

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

Program All

Question No. 99

Senator Barnett asked the following question at the hearing on 25 May 2010:

- a. What is the total number of reviews both *completed* and *ongoing* in the portfolio since November 2007? How many are ongoing? How many have been completed since Additional Estimates?
- b. Please breakdown the reviews in terms of:
 - when the reviews were provided to Government
 - estimated cost of producing each review (and total cost)
 - information regarding whether the Government has responded to the review or expects to respond (or if it will not)
- c. What further reviews are planned in the portfolio?

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

- a. The total number of reviews¹ completed and ongoing in the portfolio since 24 November 2007 is 36.
There are currently 12 reviews being undertaken across the portfolio.
No reviews have been completed since Additional Estimates 2010.
- b. The breakdown of reviews can be found in the below table.
- c. No further reviews are planned for the portfolio.

Ongoing reviews		
Title	Estimated Government response	Estimated cost²
Review of the legislative arrangements for regulating the construction of offshore installations and the application of Australian laws to such installations	Review is ongoing	The cost of the review is being met by existing resources and was not costed separately.

¹ A review is defined as a formal examination of a particular Departmental or agency responsibility which is suitable for public release which is conducted or commissioned by the Department or agency.

² Review costs do not include staffing costs met within existing Departmental or portfolio resources or travel (including incidentals to travel) costs because this data is not necessarily specifically recorded against these projects and to do so would constitute an unreasonable diversion of resources. Staffing costs which were not met within existing Departmental or portfolio resources have been included in the cost. Please note that the cost of the National Consultation on Human Rights is the total cost (ie it includes all costs related to this Consultation). This cost had been calculated in detail for the purposes of Additional Estimates 2010 Question on Notice 6.

Review of the sustainability and future operation of the Australian Institute of Police Management	Review is ongoing	\$128,536 (GST inclusive)	
Review of Commonwealth Fraud Guidelines 2002	Review is ongoing	The cost of the review was met by existing resources and was not costed separately.	
Review Part 1D of the Crimes Act 1914	Review is ongoing	The total cost of the review was met by existing resources and was not costed separately. The cost of the consultancy to lead the review is estimated to be up to \$75,000.	
Review Part 1B of the Crimes Act 1914	Review is ongoing	The cost of the review was met by existing resources and was not costed separately.	
Inter-Agency Committee reviewing the National Capital Authority's administration of leases over diplomatic land	Review is ongoing	The cost of the review was met by existing resources and was not costed separately.	
ALRC Review of Family Violence Laws	Review is ongoing	The cost of the review is being met by existing resources and was not costed separately.	
ALRC Review into Discovery Laws to improve access to justice	Review is ongoing	The cost of the review is being met by existing resources and was not costed separately.	
Statutory Review of 2003 amendments to the Copyright Act 1968	Review is ongoing	The cost of the review was met by existing resources and was not costed separately.	
Review of Classification Fees	Review is ongoing	\$20,625 (GST inclusive)	
Inter-Governmental Committee on Planning in the ACT	September 2010	The cost of the review was met by existing resources and was not costed separately.	
Inter-Governmental Committee on Parking	Review is ongoing	\$84,128 (GST inclusive)	
All other reviews			
Title	Date provided to Government	Estimated / actual Government response	Total cost²

Review of the <i>International Arbitration Act 1974</i>	Not applicable	Not required	The cost of the review was met by existing resources and was not costed separately.
Taskforce on the Commonwealth's National Capital responsibilities	January 2010	Not required	\$29,105 (GST exclusive)
ALRC Review of Commonwealth Secrecy Laws	December 2009	The Government is currently considering the recommendations of the report.	The cost of the review was met by existing resources and was not costed separately.
Review of Commonwealth legal services procurement	November 2009	Not required	\$167,625 (GST inclusive)
Review of Customary Law (Bail and Sentencing) Amendments	November 2009	Not required	The cost of the review was met by existing resources and was not costed separately.
Review of the legislation, practices and procedures that apply in the Family Court and the Federal Magistrates Court where family violence concerns are raised	November 2009	The Government is currently considering the recommendations of the report.	\$138,552 (GST exclusive)
Review of the Kingston and Arthur Value's Historical Area (KAVHA) Governance (Norfolk Island)	October 2009	Not required	The cost of the review was met by existing resources and was not costed separately.
ALRC Review on the Royal Commissions Act 1902 and related issues	October 2009	The Government is currently considering the recommendations of the report.	The cost of the review was met by existing resources and was not costed separately.
Review of the delivery of National Security Training by the Attorney-General's Department	September 2009	The Government is currently considering the recommendations of the report.	\$59,389 (GST inclusive)
Review of the workload, resources and funding of the Family Court of Western Australia	September 2009	The Government is currently considering the recommendations of the report.	\$34,186 (GST inclusive)

National Consultation on Human Rights	September 2009	April 2010	Total expenditure for the National Human Rights Consultation was \$2.9m (GST exclusive). Please note that this is the total cost of the Consultation (exclusive of GST) as reported in response to Additional Estimates 2010 QON 006 (tabled 23 March).
Strategic Framework for Access to Justice in the Federal Justice System, Report of the Access to Justice Taskforce	September 2009	Not required but the Government announced a number of measures in May 2010 to improve access to justice.	The cost of the review was met by existing resources and was not costed separately.
Maritime Enforcement Law Review	August 2009	Not required	The cost of the review was met by existing resources and was not costed separately.
Statutory review of the <i>Legislative Instruments Act 2003</i>	May 2009	The report is currently under consideration by government	\$45,300 (GST exclusive)
Review of the AFP response to an incident at Sydney Airport on 22 March 2009	April 2009	Not required	The cost of the review was met by existing resources and was not costed separately.
Review of family dispute resolution services in legal aid commissions	April 2009	Not required	\$354,000 (GST inclusive)
Review of Education, Awareness and Engagement Programs for Natural Hazards in Australia	March 2009	Not required	\$120,603 (GST exclusive)
Review of the Implementation of the Night Patrol Services in Northern Territory	February 2009	Not required	\$64,038 (GST exclusive)
Inquiry by the Hon John Clarke QC into the case of Dr Mohammed Haneef	November 2008	December 2008	\$2.5m (estimate) (GST exclusive)
Review of the delivery by federal courts of family law services	September 2008	May 2010	\$59,957 (GST inclusive)

2008 Review of Funding of the Native Title System	August 2008	Not required	The cost of the review was met by existing resources and was not costed separately.
Statutory Review (required by Schedule 6 in Table A at the notes to the <i>Copyright Act 1968</i>) of the operation of copyright exceptions of format-shifting of films and photographs	March 2008	Not required	The cost of the review was met by existing resources and was not costed separately.
Review of the Commonwealth Community Legal Services Program	March 2008	Government accepted the recommendations of the review as amended in light of consultation with stakeholders	\$35,040 (GST exclusive)
The Street Review: a review of interoperability between the AFP and its national security partners	February 2008	Not required	The cost of the review was met by existing resources and was not costed separately.