

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2015-16

Finance Portfolio
9 February 2016

Department/Agency: All
Outcome/Program: General
Topic: Reviews

Senator: Ludwig
Question reference number: F70
Type of question: Written
Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 1 April 2016

Number of pages: 3

Question:

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; and
 - 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? If so:
 - a) please list them, including their name and/or trading name/s and any known alias or other trading names
 - b) please list their managing director and the board of directors or equivalent
 - c) for each what is the cost associated with their involvement, including a break down for each cost item;
 - d) For each, what is the nature of their involvement;
 - e) For each, are they on the lobbyist register, provide details.
 - f) For each, what contact has the Minister or their office had with them;
 - g) For each, who selected them;

- h) For each, did the Minister or their office have any involvement in selecting them? If yes:
- i) Please detail what involvement it was.
 - ii) Did they see or provided input to a short list?
 - iii) On what dates did this involvement occur?
 - iv) Did this involve any verbal discussions with the department?
 - v) On what dates did this involvement occur?
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:

For the period 14 September 2015 to 9 February 2016:

Department/ Agency	Response
Finance	<p>1-2. Five reviews have commenced, including Functional and Efficiency Reviews of the Department of the Treasury and the Australian Bureau of Statistics, which were announced as part of the 2014-15 Budget. Further details in regard to the Functional and Efficiency Reviews are the responsibility of the agencies undertaking the reviews. In regard to the three remaining reviews, these relate to Cabinet matters and have not been announced and remain a matter for Cabinet consideration.</p> <p>3. a) DHA Forensic Review</p> <p>b) Refer to the response to question F39 from the 2015-2016 Additional Estimates Hearings.</p> <p>4. Nil.</p> <p>5. The strategic review of ASC Pty Ltd.</p> <p>6. The strategic review of ASC Pty Ltd was provided to the Department of Finance in late 2015.</p>

Department/ Agency	Response
	7. This is a matter for Government. 8. Nil.
Australian Electoral Commission	1. Nil. 2. – 7. N/A. 8. Nil.
Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation	2. Nil. 2. – 7. N/A. 8. Nil..
Future Fund Management Agency	3. Nil. 2. – 7. N/A. 8. Nil.