

# **Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade**

Review of the Defence Annual Report 2015-16 – 17 February 2017

## **ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

Department of Defence

**Topic:** Relationship between the First Principles Review and Reducing Red Tape

**Question reference number:** 28

**Senator:** Feeney

**Type of question:** asked on Friday, 17 February 2017, Hansard page 20

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 14 March 2017

### **Question:**

**Mr FEENEY:** As a related thing, to add to that work, could you also set out what has been accomplished to meet the objective of reducing red tape, administrative burdens and regulatory obligations?

### **Answer:**

The focus of the First Principles Review was on ensuring that Defence is fit for purpose, is able to respond to future challenges and deliver against its outputs with the minimum resources necessary.

Defence is now 22 months into a two-year implementation schedule and has completed 63 of the 75 recommendations from the review.

While not specifically focused on reducing red tape, administrative burdens and regulatory obligations, Defence's completion of recommendations to date reflects progress against the aims of clarifying accountabilities, reducing inefficient practices and removing duplicated processes.

Further information about First Principles Review implementation is available in the response to Question 24 from this hearing.