

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee —Budget Estimates Hearing—May 2010

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary Portfolio, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **Reviews**
Question: **P 15**
Written: **Senator Barnett**

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 9 July 2010

- a) What is the total number of Reviews *both completed and ongoing* in the portfolio/agency or affecting the portfolio agency since November 2007?
- b) Please provide a breakdown of reviews completed since the government came to office (only those commenced after the current government came to office) including:
 - when those reviews were provided to Government,
 - estimated cost of producing each review (and total cost) and
 - if the Government has responded to the review or information about when the Government has indicated it will/will not respond to the review.
- c) How many reviews are ongoing?
- d) How many reviews have been completed since additional estimates?
- e) What further reviews are planned in the portfolio/agency?

Answer

- a) There have been 22 Reviews conducted in DPS or affecting DPS since November 2007.
- b) DPS has not provided any reviews to Government. The majority of DPS's reviews were internally conducted with no external cost. Where DPS incurred a cost by conducting a review, the estimated cost is itemised below:
 - (i) SIGNET Review of AFP operations—at a cost of \$29,810;
 - (ii) Protective Security Risk Review Phase 1 (information security)—currently being conducted by the Attorney-General's Department at a cost of \$60,000 to DPS and the Departments of the Senate and the House of Representatives for the T4 component of the review;
 - (iii) Review of visitor services—conducted by Interaction Consulting at a projected cost of \$30,000;
 - (iv) Review of Maintenance Services—conducted by ARUP at a cost of \$86,400; and
 - (v) Hansard Occupational Health and Safety—conducted by CRS Australia at a cost of \$13,250.

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The external cost of DPS reviews is \$159,500, plus a cost of \$60,000 for the Protective Security Risk Review Phase 1 (information security), which will be shared by DPS and the Departments of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

c) Six of the reviews are ongoing.

d) & e) DPS has completed two reviews since Additional Estimates in February 2010, and a review of the Parliamentary Library is now commencing.