

Senate Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates

2016 - 2017

Division/Agency: Australian Bureau of Statistics
Question No: 32
Topic: 2016 Census – independent review panel
Reference: Written
Senator: Ketter, Chris

Question:

- 1) Has the Minister or Treasurer sought briefings about the ABS' attempts to establish an independent panel to review the Census?
- 2) What is the progress of the independent panel?
- 3) Who will sit on the independent panel?

Answer:

- 1) The Australian Bureau of Statistics has briefed the Minister and Treasurer regarding the establishment and progress of the “Independent Assurance Panel on 2016 Census Data”.
- 2) The Independent Panel will provide a Report to the Australian Statistician by no later than 31 March 2017.
- 3) The Members of the Independent Panel are:
 - Chair - Professor Sandra Harding, Vice Chancellor and President of James Cook University and former Chair of the Australian Statistics Advisory Council (ASAC);
 - Dennis Trewin, ex-Australian Statistician (2000-2007) with strong domestic and international credibility;
 - Professor Peter McDonald, Head of Demography, University of Melbourne and renowned international Demographer;
 - Peter Morrison, Former Assistant Chief Canadian Statistician who was responsible for running the Canadian Census;
 - Anton Voss, Deputy Secretary, Tasmanian Department of Treasury and Finance and member of ASAC; and
 - Professor Lisa Jackson Pulver, Pro Vice-Chancellor Engagement and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership at the University of Western Sydney and member of ASAC.