

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

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

Question: E12-119

OUTCOME 0: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: COMMISSIONED REPORTS

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Number of pages: 1

Senator: Senator Boyce

Question:

- a) How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in your department/agency this financial year to date? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.
- b) How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?
- c) What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?

Answer:

The term 'reports' is fairly broad and ambiguous. In answering this question, the Department of Health and Ageing has interpreted it to refer to major policy associated reports, asked for by Cabinet or the Minister. This answer excludes internal reports which are undertaken as part of the day-to-day management of programs, or which are undertaken as part of administrative processes, and excludes report publications which are produced as part of statutory obligations and program responsibilities of the Health and Ageing Portfolio.

Answers to questions a), b) and c) appear in the attached table.

a) The Number of Reports Commissioned by the Government in the Department of Health and Ageing in 2012-13 was one (1).

Preliminary Report of the Commission on Delivery of Health Services in Tasmania

a) Date Commissioned	The <i>Commission on Delivery of Health Services in Tasmania</i> (the Commission) was announced on 13 September 2012. The delivery of a Preliminary Report is a requirement under the Commission's Terms of Reference, agreed between the Commonwealth and Tasmanian Health Ministers.
a) Date report handed to government	By 31 December 2012.
a) Date of public release	To be confirmed.
a) Terms of reference	The Preliminary Report will outline the Commission's initial ideas about key opportunities for structural and system improvement within the Tasmanian health system.
a) Committee members	Mr Alan Bansemmer, Dr Heather Wellington and Dr Alasdair MacDonald.
b) Cost of report/ estimation of cost (\$)	The estimated cost of the Commission including its delivery of the report is around \$120,000.
b) How many departmental staff were involved and at what level?	The Secretariat for the Commission is situated within the Department of Health and Ageing. For the purpose of supporting the Commission, including in delivering its Preliminary Report, the Secretariat team has been temporarily expanded to 14 staff members across APS and EL levels. Staffing levels are expected to reduce following the delivery of the Preliminary Report.
c) Current Status	Currently under development.
c) Date of expected Government Response	January - February 2013.