

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-18

Finance Portfolio
24-25 May 2017

Department/Agency: Finance
Outcome/Program: 2/2.2
Topic: Functional and Efficiency Reviews

Senator: Gallagher

Question reference number: F31

Type of question: Hansard Proof, 24 May 2017, F&PA Committee, Page 92.

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 7 July 2017

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator GALLAGHER: Will the government be releasing the functional and efficiency reviews, including those where the savings have been factored into the forward estimates?

Senator Cormann: The functional and efficiency reviews?

Senator GALLAGHER: Yes.

Senator Cormann: They are part of the deliberative cabinet process, and, consistent with the approach of all governments, we do not release deliberative cabinet documents.

Senator GALLAGHER: Is there a way that you could identify that \$5 billion in savings without releasing the functional and efficiency review? What constitutes that figure?

Senator Cormann: I will take that on notice, and we will see what we can do.

Answer:

The outcomes of the Functional and Efficiency Review have achieved gross savings of around \$5 billion from 2014-15 to 2020-21 through streamlining programs, improving span of control, system and compliance processes, and terminating legacy programs. A breakdown by Functional and Efficiency Review is provided below:

Functional and Efficiency Review	2014-15 to 2020-21 (\$m)
Social Services ¹	3,212.3
Health	1,533.8
Education and Training	221.1
Foreign Affairs and Trade	157.8
Australian Taxation Office	29.3
Agriculture and Water Resources	9.2
TOTAL	5,163.5

¹ As responsibility for aged care moved from Social Services to Health in 2015, a number of measures from the Functional and Efficiency Review of Social Services were transferred to the Department of Health.