

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO**

**Supplementary Budget Estimates 2012-2013, 17 & 19 October 2012**

**Question: E12-104**

**OUTCOME 0:** Whole of Portfolio

**Topic:** REVIEWS

**Type of Question:** Written Question on Notice

**Number of pages:** 2

**Senator:** Senator Boyce

**Question:**

For this financial year to date:

- a) How many Reviews are being undertaken?
- b) What reviews have concluded, and for those that are still ongoing, when will those reviews be concluded?
- c) Which of these reviews has been provided to Government?
- d) When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?
- e) Has the Government responded to all reviews within the timeframe? If not, why not?
- f) What is the estimated cost of each of these Reviews?
- g) What reviews are planned?
- h) When will each of these reviews be concluded?

**Answer:**

The term 'review' is fairly broad and ambiguous. In answering this question the Department of Health and Ageing has interpreted it to refer to major policy reviews commissioned at Ministerial level. This answer excludes internal reviews which are undertaken as part of the day-to-day management of programs, or which are undertaken as part of administrative processes, and excludes reviews which are conducted as part of statutory obligations and program responsibilities of the Health and Ageing Portfolio.

Answers to questions a) – h) are outlined in the following tables:

a) A total of nine (9) reviews are underway across the health and ageing portfolio in the 2012-13 financial year to date.					
b) Review title	b) Date of completion	c) Date provided to Govt	d) Date of Govt Response	e) Response within timeframes*	f) Est cost (\$)

Mid-term Review of the Implementation Plan of the five National Strategies for Blood Borne Viruses and Sexually Transmissible Infections	Expected completion end 2012-13	—	Not applicable	Not applicable	75,000 (GST incl)
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b) Review title	b) Date of completion	c) Date provided to Govt	d) Date of Govt Response	e) Response within timeframes*	f) Est cost (\$)
Review of Blood Sector Risk Management	Expected completion May 2013	—	Not applicable	Not applicable	895,940 (GST excl)
Minimum (Floor) Pricing for Alcohol	Expected completion January 2013	—	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable <sup>a</sup>
Review of the <i>Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Act 1998</i>	31 August 2012	12 October 2012	Not applicable	Not applicable	150,000 (GST incl)
Review of Health and Medical Research	Expected completion December 2012	—	Not applicable	Not applicable	2,650,000 (GST incl)
Evaluation of the National Continence Program	Expected completion 31 May 2014	—	Not applicable	Not applicable	485,100 (GST incl)
Review of the National Industrial Chemical Notification and Assessment Scheme	Expected completion April 2013	—	Not applicable	Not applicable	1,461,974 (GST excl)
Review of Anticoagulation Therapies in Atrial Fibrillation	Expected completion December 2012	—	Not applicable	Not applicable	400,000 (GST excl)
Review of Australian Government Health Workforce Programs	Expected completion 31 March 2013	—	Not applicable	Not applicable	330,000 (GST incl)

\* Reviews are considered to belong to Government. The Department is unable to comment on deadlines.

<sup>a</sup> Review carried out using in-house Agency staff.

## Planned Reviews

The following reviews are planned for the 2012-13 financial year	
g) Review title	h) Expected date of completion
Alcohol Advertising – Voluntary Code	To be advised
Evaluation of the Health and Hospitals Fund	30 June 2013
Under the Living Longer Living Better package, the Government announced that there would be reviews of transport, meals, and home modifications and maintenance services as currently delivered under the Commonwealth Home and Community Care Program in order to prepare for the implementation of the Commonwealth Home Support Program from 1 July 2015.	Planning is currently underway for these reviews to commence during 2012-13, but they are unlikely to be completed by 30 June 2013