

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

Portfolio

Question No. 93

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

Commissioned Reports

- 1) How many reports were commissioned by the government in your portfolio in 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11?
- 2) How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in your portfolio this financial year to date? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.
 - a) How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?
 - b) What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?

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

1)

Agency	Number of Commissioned Reports 2007-08	Number of Commissioned Reports 2008-09	Number of Commissioned Reports 2009-10	Number of Commissioned Reports 2010-11
Attorney-General's Department	One.	One.	One.	None.
Australian Customs and Border Protection Service	One.	None.	One.	None.
Australian Law Reform Commission	One.	Two.	Two.	Two.

- 2) There were two Australian Law Reform Commission reports commissioned by the Government this financial year to date:

Age barriers to work

On 8 February 2012, the Attorney-General announced an inquiry into legal barriers to mature age persons participating in the workforce—namely for people aged 45 years and over.

Under the Terms of Reference, the ALRC is to identify these barriers and consider reforms to address them in Commonwealth laws, including: social security, superannuation, insurance, compensation and employment.

Age Discrimination Commissioner Susan Ryan has been appointed to the ALRC as a Part-time Commissioner to assist with the Inquiry.

Terms of Reference were received on 12 March 2012. The ALRC is due to report by the end of March 2013.

Copyright

On 30 March 2012, Attorney-General released Draft Terms of Reference for the ALRC Copyright Inquiry.

The Government will consider all comments submitted during the consultation when finalising the terms of reference.

It is expected the Commission will be asked to report no later than 30 November 2013.