

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Additional Estimates 2011-12, 13 February 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	144
Program:	LCAL		
Division/Agency:	LCAL		
Topic:	Completed Loans		
Hansard Page EC:	EC42		

Senator BIRMINGHAM: Can you provide, on notice, some detail to us about the actual form of loans that have been completed: how many of the one-off loans have been completed and what value they are and what energy efficiency they return, as well as those details for the loans that have been completed through the partnership arrangements. I assume there are some that have been completed out those partnership arrangements to date.

Answer:

For the purposes of this answer, a ‘completed loan’ is taken to refer to the finishing of the *making of the loan* (i.e. where LCAL is contractually bound to extend finance), as opposed to the finishing of the *repayment of the loan*.

In summary, LCAL has five completed Finance Program (indirect) loans (or, with reference to the question above ‘partnership’ loans totalling \$28.3 million) and four completed Individual Project (direct) loans totalling \$2.3 million.

The LCAL loan amounts these figures represent are not a cost to government in the same manner as a grant; rather it is an amount of capital which has been made as a loan that is repaid with interest.

Given the limited number of loans completed to date (LCAL is less than two years into a five year program), it is not appropriate to present detailed information on each individual loan under these partnership programs, as this would make it possible to discern commercially sensitive information on individual projects that LCAL is contractually obligated to maintain as confidential. Accordingly, data has been aggregated in Tables 1 and 2 below.

Finance Program (Indirect) Loans

The calculation of projected energy savings and resultant carbon savings is undertaken at the point a third party takes out a loan for a specific project (based on the baseline for the project, its technology mix and type and location). The Energy Efficiency Program is a five year Program with key performance indicators around carbon savings based on a five year analysis.

Programs of this nature take time to develop the market driven financial products, identify the individual project opportunities and negotiate the necessary finance and other assistance required for them to proceed. The initial years of the Program therefore involve a lower number of completed loans than later years of the Program. Reporting on energy savings/carbon savings will be made according to the regular reporting schedule under the terms of the Program's Funding Deed, in aggregate categories relative to these loans as they are fully drawn through the course of the five year Program till it concludes.

Table 1: Finance Program (Indirect) Loans

No. of Loan products	LCAL Loan: Committed	Partner Finance: Committed	Total Project Finance Available to the Market
5	\$28,300,000	\$79,500,000	\$107,800,000

Individual Project (Direct) Loans

Non-commercially sensitive data for the 4 completed direct loans is presented in Table 1 below.

Table 2: Individual Project (Direct) Loans

No. of Completed Loans	LCAL Loan amount (Loaner)	Recipient Financed Amount (Loanee)	Total Project Finance Mobilised	Projected Energy Savings (kWh p.a)	Projected Carbon Savings – Life of project (tCO ₂ e)
4	\$2,254,725	\$221,046	\$2,475,771	1,207,960 kWh p.a.	15,202t

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Outcome:	1	Question No:	145
Program:	LCAL		
Division/Agency:	LCAL		
Topic:	Staffing		

Senator Fisher asked:

1. How many ongoing staff recruited this financial year to date? What classification are these staff?
2. How many non ongoing positions exist or have been created this financial year to date? What classification are these staff?
3. This financial year to date, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?

Answer:

1. Eight ongoing staff have been recruited this financial year to date (13 February 2012). All eight are non-executive.
1. Two specified-term contract employment positions (one full-time through May 2012, one part-time through October 2012) exist or have been recruited to 13 February 2012. Both are non-executive.
3. Two specified-term contract employment positions (one full-time through May 2012, one part-time through October 2012) exist or have been recruited to 13 February 2012. The average length of employment period was eight months.

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Outcome:	1	Question No:	146
Program:	LCAL		
Division/Agency:	LCAL		
Topic:	Staffing - Turnover		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Fisher asked:

1. How many ongoing staff left in the year 2010-11? What classification were these staff?
2. How many non ongoing staff left in the year 2010-11? What classification were these staff?

Answer:

1. Three ongoing staff left in the financial year 2010-11. All were non-executive.
2. No non-ongoing staff left in the financial year 2010-11.

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Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	147
Program:	LCAL		
Division/Agency:	LCAL		
Topic:	Staffing - Reduction		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Fisher asked:

1. Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details ie. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc.
2. If there are plans for staff reductions, please give the reason why these are happening.

Answer:

There are no plans for staff reduction.

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Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	148
Program:	LCAL		
Division/Agency:	LCAL		
Topic:	Staffing - SES		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Fisher asked:

Please list the SES positions have you in LCAL in the years 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11 and financial year to date. Identify the different levels and how many are permanent positions.

Answer:

Low Carbon Australia Limited has no Senior Executive Service positions because it is not staffed under the *Public Service Act 1999*.

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Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	149
Program:	LCAL		
Division/Agency:	LCAL		
Topic:	Staffing - Graduates		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Fisher asked:

1. How many graduates have been engaged this year? Where have they been placed? Were these empty positions or are they new positions?
2. List what training will be provided, the name of the provider and the cost.

