

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2010-11 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: Cross

Question No: 016

Topic: Commissioned Reports

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Cash asked:

016(a) How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in the FaHCSIA portfolio since 1 January 2010? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.

016(b) How much did each report cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?

016(c) What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?

Answer:

016(a)

The definition of a 'report' used in providing an answer to this Question on Notice is any report authorised by Government, finalised, handed to Government and subsequently made public. Reports produced as a component of work for Cabinet committees, inter-Departmental committees, Council of Australian Government (COAG) working groups and internal committees are excluded.

Since 1 January 2010, two reports have been commissioned by the Government in the Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs portfolio.

Title: Positive Family Functioning

Commissioned: 30 November 2009 by FaHCSIA

Finalised: 29 September 2010

Publicly Released: 14 February 2011 on FaHCSIA website

Cost: \$245,916

Additional Information:

<http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/sa/families/pubs/functioning/Pages/default.aspx>

Title: Community Development Finance Institutions (CDFIs): A new option for addressing financial exclusion in Australia

Commissioned: October 2009

Finalised: December 2009

Publicly Released: January 2010 on FaHCSIA website

Cost: \$80,000

Additional Information:

http://facs.gov.au/sa/indigenous/funding/Pages/CDFI_scoping_study.aspx

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016(b) The cost of each report is indicated in 016(a) above. The Department does not separately identify the costs and number of staff supporting reports in our finance system. A significant expenditure of resources would be required to research and calculate the total number and level of departmental staff involved in each of these reports. Consequently, the Department is unable to provide a response to this question.

016 (c) The two reports commissioned since 1 January 2010 have been finalised and released publicly. The Government will respond in accordance to its responsibilities in relation to all commissioned reports.