

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

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Australian National Audit Office

Outcome/Program:

Topic: Grants tendering process

Senator: Siewert

Question reference number: 249

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 1 April 2016

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Does the Auditor-General have plans to investigate the grants tendering process under the Department of Social Services, as recommended in the Senate Community Affairs report on the *Impact on service quality, efficiency and sustainability of recent Commonwealth community service tendering processes by the Department of Social Services*?

Answer:

In December 2015, the Auditor General wrote to Senator Siewert to advise that in response to the Committee's interim report, the ANAO had included a potential performance audit of the Department of Social Services' Grants Administration in its *2015 Audit Work Program*. The audit has not commenced to date, but it is intended that the proposed audit topic will be carried forward to the ANAO's *2016 Audit Work Program* currently under development.

In his letter to Senator Siewert the Auditor-General also advised that if the audit does proceed, it would include coverage of the matters included in the Committee's final report. Any decision on whether the audit is undertaken will be made in the context of the available resources and audit priorities.