

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates

26 February 2014

Question: AET 1801

Topic: Pre-election commitments or decisions - Contracts (ACCC)

Written: 7 March 2014

Senator BUSHBY asked:

1801. How much has your agency spent in the last year on PR firms, focus groups, lobbyists or external communications contracts or services? What were the decision processes for those contracts and what was the level of Ministerial or Minister office input into those decisions?

Answer:

1801. \$169,886 (1 March 2013 – 28 February 2014).

Decisions to engage consultants were made using standard FMA-compliant procurement processes, with decisions typically made at officer level, according to delegated authority. Decisions are based on an assessment of value for money and the capability and capacity of the firm(s) concerned. There was no Ministerial or Ministers' office involvement in decisions made.