

Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit

Defence Sustainment Expenditure – 31 March 2017

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Defence

Topic: Supplementary - Comparative Analysis of Sustainment Reporting in Other Jurisdictions

Question reference number: 3

Senator: The Committee

Type of question: provided in writing

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 7 July 2017

Question:

The Committee requests a more detailed response outlining the relative merits of sustainment reporting regimes in operations in other jurisdictions including the United Kingdom and Canada.

Answer:

Defence has not undertaken detailed comparative analysis of sustainment reporting in other jurisdictions in recent years.

After an initial assessment of the two nominated reports from the United Kingdom and Canada, it appears these reports are the equivalent of the Defence Annual Report. Each report provides a financial summary of performance to Government, and demonstrates each Department's commitment to accountability and transparency of its activities. All three reports provide details on key sustainment activities in support of capability.

Moving forward, Defence will draw on the experiences of other jurisdictions as it continues to move to a Program representation under the single end-to-end Capability Life Cycle introduced as a result of the First Principles Review.