

Senate Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates

2016 - 2017

Division/Agency: Productivity Commission

Question No: 365

Topic: Book Industry - Inquiry into Australia's Intellectual Property

Arrangements

Reference: Written

Senator: Carr, Kim

Question:

Regarding the Productivity Commission's inquiry into Australia's intellectual property arrangements:

- a. What inter-departmental consultation took place in the course of this inquiry? Please provide a detailed account of any input.
- b. What book industry input did the Commission seek regarding this inquiry? Please provide a detailed account of any input sought and provided.
- c. When will the final report be released?
- d. What consultation does the Government plan to undertake with relevant stakeholders?
- e. What further inter-departmental consultation will take place?
- f. When will the Government make its public response?

Answer:

The Commission's consultation processes for the Intellectual Property Inquiry provided for extensive input and feedback including through submissions, hearings, and roundtables, and through the release of a draft report with preliminary findings and recommendations. Government departments and agencies and the book industry were among the many parties that engaged in the consultation process. A number of government departments and agencies provided submissions and the book industry participated through both the submission and hearing process.

The consultation process is outlined in detail in Chapter 1 and Appendix A of the inquiry report. A copy of the issues paper; submissions received; hearing transcripts; and information on roundtables are available from the inquiry web page (<http://www.pc.gov.au/inquiries/completed/intellectual-property#report>).

The final report on Intellectual Property Arrangements was handed to the Australian Government on 23 September 2016. Under s.12 of the *Productivity Commission Act 1998*, reports must be tabled within 25 sitting days (of each House) after the Government receives the report. It is a matter for the Government to decide when the report is tabled (and released) within that period. The timing of any response is also a matter for the Government to decide. The Commission is only in a position to comment on its own consultation processes.