

# Senate Standing Committee on Economics

## ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

### Treasury Portfolio

#### Additional Estimates

23 – 24 February 2011

**Question No:** AET 105

**Topic:** Consultancies (ATO)

**Hansard Page:** Written

#### Senator Bushby asked:

1. How much has the Department spent on consultancy services this financial year? Please identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the contract, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc).
2. How many consultancies have been undertaken or are underway since October Estimates 2010? Please identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the contract, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc).
3. Is the Department/agency up to date with its reporting requirements on the Government's tenders and contacts website? Are the figures available on that site correct?
4. Has there been any changes in the consultancies that are planned for this calendar year since October Estimates 2010? If yes, 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, projected cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known.

#### Answer:

This response is limited to the ATO and does not include information relating to the broader Treasury portfolio.

For the purposes of this response, consultancies are classified in accordance with Financial Management Guidance (FMG) No.15. The figures shown in Attachments A and B are for arrangements greater than \$10,000 which are required to be gazetted on AusTender.

1. In the current financial year (01 July 2010 to 28 February 2011) the ATO has spent \$4.614 million (including GST) on consultancy services. This consists of \$1.600 million against contracts awarded in prior years and \$3.014 million in contracts awarded in the 2010-11 financial year.

Attachment A sets out the following details for each consultancy entered into in the current year:

- name of the consultant
- subject matter of the consultancy

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- the duration of the consultancy
  - the gazetted cost of the consultancy, and
  - the method of procurement.
2. Since October Estimates 2010, the ATO has entered into 34 new consultancy arrangements totalling \$2.253 million (GST inclusive).

Attachment B sets out the following details for each consultancy entered into since October 2010 Estimates:

- name of the consultant
  - subject matter of the consultancy
  - the duration of the consultancy
  - the gazetted cost of the consultancy, and
  - the method of procurement.
3. The ATO updates the AusTender website on a regular basis in accordance with the Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines. The ATO 2010-11 Annual Procurement Plan was published on 1 July 2010 and all approaches to market are advertised on AusTender as they become known. When a preferred supplier has been determined, the contract arrangement is gazetted on AusTender. The figures on AusTender are correct.
4. As at the date of this response there has been no changes in the consultancies planned for the calendar year since October Estimates 2010.

#### **Attachments:**

**A: Consultancies commenced since July 2010**

**B: Consultancies commenced since October Estimates 2010**