Answer:

1.
 - a) 0.
 - b) Not applicable.
 - c) Not applicable.
2. Not applicable – see answer to part 1 of the question above.

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Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	150
Program:	LCAL		
Division/Agency:	LCAL		
Topic:	Consultancies		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Fisher asked:

1. How many consultancies were undertaken in 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10?
2. How many consultancies have been undertaken this financial year to date? 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.
3. 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.

Answer:

1. The number of consultancies in the relevant financial years are as follows:

Year	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Number of Consultancies	0*	0*	1
*Low Carbon Australia Limited (LCAL) did not exist			

- 2-3. As previously advised in the response to Supplementary Budget Estimates (SBE) 2011 Question on Notice (QoN) 156, LCAL does not classify its procurement according to the *Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines* framework to which the question refers (for example, “open tendering”, “direct source” etc). Further, LCAL does not construct or publish an Annual Procurement Plan, nor is it subject to the AusTender ‘reporting requirements’ referred to elsewhere in the question, as these are not applicable or relevant to LCAL’s regulatory environment.

Further, and as also previously advised in the response to SBE 2011 QoN 156, LCAL is a *Corporations Act 2001* public company limited by guarantee with a sole Member – the Commonwealth of Australia. The *Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines* are not applicable to LCAL as it is neither:

- a *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997* Agency per 1.1-1.3 of the *Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines*; nor
- a *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997* Company to which Schedule 1 of the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Regulations 1997* lists as an entity to which the Guidelines apply.

Accordingly, and in order to answer the question as completely as possible, the tables below include the name of each consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement in 2011-12.

There are no changes to current tenders on the AusTender website because there have been no tenders placed on it.

As previously advised in the response to SBE 2011 QoN 156, LCAL does not plan consultancies by calendar year. Consultancies are engaged on an as needed basis. LCAL is under a deadline to apply public funding by 30 June 2013. It should be noted that for much of this period LCAL's staff headcount ranged between four to 20 as the Company has grown. LCAL uses consultants as a cost-effective way to acquire:

- a. skills that are not available in house;
- b. skills which are only required for a fixed temporary period;
- c. skills that are otherwise required temporarily for a specified task;
- d. skills that are required interstate or remote from LCAL's Brisbane headquarters;
- e. for urgently required skills that would take too long to recruit or pending a recruitment; and
- f. any combination of the above.

Total spend on consultants in the 2011-12 financial year to date is \$111,832.84 net of GST. Details requested are provided in the table below [please note – costs given below are for consultancies *undertaken* (i.e. contracted) in 2011-12 per the question]. Actual recognition of expense of cost figures below may occur in future financial years as the services were delivered in more than one financial year. Details for consultancies in calendar 2012 are marked with an asterisk:

Consultancies Undertaken in 2011-12				
Date	Contractor	Task	Period	Cost (\$)
21/09/2011	Trac-Car Pty Ltd	IT and systems architecture services for the assessment of the Software Business Modelling Technology	6 months	39,600.00
1/10/2011	Helme Consulting	Carbon Neutral Program Stakeholder satisfaction assessment tools and quality control	1 month	4,500.00
22/11/2011	Aurecon	EEP Reviews of Expressions of Interest	3 months	35,206.34
17/01/2012	Seed Advisory*	Energy Market Review report	1 month	32,526.50
22/02/2012	Siller Systems*	Review of recordkeeping for National Archives	1 month	5,863.64

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Outcome:	1	Question No:	151
Program:	LCAL		
Division/Agency:	LCAL		
Topic:	Efficiency dividend		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Fisher asked:

1. How will the efficiency dividend applied in the 2011-12 Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook be implemented in LCAL?
2. What percentage of your budget must be cut?
3. Will any staff position be cut to meet the efficiency dividend? If yes, provide details of where the positions are located, the classification, whether the position is ongoing or not.
4. Please list where and what spending has been reduced to meet the efficiency dividend.

Outcome:	1	Question No:	152
Program:	LCAL		
Division/Agency:	LCAL		
Topic:	Efficiency dividend		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Humphries asked:

1. What is the effect of the efficiency dividend increase from 1.5 percent to 4 percent on LCAL's budget bottom line during financial years 2012/13, 13/14, 14/15?
2. What percentage of LCAL's budget is designated to staffing?
3. What is the size of LCAL's staffing establishment? Include figures for FTE, PT, casual, contractors, and consultants.
4. What specific strategies will LCAL adopt to ensure continued operation within budget?
5. Will or has consideration been made to reducing staffing complement including contractors, and consultants?

Answer (151-152):

As previously advised:

- in the opening statement tabled at the Committee's hearings 13 February 2012;
- in answer to Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011 Question on Notice 149; and
- in the answer to Senator Humphries' Senate Question on Notice 1132 of 12 September 2011.

