

**Senate Economics Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Additional Estimates

2014 - 2015

**Department/Agency: Treasury**

**Question: AET 12**

**Topic: Review of the ABS**

**Reference: Hansard page no. 31 - 25 February 2015**

**Senator: Ketter, Chris**

**Question: 12**

Senator KETTER: I have some follow-up questions in respect to the ABS. Treasury identified a review of the ABS which commenced on 9 October 2014. That was provided to government on 21 November. Could you confirm that that review has been provided to the Treasurer?

Ms Wilkinson: Yes, I can confirm that that review has been provided to the Treasurer.

Senator KETTER: What were the key findings of that review?

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Ms Wilkinson: That review is currently sitting with the Treasurer. I think it is a matter for the Treasurer.

Senator KETTER: Are you able to tell us about any systemic issues that were found that might be affecting the operation of the ABS?

Senator Cormann: I might have to take the question on notice. I am not personally aware of the review, if the review has been put to the Treasurer. If you want to put some questions in relation to these matters on notice, I undertake to consult with the Treasurer to see how best we can assist you. The officer at the table has referred these matters to the Treasurer. I am not in a position personally to provide any informed answers because I am just not across that particular review.

Senator KETTER: It is a bit unusual for such a review to have been conducted and for the findings to be provided to the Treasurer. Can you tell us when the findings were provided?

Senator Cormann: Because it was done by the previous secretary we might just have to take that on notice and see. I am not trying to be difficult. Literally there is nobody at the table, as I understand it, who was directly involved in it. If there are—

Senator KETTER: What about in the gallery behind, is there anybody who can assist us in that?

Senator Cormann: Apparently it was provided to the government towards the end of October last year. I am happy to tell you that you. Again, this is outside my personal sphere of responsibility. Any specific questions in relation to the matters contained in it I would have to take up with the Treasurer.

**Answer:**

12. Questions about advice provided to the Government should be directed to the Treasurer.