

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2014-15

Finance Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of Finance

Outcome/Program: General

Topic: Conditions on Government Contracts and Agreements

Senator: Ludwig

Question reference number: F70

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 10 April 2015

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Since 7 September 2013, do any contracts managed by the Department of Finance contain any limitations or restrictions on advocacy or criticising Government policy? If yes:

1. Please name the top contacts (by value).
2. When was it formed or created?
3. What are the specific clauses and/or sections which state this, or in effect, create a limitation or restriction?
4. Do any agreements managed by the Department/Agency contain any limitations on restrictions on advocacy or criticisms of Government policy? If so, please name each agreement. When was it formed or created?
5. What are the specific clauses and/or sections which state this, or in effect, create a limitation or restriction?
6. For each of the contracts and agreements, are there any particular reasons, such as genuine commercial in confidence information, for this restriction?
7. Have any changes to financial or resource support to services which advocate on behalf of groups or individuals in Australian society been made? If so, which groups? What was the change?
8. Has any consultation occurred between the Department/Agency and any individuals and/or community groups about these changes? If so, what consultation process was used? Was it public? If not, why not? Are public submissions available on a website?
9. If no consultation has occurred, why not?
10. Did the Minister/Parliamentary Secretary meet with any stakeholders about changes to advocacy in their contracts and/or agreements? If so, when? Who did he/she meet with?

Answer:

To attempt to provide this level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.