-05-14	No response to date	No
Second interim report on the inquiry into the conduct of the 2013 federal election: An assessment of electronic voting options	20-11-14	No response to date	No
The 2013 Federal Election: Report on the conduct of the 2013 election and matters related thereto	15-04-15	No response to date	No
<b>Employment, Workplace Relations and Workforce Participation (House, Standing)</b>			
Making it work: Inquiry into independent contracting and labour hire arrangements	17-08-05	No response to date <sup>10</sup>	No
<b>Environment (House, Standing)</b>			
Streamlining environmental legislation: Inquiry into streamlining environmental regulation, 'green tape', and one stop shops	23-02-15	No response to date	No
Report on the visit to Singapore and Malaysia, 25 to 30 October 2015	29-02-16	No response required	
Inquiry into the register of environmental organisations	04-05-16	No response to date	Time has not expired

Description of Report	Date Tabled or Published <sup>1</sup>	Date of Government Response <sup>2</sup>	Responded in Period Specified <sup>3</sup>
<b>Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade (Joint, Standing)</b>			
Partnering for the greater good: The role of the private sector in promoting economic growth and reducing poverty in the Indo-Pacific region	22-06-15	31-03-16	No
Principles and practice: Australian Defence Industry and exports	01-12-15	No response to date	Time has not expired
Review of the Defence Annual Report 2013-14	01-12-15	No response to date	Time has not expired
Empowering women and girls	03-12-15	No response to date	Time has not expired
Australia's trade and investment relationships with countries of the Middle East	04-05-16	No response to date	Time has not expired
<b>Health (House, Standing)</b>			
Skin Cancer in Australia: our national cancer	24-03-15	No response to date	No
The silent disease: Inquiry into Hepatitis C in Australia	25-06-15	No response to date	No
<b>Health and Ageing (House, Standing)</b>			
Lost in the labyrinth: Report on the inquiry into registration processes and support for overseas trained doctors	19-03-12	No response to date	No
Diseases have no borders: Report on the inquiry into health issues across international borders	20-03-13	No response to date	No
Bridging the dental gap: Report on the inquiry into adult dental services	17-06-13	No response to date	No

Description of Report	Date Tabled or Published <sup>1</sup>	Date of Government Response <sup>2</sup>	Responded in Period Specified <sup>3</sup>
Thinking ahead: Report on the inquiry into dementia—early diagnosis and intervention	24-06-13	No response to date	No
<b>Human Rights (Joint, Statutory)</b>			
Ninth Report of 2013: Migration Legislation Amendment (Regional Processing and Other Measures) Act 2012 and related legislation	19-06-13	No response to date	No
<b>Indigenous Affairs (House, Standing)</b>			
Interim report: First steps for improving educational opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students	04-05-16	No response to date	Time has not expired
<b>Infrastructure and Communications (House, Standing)</b>			
Finding the right balance: Cabin crew ratios on Australian aircraft	21-11-11	No response to date	No
At what cost? IT pricing and the Australia tax	29-07-13	No response to date <sup>11</sup>	No
Planning, procurement and funding for Australia's future infrastructure: Report on the inquiry into infrastructure planning and procurement	04-12-14	No response to date	No
<b>Infrastructure, Transport and Cities (House, Standing)</b>			
Smart ICT: Report on the inquiry into the role of smart ICT in the design and planning of infrastructure	15-03-16	No response to date	Time has not expired

Description of Report	Date Tabled or Published <sup>1</sup>	Date of Government Response <sup>2</sup>	Responded in Period Specified <sup>3</sup>
<b>Intelligence and Security (Joint, Statutory)</b>			
Review of the re-listing of Al-Shabaab, Hamas' Izz al-Din al-Qassam Brigades, Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK), Lashkar-e-Tayyiba and Palestinian Islamic Jihad as terrorist organisations	12-10-15	18-04-16	No
Advisory report on the Counter-Terrorism Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2015	15-02-16	No response to date	Time has not expired
<b>Law Enforcement (Joint, Statutory)</b>			
Inquiry into financial related crime	07-09-15	No response to date	No
Examination of the Annual Report of the Australian Federal Police 2013-14	14-09-15	08-02-16	Yes
<b>Migration (Joint, Standing)</b>			
Immigration detention in Australia: A new beginning: Criteria for release from immigration detention—First report of the inquiry into immigration detention in Australia	01-12-08	No response to date	No
Immigration detention in Australia: Community-based alternatives to detention—Second report of the inquiry into immigration detention in Australia	25-05-09	No response to date	No
Immigration detention in Australia: Facilities, services and transparency—Third report of the inquiry into immigration detention in Australia	18-08-09	No response to date	No

