

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 26-27 MAY 2010

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(120) Program : Internal Product

Senator Barnett asked:

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

Senator Barnett provided the following definition of a Review:

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

Answer

- (1) Since November 2007, ten reviews have been completed or are ongoing (see Attachment A).
- (2) A breakdown of the seven completed reviews (commenced since the Government came to office) are as follows:
 - a) All of the reviews were provided to the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship. Details are at Attachment B.
 - b) The estimated cost of each review is listed at Attachment B.
 - c) The Government's response to the reviews is detailed at Attachment B.
- (3) Two reviews are ongoing.
- (4) No reviews have been completed since additional estimates in February 2010.
- (5) Reviews for 2010-11 have not yet been finalised.

Attachment A

LIST OF REVIEWS (AS DEFINED BY SENATOR BARNETT) COMMISSIONED OR CONDUCTED FOR THE IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

Response to 1

Reviews completed after Nov 2007 (commenced <u>before</u> November 2007)	
1	Review of statutory self regulation of the migration advice profession 2007 (commissioned)
Reviews completed after Nov 2007 (commenced after November 2007)	
1	Living in Harmony review (internal and commissioned review)
2	Adult Migrant English Program review (internal review)
3	Review of ministerial intervention powers (Proust report) (commissioned)
4	Evaluation of DIAC's response to issues in Palmer, Comrie and related Ombudsmen reports (Proust report) (commissioned)
5	Review of the Citizenship Test (commissioned)
6	Review of subclass 457 visa program (Deegan report) (commissioned)
7	Personal identifier provisions introduced in 2004 for the <i>Migration Act 1958</i> (commissioned)
On-going reviews (commenced after November 2007)	
1	Review of employer sanctions legislation (commissioned)
2	Visa simplification and deregulation (commissioned and internal)
TOTAL NUMBER OF REVIEWS : 10	

Attachment B

BREAKDOWN OF REVIEWS COMPLETED SINCE THE GOVERNMENT CAME TO OFFICE (ONLY THOSE COMMENCED AFTER THE CURRENT GOVERNMENT CAME TO OFFICE)

Response to 2 (a), 2 (b) and 2 (c)

Reviews completed after Nov 2007 (commenced after November 2007)						
No	Description	Start	End	Cost¹ \$	Copy to Minister	Government response
1	Living in Harmony review (internal and commissioned review)	Feb 08	Nov 08	68 000	Yes Dec 08	Yes
2	Adult Migrant English Program review (internal review)	Feb 08	Nov 08	N/A	Yes Nov 08	Yes
3	Review of ministerial intervention powers (Proust report) (commissioned)	Nov 07	Jan 08	20 344	Yes Feb 08	Yes
4	Evaluation of DIAC's response to issues in Palmer, Comrie and related Ombudsmen reports (Proust report) (commissioned)	Jul 08	Nov 08	73 000	Yes Dec 08	Yes
5	Review of the Citizenship Test (commissioned)	Apr 08	Aug 08	221 131	Yes Aug 08	Yes
6	Review of subclass 457 visa program (Deegan report) (commissioned)	Apr 08	Nov 08	374 000 ²	Yes Nov 08	Yes
7	Personal identifier provisions introduced in 2004 for the <i>Migration Act 1958</i> (commissioned)	Jul 09	Sep 09	40 000	Yes Nov 09	Yes

¹ This is the cost for the contracted services excluding staffing and other incidental costs.

² This includes staff costs.