Low Carbon Australia Limited is not subject to the efficiency dividend because it is not an agency covered by the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*.

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Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	153
Program:	LCAL		
Division/Agency:	LCAL		
Topic:	Advertising		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Fisher asked:

1. What was the total cost of all advertising for 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11?
2. For each of those years, list whether the advertising is campaign or non-campaign and details of each advertising, including the program the advertising was for, the total spend and the business that provided the advertising services.
3. Did the Department of Finance and Deregulation provide any advice about the advertising? Provide details of each advertising item.
4. Did the Advertising comply with the Guidelines on Information and Advertising Campaigns by Australian Government Departments and Agencies? Provide the details for each advertising item.
5. Provide details for any other communications program, including details of the program, the total spend and the business that provided the communication services.
6. What advertising – Campaign and Non-Campaign – and other communications programs is LCAL undertaking, or are planning to undertake?

Answer:

1. Costs for advertising in the financial years requested is as follows:

Year	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Cost	\$0*	\$0*	\$0	\$8,594
*Low Carbon Australia Limited (LCAL) did not exist in this year.				

2. As previously explained in the answer to Supplementary Budget Estimates (SBE) 2011 Question on Notice (QoN) 150, the definitions referred to are not applicable to LCAL. Per the answer to part 1, LCAL did not exist in the 2007-08 or 2008-09 financial years. Data for 2009-10 and 2010-11 is below:

Advertisement	Program	Spend	Provider
Call for Expressions of Interest	Energy Efficiency Program	\$5,161.20	Australian Financial Review
Call for Expressions of Interest	Energy Efficiency Program	\$3,432.80	The Australian

3. No.
4. No. As previously explained in the answer to SBE 2011 QoN 150, the *Guidelines* are not applicable.
- 5-6. As previously explained in the answer to SBE 2011 QoN 150, the definitions referred to are not applicable to LCAL. LCAL has a regular program of communication with its clients and stakeholders. LCAL is:
 - advising existing and prospective clients of LCAL's new and existing finance products and eligibility criteria;
 - advising existing and prospective clients of LCAL's Carbon Neutral Program under the National Carbon Offset Standard of developments and eligibility criteria; and
 - advising the media and general public of specific developments by public announcement from time to time as necessary.

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Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome: 1 **Question No:** 154
Program: LCAL
Division/Agency: LCAL
Topic: Hospitality and Entertainment
Hansard Page EC: Written

Senator Fisher asked:

1. What is LCAL's hospitality spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
2. What is LCAL's entertainment spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
3. What hospitality spend is LCAL planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
4. What entertainment spend is LCAL planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.

Answer:

1. \$0. There have been no Low Carbon Australia Limited (LCAL) hospitality events for the financial year to date.
2. \$7,938.89 to 31 January 2012. Details of date, location, purpose and cost are itemised as follows:

Date	Location	Purpose	Cost
14/07/2011	Wagga Wagga	Meal with stakeholders	\$78.00
14/07/2011	Sydney	Meal with stakeholder	\$14.60
15/07/2011	Sydney	Staff (x2) meal with stakeholders	\$289.51
19/07/2011	Sydney	Lunch with stakeholders	\$70.00
22/07/2011	Brisbane	Lunch with stakeholders	\$61.60

1/08/2011	Canberra	Staff (x2) lunch with two stakeholders	\$190.91
9/08/2011	Sydney	Lunch with stakeholders	\$51.47
31/08/2011	Hobart	Lunch with two stakeholders	\$139.95

1/09/2011	Sydney	Lunch with stakeholders	\$62.93
2/09/2011	Brisbane	Lunch with stakeholders	\$54.80
13/09/2011	Canberra	Staff (x2) lunch with two stakeholders	\$157.00
16/09/2011	Brisbane	Lunch with stakeholders	\$50.70
17/09/2011	Brisbane	Lunch with stakeholder	\$30.16
22/09/2011	Sydney	Lunch with stakeholders	\$56.61
20/09/2011	Brisbane	Lunch with stakeholders	\$70.80
20/09/2011	Brisbane	Staff (x3) dinner with stakeholders	\$409.09
27/09/2011	Melbourne	Lunch with stakeholders	\$13.25
28/09/2011	Brisbane	Lunch with stakeholders	\$64.36
29/09/2011	Melbourne	Lunch with stakeholders	\$36.07
12/10/2011	Brisbane	CEDA Annual Dinner (staff x 3)	\$900.00
13/10/2011	Brisbane	CEDA Lunch (staff x 1)	\$170.00
25/10/2011	Sydney	Lunch with five stakeholders	\$45.80
7/11/2011	Melbourne	Lunch with four stakeholders	\$211.54
28/10/2011	Brisbane	Staff Team Building Function	\$1,139.45
22/11/2011	Brisbane	Lunch with stakeholder	\$170.00
28/11/2011	Brisbane	Drinks with stakeholders	\$70.14
1/12/2011	Sydney	Lunch with stakeholders	\$40.00
5/12/2011	Melbourne	Lunch with two stakeholders	\$155.15
12/01/2012	Sydney	Lunch with stakeholders	\$27.18
13/12/2011	Brisbane	Lunch with stakeholders	\$24.91

