

**Senate Economics Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Supplementary Budget Estimates

2014 - 2015

**Department/Agency: ACNC**

**Question: SBT 4173 - 4175**

**Topic: Consultancies**

**Reference: Written - 30 October 2014**

**Senator: Ludwig, Joe**

**Question:**

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

4173. 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 (ie. open tender, direct source, etc). Also include total value for all consultancies.
4174. 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.
4175. Have any consultancies not gone out for tender?
- a) List each, including name, cost and purpose
  - b) If so, why?

**Answer:**

4173. Since Budget Estimates in June 2014, the ACNC engaged one existing consultant, Curtin University, to do additional analysis relating to its existing contract to conduct a longitudinal study using information lodged with the ACNC by registered charities via the Annual Information Statement. The ACNC also had an ongoing consultancy with Ernst and Young.

The consultancies, including subject matter, are:

- a) Ernst and Young: report on the regulatory and reporting burden on the not-for-profit sector in Australia.

*Duration:* December 2013 to September 2014.

*Cost:* \$149,761.

*Procurement:* The method of procurement was a formal Request For Quote issued on 12 November 2013 to 6 panel members on the Australian Taxation Office Financial, Accounting, Audit & Related Services Panel as a competitive process for quote within 14 days. Following a competitive evaluation process, Ernst and Young was selected as the successful supplier and awarded the contract. This was published on AusTender on 9 Dec 2014.

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b) Curtin University

- i) analytical study using information lodged with the ACNC by registered charities via their 2013/14 Annual Information Statements (part 1)

*Duration:* April 2014 to August 2014.

*Cost:* \$40,000.

*Procurement:* limited request for quote. The contract was executed on 1 May 2014. This was published on AusTender on 6 May 2014.

- ii) analytical study using information lodged with the ACNC by registered charities via their 2013/14 Annual Information Statements (part 2)

*Duration:* July 2014 to September 2014.

*Cost:* \$12,000.

*Procurement:* At the request of the ACNC, the scope of the research project was enhanced to cover a greater number of Annual Information Statements. On 1 July 2014 the ACNC agreed to pay Curtin University \$12,000 for this additional work.

The total cost of the consultancies is \$201,761, covering the period December 2013 – September 2014.

4174. No further consultancies are planned for this calendar year.

4175.

- a) The second part of the study conducted by Curtin University – analytical study using additional information lodged with the ACNC by registered charities via their 2013/14 Annual Information Statement (part 2) – did not go to tender.
- b) The consultancy did not go to tender because the cost of the additional work was only \$12,000.