

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates

23 – 24 February 2011

Question: AET 85

Topic: Consultancies

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 contracts 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:

The Treasurer has provided the following answer to the honourable Senator's questions:

1. Between 1 July 2010 and 28 February 2011 the Department spent \$4,013,998 on consultancy services.

A list of the consultancies is provided in Attachment A.

2. Since 31 October a total of 81 consultancies have been undertaken or underway.

A list of the consultancies is provided in Attachment A.

3. Yes.

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4. Since the publication of the Annual Procurement Plan there has been one additional consultancy planned, which met the publication criteria and which has been published. For details refer to the Austender website.

Whilst Treasury publishes and updates the Annual Procurement Plan with known procurements, occasionally due to short time-frames the plan will not be updated. In these instances Treasury approaches the market directly, as there would be no benefit in updating the Annual Procurement Plan.