

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

Output 1.3

Question No. 114

Senator Barnett asked the following question at the hearing on 26/27 May 2008:

Non-sexual interdependent relationships:

- a) Has the department done any research, modelling or had any discussions on amending the law so that they are not discriminated against in the same way that those is same-sex relationships are?
- b) What is the nature of such discussions to date?
- c) When were those discussions held?

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

- a) The Department has carried out some research and held discussions with relevant Departments, the Attorney-General's Office and other stakeholders on the possibility of amending laws governing Commonwealth (defined benefit) superannuation schemes. Indicative costings were developed as a result of these discussions.
- b) See answer to question a)
- c) The discussions referred to in the answer to question a) have taken place on a number of occasions since November 2007. Discussions of this nature also took place prior to the 2007 federal election.