13/12/2011	Sydney	Board Dinner (directors x 6, staff x 3)	\$909.09
16/12/2011	Brisbane	Staff Recognition Function	\$1,884.73
10/01/2011	Sydney	Meal with stakeholder	\$91.36
17/01/2012	Brisbane	Staff (x4) lunch with four stakeholders	\$197.73
Total			\$7,938.89

3. ~\$2,500 for a single event – stakeholder function with staff attending on 19 March 2012 on site at 140 Ann St. There are no other plans for hospitality at this time.
4. LCAL anticipates a comparable spend on entertainment in 2011-12 as that recorded for the previous year (refer answer to Supplementary Budget Estimate 2011 Question on Notice 151). As previously advised, these costs generally occur from time to time as staff engage with clients and business prospects. Costs are prospective and are not able to be broken down in the manner asked for in advance.

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Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome: 1 **Question No:** 155
Program: LCAL
Division/Agency: LCAL
Topic: Provision of equipment
Hansard Page EC: Written

Senator Fisher asked:

What electronic equipment is provided to LCAL staff? Please list what the equipment is, the cost, the classification of the staff receiving the equipment and the reason why.

Answer:

The information requested is as follows:

Item	Description	Issued to	Cost	Classification	Rationale
Laptop	Lenovo ThinkPad X201 / X220	All staff (desktop arrangement)	\$1,590 - \$1,860	All	Computation
Monitor	Samsung SyncMaster BX2240 or P2250	All staff (desktop arrangement)	~\$256	All	Computation
Docking Station	Lenovo ThinkPad X200 UltraBase	All staff (desktop arrangement)	\$199	All	Computation
Mouse	Microsoft Basic Optical Mouse v2.0 Model 1113	All staff (desktop arrangement)	~\$20	All	Computation

Keyboard	Microsoft Wired Keyboard 600 Model 1366	All staff (desktop arrangement)	~\$15	All	Computation
Desk lamp	Humanscale 15-24 VDC 0.4A 6W Type 2	All staff (desktop arrangement)	Part of original office fit- out and individual cost not readily identifiable	All	Occupational Health and Safety
Proximity Card	Withheld*	All staff	Provided by Landlord	All	Security
Blackberry	BlackBerry 9900 smartphone (3G, Wi-Fi) 7.0 Bundle 2090	All staff above Assistant- Director level who have a need for such a device	~\$720	All	Communication
Telephone	Avaya Model 1068-1	All staff (desktop arrangement)	\$882	All	Communication
USB Stick	Sandisk Cruzer USB 2.0 FlashDrive (indicative - various sizes)	Available to staff on request	\$7	All	Data portability
Calculator	HP EasyCalc100 (indicative - various types issued)	Available to staff on request	~\$10	All	Computation
* Divulging this information may be detrimental to security.					

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Outcome:	1	Question No:	156
Program:	LCAL		
Division/Agency:	LCAL		
Topic:	Freedom of Information		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Fisher asked:

1. Has LCAL received any advice on how to respond to FOI requests?
2. What was the total cost to LCAL to process FOI requests for 2009-10 and 2010-11?
3. What is the total cost to LCAL to process FOI requests for this financial year to date?
4. How many FOI requests did LCAL receive for the financial year 2009-10 and 2010-11? For each financial year, how many requests were denied and how many were granted? Did LCAL fail to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act for any requests? If so, how many? Do any of these requests remain outstanding?
5. How many FOI requests has LCAL received for this financial year to date? How many requests have been denied and how many have been granted? Has LCAL failed to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act for any requests? If so, how many? Do any of these requests remain outstanding?
6. How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests for this financial year to date?

Answer:

1. Low Carbon Australia Limited (LCAL) has not received any advice on how to respond to Freedom of Information (FOI) requests.
2. Costs for the relevant financial years are as follows:

Year	Total Cost of Processing FOI Requests
2009-10	\$0
2010-11	\$0

3. There has been no cost to LCAL to process FOI requests for this financial year to date.
4. Number of FOI requests received for the relevant financial years are as follows:

Year	No. of FOI requests
2009-10	0
2010-11	0

5. LCAL has received no FOI requests for this financial year to date.
6. No conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests for this financial year to date.

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Outcome:	1	Question No:	157
Program:	LCAL		
Division/Agency:	LCAL		
Topic:	Reviews		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Fisher asked:

For this financial year to date:

1. How many Reviews are being undertaken?
2. What reviews have concluded, and for those that are still ongoing, when will those reviews be conclude
3. Which of these reviews has been provided to Government?
4. When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?
5. What is the estimated cost of each of these Reviews?
6. What reviews are planned?
7. When will each of these reviews be concluded?

