

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

**Portfolio**

**Question No. 148**

**Senator Humphries asked the following question at the hearing on 24 May 2012:**

Reviews

For this financial year to date:

- a) How many Reviews are being undertaken?
- b) What reviews have concluded, and for those that are still ongoing, when will those reviews be concluded?
- c) Which of these reviews has been provided to Government?
- d) When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?
- e) What is the estimated cost of each of these Reviews?
- f) What reviews are planned?
- g) When will each of these reviews be concluded?

**The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:**

a)– e) The following Agencies have not undertaken any reviews in the period 1 July 2011 to 30 April 2012:

- Administrative Appeals Tribunal
- Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity
- Australian Crime Commission
- Australian Customs and Border Protection Service
- Australian Federal Police
- Australian Government Solicitor
- Australian Institute of Criminology
- Australian Law Reform Commission
- Australian Security Intelligence Organisation
- Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre
- Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions
- CrimTrac
- Family Court
- Federal Court
- Federal Magistrates Court
- High Court of Australia
- Insolvency and Trustee Service Australia
- National Native Title Tribunal
- Office of Parliamentary Counsel

See table below for the Attorney-General's Department and other Agency responses.

f) – g) The following Agencies are not planning any Reviews as at 30 April 2012:

- Administrative Appeals Tribunal
- Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity
- Australian Crime Commission
- Australian Customs and Border Protection Service
- Australian Federal Police
- Australian Government Solicitor
- Australian Human Rights Commission
- Australian Institute of Criminology
- Australian Law Reform Commission
- Australian Security Intelligence Organisation
- Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre
- Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions
- CrimTrac
- Family Court
- Federal Court
- Federal Magistrates Court
- High Court of Australia
- Insolvency and Trustee Service Australia
- Office of the Australian Information Commissioner
- Office of Parliamentary Counsel

See table below for other responses.

(a-e)

**Attorney-General's Portfolio – Reviews 1 July 2011 – 30 April 2012**

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Review</b>	<b>End date</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Has review been provided to Government</b>	<b>Has Govt responded?</b>	<b>Cost (exclusive of GST)</b>
Attorney-General's Department	Review of Recent Australian Disaster Inquiries	25 November 2011	Completed	Yes. The Review of Recent Australian Disaster Inquiries was considered at the November 2011 meeting of the Standing Council on Police and Emergency Management	N/A	\$20,217.55
Attorney-General's Department	Review of Legislative Practices and Process in the Attorney-General's Department	18 May 2012	Completed	Yes. A copy of the review was provided to the Attorney-General on 22 May 2012	N/A Internal review of Departmental process only	\$12,800.00
Attorney-General's Department	Review of the National Partnership Agreement on Legal Assistance Services	30 June 2013	Contract for consultant to undertake the review executed on 1 May 2012	Report due in June 2013	No	\$765,030.12
Australian Human Rights Commission	Phase One - Review into the Treatment of Women at ADFA	3 November 2011	Report into Phase One was tabled in Parliament on 3 November 2011	Yes	No	\$6.69 million
	Phase Two – Treatment of Women in the Australian Defence Force	–	Report into Phase Two is anticipated to be tabled in Parliament in the second half of 2012.	No		
	Phase Three – Audit of Implementation	2013	12 months after the Release of the Panel's report, a further independent Report is to be prepared, the Review is therefore not likely to conclude before 2013	No		
Office of the Australian Information Commissioner	Review of charges under the Freedom of Information Act 1982	31 January 2012	Ongoing	Yes. A copy of the final report was provided to the Attorney-General in February 2012	No	\$109,644 (approximately)

(f-g)

<b>Attorney-General's Portfolio – Planned Reviews</b>			
<b>Agency</b>	<b>Planned Review</b>	<b>Proposed end date</b>	<b>Status</b>
National Native Title Tribunal/Attorney-General's Department/ FaHCSIA	The Government has agreed to the recommendations of the Strategic Review of Small and Medium Agencies in the Attorney-General's portfolio that discretionary functions of the NNTT should be reviewed, and consideration be given to the introduction of cost recovery for some or all of these services	The review of NNTT discretionary functions is likely to be completed by the end of the 2012 calendar year	Not yet commenced