

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Additional Estimates 2012

15 – 17 February 2012

**Question: AET 693 - 694**

**Topic: Reviews (IGT)**

**Hansard Page: Written**

**Senator BUSHBY asked:**

693. For the year 2010-11:
- When will each of these reviews be concluded?
  - What reviews have been concluded?
  - Which of these reviews has been provided to Government?
  - When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?
  - What is the estimated cost of each of these Reviews?
694. For this financial year to date:
- How many Reviews are being undertaken?
  - What reviews have concluded, and for those that are still ongoing, when will those reviews be concluded?
  - Which of these reviews has been provided to Government?
  - When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?
  - What is the estimated cost of each of these Reviews?
  - What reviews are planned?
  - When will each of these reviews be concluded?

**Answer:**

693. a. As per the 2010-11 annual report (as at 30 June 2011), four reviews were publicly released and 1 awaiting release by the Minister.
- b. Five.
- c. All five per the 2010-11 annual report.
- d. As noted above, four were publicly released prior to financial year end and the other was released in September 2011.
- e. Met out of existing budget.
694. a. Five.
- b. Review into the ATO's administration of class rulings – publicly released in March 2012.  
Review into the ATO's compliance approaches to small and medium enterprises with annual turnovers between \$100 million and \$250 million and high wealth individuals – submitted to the Minister in December 2011.  
The Review into improving the self-assessment system – expected to be submitted to the Minister by 31 July.  
The Review into the ATO's use of Early and Alternative Dispute Resolution – expected to be submitted to the Minister by 30 June.

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The Review into the ATO's use of Benchmarking to Target the Cash Economy – expected to be submitted to the Minister by 30 June.

- c. Refer to the response in (b) above.
- d. Review reports must be publicly released or tabled by the Minister within 25 Parliamentary sitting days after receipt by the Minister.
- e. Met out of existing budget.
- f.
  - i) A follow-up review into the Australian Taxation Office's implementation of IGT recommendations arising from IGT reports released since November 2008 – expected to commence in first quarter of next financial year.
  - ii) Synchronised with the finalisation of current reviews in progress, the IGT will also develop a new work program of reviews.
- g. The agency intends to settle a new work program of reviews in the first quarter of the next financial year through public consultation. The reviews would commence upon announcement of terms of reference for each. The length of reviews can vary depending on the nature and extent of the reviews as well as resource availability. However, the agency generally aims to complete reviews within 6 to 12 months.