Answer:

1. 0
2. a) 0.
b) There are no ongoing reviews to conclude.
- 3-5. Not applicable.
6. None.
7. Not applicable.

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Outcome:	1	Question No:	158
Program:	LCAL		
Division/Agency:	LCAL		
Topic:	Media monitoring		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Fisher asked:

1. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to LCAL for 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11.
2. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to LCAL for this financial year to date?
 - a. Which agency or agencies provided these services?
 - b. What is the estimated budget to provide this same services for the year 2011-12?
 - c. What has been spent providing these services this financial year to date?

Answer:

1. Total cost of services of the type indicated for the financial years requested is as follows:

Year	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Cost	\$0*	\$0*	\$0	\$4,522.14

*n.b. LCAL did not exist in these financial years.

2. \$2,037.
 - a) CCH Australia Ltd, AAP.
 - b) \$5,736.
 - c) \$0. LCAL does not provide these services.

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Outcome:	1	Question No:	159
Program:	LCAL		
Division/Agency:	LCAL		
Topic:	Social media		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Fisher asked:

Have there been any changes to LCAL's social media protocols about staff access and usage of YouTube; online social media, such as Facebook, MySpace and Twitter; and access to online discussions forums and blogs since publication of the Australian Public Service Commission's Circular 2012/1: *Revisions to the Commission's guidance on making public comment and participating online*? If yes, please explain and provide copies of any advice that has been issue. If no, please explain why not.

Answer:

No. Low Carbon Australia Limited (LCAL) staff are not public servants and therefore the publication of the Australian Public Service Commission's Circular 2012/1: *Revisions to the Commission's guidance on making public comment and participating online*, while containing useful guidance, is not directly applicable to LCAL's circumstances. However, LCAL is at present independently considering revising staff protocols relating to social media.

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Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	160
Program:	LCAL		
Division/Agency:	LCAL		
Topic:	Contractors		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Humphries asked:

1. How many contractors are currently employed in LCAL?
2. How many contractors have been under contract for a period of more than 2 years?
3. How many contractors have been under contract for a period of more than 5 years?
4. How many contractors have been under contract for a period of more than 10 years?
5. Does the LCAL make a habit of employing contractors to fill positions on a permanent basis?

Answer:

For the purposes of this answer, 'contractors' includes consultants and non-ongoing contracted staff.

1-4. The answers are as follows:

Type of Contractor	Current	>2 years	>5 years	>10 years
Consultants	1	0	0*	0*
Non-ongoing staff	0	0	0*	0*
Total	1	0	0*	0*
* Low Carbon Australia Limited has only been in existence as a company since 14 January 2010.				

5. No.

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Outcome:	1	Question No:	161-169
Program:	LCAL		
Division/Agency:	LCAL		
Topic:	Contractors – Various		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Fisher asked:

Has LCAL ever employed Hawker Britton/Shannon's Way/John Utting & UMR Research Group/McCann-Erickson/Cutting Edge/Ikon Communications/CMAX Communications/Boston Consulting Group/McKinsey & Company in any capacity or is it considering employing Hawker Britton/Shannon's Way/John Utting & UMR Research Group/McCann-Erickson/Cutting Edge/Ikon Communications/CMAX Communications/Boston Consulting Group/McKinsey & Company? If yes, provide details.

Answer:

Low Carbon Australia Limited has never employed any of the entities or individuals listed in the questions in any capacity and it is not considering doing so.

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Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	170
Program:	LCAL		
Division/Agency:	LCAL		
Topic:	Discretionary Grants		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Fisher asked:

1. Could LCAL provide a list of all discretionary grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants for this financial year to date? Please provide details of the recipients, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants.
2. Has LCAL complied with interim requirements relating to the publication of discretionary grants?

Answer:

Low Carbon Australia Limited is not a grant making organisation.

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Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	171
Program:	LCAL		
Division/Agency:	LCAL		
Topic:	Government Payments of Accounts		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Fisher asked:

1. For this financial year to date, has LCAL paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e. within 30 days)? If not, why not, and what has been the timeframe for payment of accounts? Please provide a breakdown, average statistics etc as appropriate to give insight into how this issue is being approached).
2. For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by LCAL for the current financial year and the previous financial year?
3. Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?

Answer:

1. For the 2011-12 financial year to date, Low Carbon Australia Limited (LCAL) has paid its accounts to contractors/consultants in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e. within 30 days). A breakdown of payments for the 2011-12 financial year to date is presented in the table below.

Payment Terms	Percentage by dollar value	Percentage by number of payments
<=15 days	73	90
>15 days <=30 days	27	10
>30 days <=45 days	Nil	Nil
>45 days <=60 days	Nil	Nil
>60 days <=90 days	Nil	Nil
>90 days	Nil	Nil

- 2-3. As previously advised in the answers to Budget Estimates 2011 Question on Notice 144 and Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011 Question on Notice 167, for accounts not paid within 30 days, interest is not being paid on overdue amounts. Note that LCAL is a *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997* company.

