

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

Portfolio

Question No. 91

Senator Humphries asked the following question at the hearing on 14 February 2012:

Reviews

For this financial year to date:

- 1) How many Reviews are being undertaken?
- 2) What reviews have concluded, and for those that are still ongoing, when will those reviews be concluded
- 3) Which of these reviews has been provided to Government?
- 4) When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?
- 5) What is the estimated cost of each of these Reviews?
- 6) What reviews are planned?
- 7) When will each of these reviews be concluded?

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

(1-5) The following Agencies have not undertaken any reviews in the period 1 July 2011 to 14 February 2012: Administrative Appeals Tribunal, Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity, Australian Crime Commission, Australian Government Solicitor, Australian Human Rights Commission, Australian Institute of Criminology, Australian Law Reform Commission, Australian Security Intelligence Organisation, Australian Transaction and Reporting Analysis Centre, Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions, CrimTrac, Family Court of Australia, Federal Court of Australia, Federal Magistrates Court of Australia, High Court of Australia, Insolvency and Trustee Service Australia, National Native Title Tribunal and the Office of Parliamentary Counsel.

See table below for the Attorney-General's Department, Australian Customs and Border Protection Service and Office of the Australian Information Commissioner responses.

(6-7). The following Agencies are not planning any reviews as at 14 February 2012: Administrative Appeals Tribunal, Attorney-General's Department, Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity, Australian Crime Commission, Australian Government Solicitor, Australian Human Rights Commission, Australian Institute of Criminology, Australian Law Reform Commission, Australian Security Intelligence Organisation, Australian Transaction and Reporting Analysis Centre, Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions, CrimTrac, Family Court of Australia, Federal Court of Australia, Federal Magistrates Court of Australia, High Court of Australia, Insolvency and Trustee Service Australia, National Native Title Tribunal, Office of the Australian Information Commissioner and the Office of Parliamentary Counsel.

See below for the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service response.

(1-5)

Attorney-General's Portfolio – Reviews 1 July 2011 – 14 February 2012						
Agency	Review	End date	Status	Has review been provided to Government	Has Govt responded ?	Cost (exclusive of GST)
Attorney-General's Department	Review of the National Partnership Agreement on Legal Assistance Services	30 June 2013	Tender advertised on AusTender 30/01/12. Contract for consultant to undertake the review executed 1 May 2012.	Report due in June 2013.	No	\$765,030.12
Attorney-General's Department	Commonwealth Native Title Connection Policy Research Project	31 October 2011	Draft final report provided. Awaiting provision of final report which is expected shortly	No	n/a	\$72,250.00
Attorney-General's Department	Review of Recent Australian Disaster Inquiries	25 Nov 2011	Completed.	Yes. The review was considered at the November 2011 meeting of the Standing Council on Police and Emergency Management	N/A	\$20,217.55
Australian Customs and Border Protection Service	Workplace Health and Safety Gap Analysis	n/a	Work by consultant has concluded and actions being progressed internally	No	n/a	\$79,200
Office of the Australian Information Commissioner	Review of charges under the <i>Freedom of Information Act 1982</i>	31 January 2012	Ongoing	Yes. A copy of the final report has been provided to the Attorney-General	No	\$109,644 (approximately)

(6-7)

Attorney-General's Portfolio – Planned Reviews			
Agency	Planned Review	Proposed end date	Status
Australian Customs and Border Protection Service	Independent Review of the Passenger Movement Charge Program - Administration	June 2012	This review commenced 15 March 2012. It examines administration processes, including review of current reconciliation processes and the establishment of a compliance program.