

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Additional Estimates Hearings February 2016
Communications Portfolio
Australian Communications and Media Authority

Question No: 182(e)

Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: Written, 19/02/2016

Topic: Reviews

Senator Ludwig, Joe asked:

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. How many new reviews (defined as review, inter-departmental group, inquiry, internal review or similar activity) have been commenced? Please list them including:
 - (a) the date they were ordered
 - (b) the date they commenced
 - (c) the minister responsible
 - (d) the department responsible
 - (e) the nature of the review
 - (f) their terms of reference
 - (g) the scope of the review
 - (h) Who is conducting the review
 - (i) the number of officers, and their classification level, involved in conducting the review
 - (j) the expected report date
 - (k) the budgeted, projected or expected costs
 - (l) If the report will be tabled in parliament or made public
2. For any review commenced or ordered, have any external people, companies or contractors being engaged to assist or conduct the review?
 - (a) If so, please list them, including their name and/or trading name/s and any known alias or other trading names
 - (b) If so, please list their managing director and the board of directors or equivalent
 - (c) If yes, for each is the cost associated with their involvement, including a break down for each cost item
 - (d) If yes, for each, what is the nature of their involvement
 - (e) If yes, for each, are they on the lobbyist register, provide details.
 - (f) If yes, for each, what contact has the Minister or their office had with them
 - (g) If yes, for each, who selected them
 - (h) If yes, for each, did the minister or their office have any involvement in selecting them,
 - i. If yes, please detail what involvement it was
 - ii. If yes, did they see or provided input to a short list
 - iii. If yes, on what dates did this involvement occur
 - iv. If yes, did this involve any verbal discussions with the department
 - v. If yes, on what dates did this involvement occur

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3. Which reviews are on-going?
 - (a) Please list them.
 - (b) What is the current cost to date expended on the reviews?
4. Have any reviews been stopped, paused or ceased? Please list them.
5. Which reviews have concluded? Please list them.
6. How many reviews have been provided to Government? Please list them and the date they were provided.
7. When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?
8. What reviews are planned?
 - (a) When will each planned review be commenced?
 - (b) When will each of these reviews be concluded?
 - (c) When will government respond to each review?
 - (d) Will the government release each review?
 - (i) If so, when? If not, why not?

Answer:

1. None.
2. Not applicable.
3.
 - (a) A review of the *Broadcasting Services (Television Captioning) Standard 2013* (the Captioning Quality Standard), pursuant to section 18 of the *Broadcasting and Other legislation Amendment (Deregulation) Act 2015*, was ongoing as at 14 September, 2015. That review concluded on 3 March 2016.
 - (b) The cost expended on the review was \$167,297 (staffing costs \$150,000 and consultation costs \$17,297).

As part of its consultation for the review, the ACMA also held a one day Citizen Conversation event on 15 September 2015, *Live captioning: let's talk*. This event cost \$17,297.33, including the cost of providing Auslan Interpreters, captioning and installing a hearing loop to ensure the event was accessible.

4. No.
5. None.
6. None.
7. Not applicable.
8. See ACMA response to QON 204(e).