Description of Report	Date Tabled or Published <sup>1</sup>	Date of Government Response <sup>2</sup>	Responded in Period Specified <sup>3</sup>
Inquiry into migration and multiculturalism in Australia	18-03-13	No response to date	No
Report of the inquiry into the Business Innovation and Investment Programme	24-03-15	No response to date	No
<b>National Capital and External Territories (Joint, Standing)</b>			
Etched in stone? Inquiry into the administration of the <i>National Memorials Ordinance 1928</i>	23-11-11	No response to date	No
Governance in the Indian Ocean Territories: Interim report—Economic Development	23-06-15	No response to date	No
Governance in the Indian Ocean Territories: Final report—Economic development and governance	15-03-16	No response to date	Time has not expired
<b>National Disability Insurance Scheme (Joint, Standing)</b>			
Second progress report on the implementation and administration of the National Disability Insurance Scheme	12-11-15	17-03-16	Yes
<b>Northern Australia (Joint, Select)</b>			
Pivot North: Inquiry into the Development of Northern Australia—Final Report	04-09-14	04-12-14 <sup>12</sup>	No
Scaling Up: Inquiry into Opportunities for Expanding Aquaculture in Northern Australia	22-02-16	No response to date	Time has not expired
<b>Procedure (House, Standing)</b>			
Role of the Federation Chamber: Celebrating 20 years of operation	22-06-15	No response to date	No

<b>Description of Report</b>	<b>Date Tabled or Published<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Date of Government Response<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Responded in Period Specified<sup>3</sup></b>
Provisions for a more family-friendly Chamber	02-12-15	02-02-16	Yes
Consideration in detail of the main appropriation bill	29-02-16	No response to date	Time has not expired
Maintenance of the standing orders	02-05-16	No response to date	Time has not expired
Division required? Electronic voting in the House of Representatives	02-05-16	No response to date	Time has not expired
<b>Public Accounts and Audit (Joint, Statutory)</b>			
Report 447: EPBC Act, Cyber Security, Mail Screening, ABR and Helicopter Program	02-03-15	23-11-15	No
Report 449: Regional Development Australia Fund, Military Equipment Disposal and Tariff Concessions	11-08-15	23-02-16	No
Report 451: Community Pharmacy Arrangements, Review of Auditor-General Report No. 25 (2014-15)	23-11-15	No response to date	Time has not expired
Report 452: Natural disaster recovery; Centrelink telephone services; and Safer Streets program	07-12-15	No response to date	Time has not expired
Report 453: Development of the Commonwealth Performance Framework	18-12-15	No response to date	Time has not expired
Report 454: Early Years Quality Fund Review of Auditor-General Report No. 23 (2014-15)	22-02-16	No response to date	Time has not expired
Report 455: Parliamentary delegation to New Zealand and Fiji by members of the JCPAA	22-02-16	No response required	

Description of Report	Date Tabled or Published <sup>1</sup>	Date of Government Response <sup>2</sup>	Responded in Period Specified <sup>3</sup>
<b>Social Policy and Legal Affairs (House, Standing)</b>			
FASD: The Hidden Harm—Inquiry into the prevention, diagnosis and management of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders	29-11-12	No response to date <sup>13</sup>	No
Eyes in the sky: Inquiry into drones and the regulation of air safety and privacy	14-07-14	No response to date	No
Revisiting recognition: Report on the roundtable with Australian South Sea Islanders	24-03-15	No response to date	No
Roundtable on surrogacy	24-03-15	03-12-15	No
Reviewing Troubled Waters: Consideration of the Government response to the 2012 inquiry into arrangements surrounding crimes at sea	22-06-15	No response to date	No
From conflict to cooperation: Inquiry into the Child Support Program	20-07-15	No response to date	No
Surrogacy Matters: Inquiry into the regulatory and legislative aspects of international and domestic surrogacy	04-05-16	No response to date	Time has not expired
<b>Tax and Revenue (House, Standing)</b>			
Tax disputes	26-03-15	04-12-15	No
The Tax expenditures statement	03-12-15	No response to date	Time has not expired

