

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates

26 February 2014

Question: AET 2995

Topic: Competition Laws Review

Written: 26 February 2014

Senator Whish-Wilson asked:

Senator WHISH-WILSON: I was wondering where we were at with the root-and-branch review—whether that was actually underway?

Mr Sims: My understanding is the secretariat is set up in the Treasury and is working away but that the panel is yet to be appointed—although I understand that that is not far away. The secretariat in the Treasury is working away and we have donated two of our best people to help them out.

Senator WHISH-WILSON: Will you be moving officers from other areas and other departments to help you with—

Mr Sims: It is run out of the Treasury portfolio. It is not ours. So there are Treasury officers, a New South Wales Treasury person—they have brought in people from other departments.

Senator WHISH-WILSON: How many all up do you expect, Mr Sims?

Mr Sims: In the secretariat?

Mr Sims: We would have to get back to you on that. It is a Treasury matter. My guess would be 10 or 15, but I am not quite sure.

Answer:

A secretariat to support the Government's competition policy review has been established within the Treasury and will comprise 16 officers when fully staffed.