

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND**  
**INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO**  
**2012-13 Additional Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number:** Cross Outcome

**Question No:** 185

**Topic:** Making the Public Service more efficient

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Boyce** asked:

Has there been a reduction in the use of external consultants and contractors? Has this impacted on the Department/agency, and how? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?

**Answer:**

For the financial year to date (31 January 2013), there has been a reduction in the supplier expenditure on consultants and contractors. This reduction has not impacted on the Department. Savings over the forward estimates are not known.

Information on the portfolio agencies is not able to be provided without the use of significant resources.