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Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	172
Program:	LCAL		
Division/Agency:	LCAL		
Topic:	Media Subscriptions		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Fisher asked:

1. Does LCAL subscribe to pay TV (for example Foxtel)?
 - a. If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what channels.
 - b. What is the estimated cost for 2011-12?
 - c. What is the cost for this financial year to date?
2. Does LCAL subscribe to newspapers?
 - a. If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what newspapers.
 - b. What is the estimated cost for 2011-12?
 - c. What is the cost for this financial year to date?
3. Does LCAL subscribe to magazines?
 - a. If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what magazines.
 - b. What is the estimated cost for 2011-12?
 - c. What is the cost for this financial year to date?

Answer:

1. Please refer to the response to Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011 Question on Notice 168.
2. Yes
 - a-b. Please refer to the response to Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011 Question on Notice 168.
 - c. The cost for this financial year to date is \$1,036.36 (AFR)

3. Yes.

- a. Please refer to the response to Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011 Question on Notice 168.
- b. The estimate is approximately \$0 as it was an annual renewal in May 2011 (\$215.00 GST inclusive). Closer to May 2012, when the magazine is due for renewal, LCAL will make a business assessment as to whether or not to renew this subscription for another 12 months.
- c. \$0.

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Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	173
Program:	LCAL		
Division/Agency:	LCAL		
Topic:	Travel Costs		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Fisher asked:

1. For the financial year to date, please detail all travel (itemised separately) undertaken by employees of LCAL. Include details of what the travel was for, what cost was spent on travel (including travel type – i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses.
2. Are employees taking the most direct route when travelling? If not, please explain why.
3. Are lounge memberships provided to any employees? If yes, what lounge memberships, to how many employees and their classification, the reason for the provision of lounge membership and the cost per employee.
4. When SES employees travel, do any support or administrative staff (such as their Executive Assistant) travel with them? If yes, provide details of why such a staff member is needed and the costs of the support staff travel.

Answer:

1. Answering this question in the manner asked would provide an unreasonable diversion of Low Carbon Australia Limited (LCAL) resources. It is estimated that answering this question would take 2.5 staff (that is, 10 per cent of the business) offline for two weeks.

As a public company under the *Corporations Act 2001*, LCAL keeps accounts in accordance with standards issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board, and does not categorise expenses in this way. Calculating the figures in the manner requested would involve manually retrieving and rekeying receipts, and contacting service providers to estimate breakdowns where costs are aggregated. Further, as some of the categories identified overlap, elements would have to be double-entered.

In order to provide the Senator with the fullest information available within the time frame, the following information is provided for the financial year to date:

Classification	Expense
Accommodation	\$25,358.74
Air Travel - International	\$0.00
Air Travel - Domestic	\$106,664.09
Car Parking	\$2,631.73
Taxis and Fares	\$32,129.85
Meals whilst Travelling	\$4,305.88
Mileage Reimbursement	\$1,556.13
Company Directors Travel & Subsistence	\$33,581.89
Total	\$206,228.31

1. LCAL does not track the individual route movements of its employees although to enable the search for the 'best fare of the day' when making flight bookings, staff are encouraged to provide route and timing requests, rather than specific flight numbers. Plotting employee routes and calculating these would represent an unreasonable diversion of resources. General factors that affect routes taken when travelling are:
 - Whether the method is by road, rail, ferry or air.
 - Weather conditions and events.
 - Traffic.
 - Time available for travel.
 - Whether indirect fares are cheaper.
 - Time of day, timetabling and availability of services.
 - Knowledge of the staff member concerned of the most direct route.
 - Discretion exercised by drivers of vehicles not within LCAL's control (for example, taxi drivers).
 - Break in journey.
 - Diversions.
 - Whether travel is conducted on company time or in employee's own time.
3. Lounge memberships are not provided to any employees
4. LCAL has no Senior Executive Service employees.

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Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	174
Program:	LCAL		
Division/Agency:	LCAL		
Topic:	Legal Costs		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Fisher asked:

1. What sum did LCAL spend on legal services for this financial year to date within LCAL? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
2. What sum did LCAL spend on legal services this financial year to date from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
3. What sum did each LCAL spend on legal services this financial year to date from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
4. What sum did LCAL spend on legal services this financial year to date from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.

Answer:

1. Internal legal expenditure (that is, staff wages and ancillary costs) for 2011-12 has totalled \$224,241.55 financial year to date. It is not appropriate to break this figure down due to staff privacy and commercial considerations.
2. Low Carbon Australia Limited (LCAL) has not employed the legal services of the Australian Government Solicitor this financial year to date.
3. An itemised list of expenditure on external legal services and costs for the financial year to date are itemised in the table below. All external expenses were from private firms and are given ex-GST.