Description of Report	Date Tabled or Published <sup>1</sup>	Date of Government Response <sup>2</sup>	Responded in Period Specified <sup>3</sup>
<b>Trade and Investment Growth (Joint, Select)</b>			
Inquiry into Business Utilisation of Australia's Free Trade Agreements	15-10-15	17-03-16	Yes
<b>Treaties (Joint, Standing)</b>			
Report 154: Treaty tabled on 17 June 2015	19-10-15	02-05-16	No
Report 157: Treaties tabled on 13 October 2015	03-12-15	No response required	
Report 158: Treaty tabled 10 November 2015	22-02-16	No response required	
Report 159: Treaty tabled on 1 December 2015	15-03-16	No response required	
Report 160: A history of the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties: 20 years	15-03-16	No response required	
Report 161: Treaties tabled on 1 December 2015, 3 December 2015 and 2 February 2016	04-05-16	No response required	
Report 162: 20 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Seminar	04-05-16	No response required	

## Notes

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- 1 The date of tabling is the date the report was presented to the House of Representatives or to the Speaker, whichever is earlier. In the case of joint committees, the date shown is the date of first presentation to either the House or the Senate or to the President or Speaker (if presented earlier out of session). Reports published when the House (or Houses) are not sitting are tabled at a later date.
- 2 If the source for the government response date is not the Votes and Proceedings of the House of Representatives or the Journals of the Senate, the source is shown in an endnote.
- 3 For reports up to the end of 42<sup>nd</sup> Parliament, the time specified is three months from the date of tabling. While the Government has undertaken to continue to respond to reports within three months, from the 43<sup>rd</sup> Parliament (28 September 2010 onwards) the period within which the House requires a response is six months—see resolution of the House of Representatives of 29 September 2010. This resolution also puts in place additional steps for reports not responded to within that six month period. The period from when the 43<sup>rd</sup> Parliament was prorogued on 5 August 2013 and the commencement of the 44<sup>th</sup> Parliament on 12 November 2013 is not included in the response period.
- 4 A response to this report is no longer expected, as the issues covered in the report are no longer current. This listing will be removed from the next schedule.
- 5 The committee still awaits a response to this report.
- 6 Since December 2014 the Government has advised that the need for a response was overtaken by legislation introduced by the previous Government and passed by the previous Parliament. The committee still awaits a response to this report.
- 7 On 7 February 2012 the Government provided a statement regarding the reasons for the delay in presenting the response, in accordance with the House resolution of 29 September 2010 on government responses to committee reports. The Government advised that the 37 recommendations required detailed consideration and analysis, and that as an interim response to the report, and to progress the priority measures, the Government intended to introduce legislation in the 2012 Autumn sittings. Since December 2014 the Government has advised that given the passage of time and the change of government, the Government does not intend to respond to the report. The committee still awaits a response to this report.
- 8 Since December 2014 the Government has advised that given the passage of time and the change of government, the Government does not intend to respond to the report. The committee still awaits a response to this report.
- 9 Since December 2014 the Government has advised that given the passage of time and the change of government, the Government does not intend to respond to the report. The committee still awaits a response to this report.
- 10 In June 2009 the Government advised that it did not intend to respond formally to this report. In November 2009 the Government indicated a response was being considered and would be tabled in due course. In November 2011 and December 2013 the Government indicated it was in discussion with the committee on this matter. In July 2014 the Government advised that the *Independent Contractors Act 2006* was assented to on 1 December 2006 and that the Government's response was covered during debate on the Bill. The committee has not agreed to the removal of this report from the schedule.

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- 11 On 22 June 2015, during debate on the Copyright Amendment (Online Infringement) Bill 2015, the Senate noted that the Government has not responded to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Infrastructure and Communications report on its inquiry into information technology pricing. The committee still awaits a response to this report.
  - 12 On 4 December 2014 the Government provided an interim response to the report, advising that the committee's report is informing the Government's White Paper, which is being prepared. The White Paper will set out a clear and well defined policy platform for unlocking the full potential of the north, including actions through to 2030. The Government indicated that it will respond to the committee's specific recommendations through the White Paper. On 18 June 2015 the Government released the *White Paper on Developing Northern Australia: Our North, Our Future*. The committee still awaits a response to this report.
  - 13 On 14 July 2014 the Government advised the committee that on 25 June 2014 it announced funding for the National FASD Action Plan, and that the plan would form the basis of the formal response to the inquiry. The committee still awaits a response to recommendations of the report.