

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
—Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing—October 2014**

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **Callida consultancy**
Question: **183**
Hansard Reference **p 77-78, 20 October 2014**

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 31 December 2014

Senator FAULKNER: So, of the 14 people employed in the finance section, we have some permanent employees, some on contract from Callida, and some on contract from other places.

Ms Teece: That is correct.

Senator FAULKNER: But we cannot get a breakdown of that?

Ms Teece: I am just getting that information.

Senator FAULKNER: Thank you. I appreciate that very much. I would be very interested in getting that information. I am sorry to interrupt you, Senator Heffernan. I would be interested in understanding how long these individual employees have been on contract to DPS for. I would be very interested in knowing what the contract value is. Would it be on an annualised basis? I assume it would, but you tell me, Ms Teece.

Ms Teece: The contract was for a set period of time, and then there have been a couple of illnesses in the area. We were hoping to get a CFO in earlier than we did, and so there were contracts that were extended for short periods of time.

Senator FAULKNER: Fair enough. I would be interested in understanding the dollar value of the contract. I would also be interested in following up Senator Heffernan's question about whether the contract for Callida and any others were tendered for—so it might be 'contracts'; if so, when? I also would be very interested to hear whether it was an open or limited tender. That would be useful.

...

Senator FAULKNER: Before we go to Senator Di Natale, I presume those other questions have been taken on notice.

Ms Teece: Yes.

Senator FAULKNER: I would appreciate, Ms Teece or Ms Mills, a comparatively early response on them.

Answer

As at 30 September 2014, there were 18 Finance staff of which eight were permanent DPS employees and 10 were contractors. The contracted staff were either engaged to fill permanent and temporarily vacant positions or to provide expert advice to the DPS Executive due to lack of in-house expertise.

As at 30 September 2014, DPS had engaged four contract staff through Callida Pty Ltd to fill line positions providing specialist financial, budgetary and accounting services to DPS spending \$626,310.00 (exclusive of GST).

As at 30 September 2014, DPS had engaged three contract staff through Hays Specialist Recruitment Pty Ltd to fill line positions providing general accounts payable services to DPS spending \$100,785.00 (exclusive of GST).

As at 30 September 2014, DPS had engaged two contract staff through Horizon One Recruitment Pty Ltd to fill line positions providing specialist financial accounting and general accounts payable services to DPS spending \$133,620 (exclusive of GST).

The table below provides a breakdown of each contractual arrangement.

Role	Contract Provider	Contract Start Date	Contract End Date	Contract Value AUD (GST Exclusive)¹
PEL2 – Financial Accountant	Callida	14-Feb-14	30-Oct-14	\$224,000.00
PEL2 – Management Accountant	Callida	20-Nov-13	31-Oct-14	\$317,450.00
PEL1 – Management Accountant	Callida	1-Dec-13	30-Oct-14	\$197,980.00
PEL1 – Management Accountant	Callida	15-Sep-14	30-Nov-14	\$66,000.00
PEL1 – Financial Accountant	Horizon One Recruitment	7-May-14	28-Nov-14	\$146,475.00
PSL3 – Accounts Payable Officer	Horizon One Recruitment	6-Jun-14	28-Nov-14	\$46,716.38
PSL6 – Accounts Supervisor	Hays Specialist Recruitment	10-Jun-14	24-Nov-14	\$59,358.90
PSL3 – Accounts Payable Officer	Hays Specialist Recruitment	10-Jun-14	28-Nov-14	\$44,160.00
PSL3 – Accounts Payable Officer	Hays Specialist Recruitment	2-Jun-14	28-Nov-14	\$44,519.10

All engagements have been under the existing Consultancy and Business Services Panel Arrangement coordinated by Australian Customs and Border Protection Services and the Austrade Recruitment Services Panel. DPS is a participating agency of both.

¹ The amounts in this table represent the contract values as at 30 September 2014 and not actual expenditure.