Date	Private Firm	Description	Cost
29/07/2011	Macrossans Lawyers	Advice and assistance with drafting of Carbon Neutral Customer Agreement under National Carbon Offset Standard	\$617.91
29/07/2011	Macrossans Lawyers	Funding Agreement advice	\$607.68
29/07/2011	Macrossans Lawyers	Advice and assistance with drafting of Carbon Neutral Customer Agreement	\$577.46

		under National Carbon Offset Standard	
29/07/2011	Macrossans Lawyers	Advice and assistance with drafting of Carbon Neutral Customer Agreement under National Carbon Offset Standard	\$12,161.18
19/08/2011	Baker and McKenzie*	Environmental Upgrade Agreement Review and Lending Structure	\$19,761.94
30/08/2011	Macrossans Lawyers	Funding Agreement advice	\$406.85
30/08/2011	Macrossans Lawyers	Advice and assistance with drafting of Carbon Neutral Customer Agreement under National Carbon Offset Standard	\$2,239.49
31/08/2011	DibbsBarker	Draft Agreement to establish structured finance products under LCAL's Energy Efficiency Program	\$10,716.00
31/08/2011	DibbsBarker	General Commercial IP Matters	\$700.40
1/09/2011	Clayton Utz	Regulatory issues & Compliance advice with regards to Energy Efficient Retro-Fit Proposal	\$2,011.80
1/09/2011	Clayton Utz	Regulatory issues & Compliance advice	\$3,074.40
1/09/2011	Clayton Utz	Regulatory issues & Compliance advice	\$3,953.40
12/09/2011	Baker and McKenzie	Environmental Upgrade Agreement Review and lending structure	\$18,922.50
30/09/2011	Macrossans Lawyers	NCOS Legal Advice	\$406.85
28/09/2011	Thomsons Lawyers	Advice on Employment Contract	\$247.50
30/09/2011	DibbsBarker	Draft Agreement to establish structured finance products under LCAL's Energy Efficiency Program	\$6,864.00
30/09/2011	DibbsBarker	Competition & Consumer Law Compliance Program	\$2,500.00
1/10/2011	DibbsBarker	Trade Mark Advice and Registration	\$6,730.63
1/10/2011	DibbsBarker	General Commercial IP Matters	\$4,419.00
31/10/2011	DibbsBarker	Advice on loan agreement under Energy Efficiency Program	\$13,282.15
25/11/2011	Norton Rose Aust	Advice on loan agreement under Energy Efficiency Program	\$3,966.70
29/11/2011	DibbsBarker	Advice on Energy Savings Guarantee Facility under Energy Efficiency Program	\$1,560.00
29/11/2011	DibbsBarker	Advice on loan agreement under Energy Efficiency Program	\$2,562.48
1/12/2011	Clayton Utz	Energy Efficient Retro-Fit Proposal	\$3,177.30
1/12/2011	Clayton Utz	Linked Credit Provider Advice	\$3,781.20

21/12/2011	Clayton Utz	AML/CTF Program Check	\$1,200.00
21/12/2011	Clayton Utz	Review of AMLCTF Standard Terms	\$1,363.63
22/12/2011	DibbsBarker	Advice on Energy Savings Guarantee Facility under Energy Efficiency Program	\$572.00
22/12/2011	DibbsBarker	Advice on loan agreement under Energy Efficiency Program	\$1,250.00
23/12/2011	Macrossans Lawyers	NCOS Legal Advice	\$364.00
23/12/2011	Macrossans Lawyers	General Contractual Advice	\$591.50
23/12/2011	Macrossans Lawyers	Advice on Employment Contracts	\$450.00
30/12/2011	DibbsBarker	Advice on Structured Finance Facility under Energy Efficiency Program	\$11,978.58
30/01/2012	DibbsBarker	Advice on Energy Savings Guarantee Facility under Energy Efficiency Program	\$364.00
30/01/2012	DibbsBarker	Advice on Structured Finance Facility under Energy Efficiency Program	\$20,441.50
31/01/2012	DibbsBarker	Advice on Trademark Protection	\$2,522.50
1/02/2012	Clayton Utz	Advice on Linked Credit Provider considerations in loan products	\$2,000.00
17/02/2012	Baker & McKenzie	Environmental Upgrade Agreement Review & Lending Structure	\$296.80
21/02/2012	Barrington Leather	Energy performance Contract Review	\$18,157.00
29/02/2012	Macrossan Lawyers	NCOS Legal Advice	\$318.50
TOTAL FYTD			\$187,118.83
*NB Note that in updating this answer from the previous response to Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011 Question on Notice 171 this item was mistakenly described as being expensed to “Macrossans Lawyers”.			

4. \$0.

