

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings November 2014
Communications Portfolio
Australian Communications and Media Authority

Question No: 438

Program No. ACMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Consultancies

Senator Ludwig asked:

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

1. How many consultancies have been undertaken? Identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (i.e. open tender, direct source, etc). Also include total value for all consultancies.
2. How many consultancies are planned for this calendar year? Have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and if not why not? In each case please identify the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known.
3. Have any consultancies not gone out for tender?
 1. List each, including name, cost and purpose
 2. If so, why?

Answer:

1. The ACMA undertook 6 consultancies from 1 June 2014. Details are included in the attached table.
2. There are no planned consultancies for the remainder of this calendar (2015). As there are no planned consultancies above the reporting threshold there are no entries for consultancies in the Annual Procurement Plan.
3. Three consultancy advices were obtained via limited source procurement. These were:
 1. Legal advice on code of conduct review including conferencing and review of entitlements;
Conducting an ACMA stakeholder satisfaction survey and;
The provision of legal advice on insolvency relating to Savvy Communications.
 2. Consistent with Commonwealth Procurement Rules, all three consultancies were under the \$10,000 threshold requirement for tender.

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Contracts awarded as Consultancies 1 June 2014 to 31 October 2014.					
Supplier Name	Description	Procurement Method	Start Date	End Date	Value Ex GST (AUD)
Australian Government Solicitor	Legal Advice for internal code of conduct review	Limited tender	15-Jan-14	30-Jun-14	\$9,587.94
Newspoll	ACMA stakeholder survey	Limited tender	24-Jan-14	10-Jul-14	\$9,200.00
Frontier Economics Pty Ltd	Peer Review of Economic Analysis of Unsold spectrum	Open tender	14-May-14	26-Jun-14	\$14,625.00
Web Usability	ACMA Website Usability and Accessibility Testing	Approach to selected providers under a Request for Offer.	4-Aug-14	19-Sep-14	\$41,100.00
Woolcott Research	Qualitative Research to Pre-test New Cybersmart Kids Educational Film Resource	Open tender	10-Jun-14	29-Aug-14	\$24,900.00
Ashurst Australia	Legal Advice re Savvy Communications	Limited tender	11-Sep-14	31-Oct-14	\$5,250.00
				Total	\$104,662.94