

**Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport**  
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Additional Budget Estimates February 2009  
**Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government**

**Question No.:** CASA 01

**Division/Agency:** Civil Aviation Safety Authority

**Topic:** Mobile Telephones in Aircraft

**Hansard Pages:** 73-74 (24/02/09)

**Senator Macdonald asked:**

**Senator IAN MACDONALD**—Is it you or someone else—and this came up in another Estimates Committee— on the use of mobile telephones in aircraft. Is that a safety issue?

**Ms Macauley**—It is not a safety issue *per se*. Any regulation of its use is not a matter for the ATSB. But we may have investigations that we conduct where the use of mobile phones may be reviewed or examined as to whether they played a factor through either a distraction or some sort of electro-magnetic interference. But its regulation is a matter for the Civil Aviation Safety Authority.

.....  
**Senator IAN MACDONALD**—have missed the boat here and perhaps Mr Tongue might take it on notice from me to CASA, but it is a regulatory issue, is it, and the Australian Air Regulations now say they must be turned off. Is that correct?

**Mr Tongue**—I would have to take some advice from CASA.

**Senator IAN MACDONALD**—Okay. Could you put that on notice for me, please? Is it regulated by the government or is it just an airline thing and what is the scientific background for the issue? I think that is all I had, Mr Chairman.

**Answer:**

Civil Aviation Regulation 309A, which empowers operators (and pilots in-command) to give instructions prohibiting or limiting the doing of an act on board an aircraft during flight time. It is an operator's responsibility to assess and limit cell phone use accordingly. Current Australian legislation does not specifically mention cell phones.

CASA is currently developing a new Civil Aviation Safety Regulation (CASR Part 91) covering the use of portable electronic devices on board aircraft.

**Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport**  
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Additional Budget Estimates February 2009  
**Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government**

**Question No.:** CASA 02

**Division/Agency:** Civil Aviation Safety Authority

**Topic:** Reviews

**Hansard Pages:** Written Question

**Senator McGauran asked:**

1. How many Reviews are currently being undertaken in the portfolio/agency or affecting the portfolio agency?
2. When will each of these reviews be concluded?
3. Which Reviews have been completed since Supplementary Budget Estimates 2008?
4. When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?
5. What is the total number of Reviews both completed and ongoing in the portfolio/agency or affecting the portfolio agency since November 2007?
6. What is the estimated cost of these Reviews?
7. What further reviews are planned for 2009?

**Answer:**

1. As at 20 April 2009, there are currently 18 reviews currently being undertaken by CASA. The majority of these reviews are undertaken by the Office of Airspace Regulation.
2. All reviews are due to be completed by the end of 2009 except for the Defence Restricted Airspace Audit which is due for completion by June 2010.
3. There have been ten reviews finalised since the Supplementary Budget Estimates in 2008.
4. A Government response is not usually required for the outcomes of CASA operational reviews.
5. There have been fifteen reviews completed since November 2007.
6. CASA undertakes a significant number of operational reviews each year. Funding is included in CASA's overall budget and, aside from consultancy elements, it is not yet possible to cost them individually.
8. CASA is involved in three reviews planned for the rest of 2009.

**Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport**  
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Additional Budget Estimates February 2009  
**Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government**

**Question No.:** CASA 03

**Division/Agency:** Civil Aviation Safety Authority

**Topic:** Consultancies

**Hansard Pages:** Written Question

**Senator McGauran asked:**

1. How many consultancies have been undertaken or are underway since November 2007?
2. Please identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the consultancy, and the method of procurement (i.e. open tender, direct source, etc).
3. Please also include total value for all consultancies.
4. Do you stand by Government Tenders website ([www.tenders.gov.au](http://www.tenders.gov.au)) and what changes or corrections have been made to it since 18 February 2009? Are you up to date with reporting requirements?
5. How many consultancies are planned / budgeted for this calendar year?
6. Have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and if not why not?
7. In each case, please identify the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant, if known.

**Answer:**

1-7 All consultancies are on the website.