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Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	175
Program:	LCAL		
Division/Agency:	LCAL		
Topic:	Education expenses		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Fisher asked:

For this financial year to date, detail all education expenses (i.e. in house courses and tertiary studies) for each portfolio department and agency. Include what type of course, the total cost, cost per participant, how many participants and the amount of study leave granted to each participant. Also include the reason for the study.

Answer:

FYTD education expenditure is as follows:

Education expenditure 2011-12 FYTD	
Tertiary studies	
Partial reimbursement (30%) of course fees for Bachelor of Laws	\$ 544.80
Number of participants	1
Study leave granted	4 days
Reason for Study – professional development	

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Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	176
Program:	LCAL		
Division/Agency:	LCAL		
Topic:	Training – Executive Coaching and Leadership Training		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Fisher asked:

In relation to executive coaching and/or other leadership training services purchased by LCAL, please provide the following information for this financial year to date:

1. Total spending on these services
2. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification
3. The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted
4. The names of all service providers engaged.
For each service purchased from a provider listed under (4), please provide:
 - a. The name and nature of the service purchased
 - b. Whether the service is one-on-one or group based
 - c. The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification
 - d. The total number of hours involved for all employees
 - e. The total amount spent on the service
 - f. A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)

Where a service was provided at any location other than LCAL's own premises, please provide:

- i. The location used
- ii. The number of employees who took part on each occasion
- iii. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part

Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location.

Answer:

Low Carbon Australia Limited has not purchased any executive coaching and/or other leadership training services this financial year to date.

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Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	177
Program:	LCAL		
Division/Agency:	LCAL		
Topic:	Training - media		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Fisher asked:

In relation to media training services purchased by LCAL, please provide the following information for this financial year to date:

1. Total spending on these services
2. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification
3. The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted
4. The names of all service providers engaged

For each service purchased from a provider listed under (4), please provide:

- a. The name and nature of the service purchased
- b. Whether the service is one-on-one or group based
- c. The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification
- d. The total number of hours involved for all employees
- e. The total amount spent on the service
- f. A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)

Where a service was provided at any location other than LCAL's own premises, please provide:

- i. The location used
- ii. The number of employees who took part on each occasion
- iii. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part
- iv. Any costs LCAL incurred to use the location

Answer:

1. \$0.
2. 0.
3. 0.
4. Not applicable. None were engaged.

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Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	178
Program:	LCAL		
Division/Agency:	LCAL		
Topic:	Paid Parental Leave		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Fisher asked:

1. Please list how many staff in LCAL are eligible to receive payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme?
2. Please list how many staff are in receipt of these payments.

Answer:

1. Please refer to the response to Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011 Question on Notice 176.
2. No staff are in receipt of these payments.

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Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	179
Program:	LCAL		
Division/Agency:	LCAL		
Topic:	Corporate Cars		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Fisher asked:

1. How many cars are owned by LCAL?
2. Where is the car/s located?
3. What is the car/s used for?
4. What is the cost of each car for this financial year to date?
5. How far did each car travel this financial year to date?

Answer:

Low Carbon Australia Limited does not own any cars.

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Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	180
Program:	LCAL		
Division/Agency:	LCAL		
Topic:	Taxi Costs		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Fisher asked:

1.
 - a. How much did LCAL spend on taxis in 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11?
 - b. Provide a breakdown of each business group in LCAL.
2. How much did LCAL spend on taxis this financial year to date? Provide a breakdown of each business group in LCAL.

Answer:

1. Low Carbon Australia Limited did not exist in 2007-08 or 2008/09. Figures for 2009-10 were as follows:

Program Operations	\$ 3,093.25
Corporate	\$ 2,071.30
TOTAL	\$ 5,164.55

Figures for 2010-11 were as follows:

Program Operations	\$ 13,255.60
Corporate	\$ 19,473.05
TOTAL	\$ 32,728.65

2. Figures for the financial year to date are as follows:

Program Operations	\$ 14,697.30
Corporate	\$ 17,432.55
TOTAL	\$ 32,129.85

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Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	181
Program:	LCAL		
Division/Agency:	LCAL		
Topic:	Credit Cards		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Fisher asked:

1. How many staff in LCAL have a corporate credit card? What is their classification?
2. What action is taken if the corporate credit card is misused?
3. How is corporate credit card use monitored?
4. What happens if misuse of a corporate credit card is discovered?
5. Have any instances of corporate credit card misuse have been discovered? List staff classification and what the misuse was, and the action taken.
6. What action is taken to prevent corporate credit card misuse?

Answer:

1. Twelve Low Carbon Australia Limited (LCAL) staff have a corporate credit card. LCAL is not an Australian Public Service (APS) agency under the *Public Service Act 1999* and does not use Australian Government APS classifications. Three staff were executive employees and nine staff were non-executive employees.
- 2-4. Please refer to the response to Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011 Question on Notice 179.
5. There have been no instances of misuse identified to date.
6. Please refer to the response to Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011 Question on Notice 179.