

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Additional Estimates

26 February 2014

**Question: AET 3141-3144**

**Topic: Pre-election commitments or decisions - Grants and Contracts (ATO)**

**Written: 7 March 2014**

**Senator BUSHBY asked:**

3141) Had your Department or agency issued any correspondence containing offers or proposals of grants in the caretaker period or on the cusp of caretaker mode? Can you please provide details of what date such correspondence was issued and how many groups were written to?

3142) Have there been any contracts signed by your Department or agency in the caretaker period?

- a) Can you please provide details of the amounts involved?
- b) Who were the other parties to these contracts?
- c) What was the extent of any competitive process?
- d) What was the level of involvement by Ministers and/or their offices?

3143) How much funding has this agency provided to unions over the past three years, whether through grants, procurement or other mechanisms?

3144) Were any contract negotiations called off in the past year after short-listing but before execution of contracts?

**Answer:**

3141) No.

3142) During the caretaker period 158 contracts signed with contract value of \$220.7 million. The contracts that were entered into were critical for the continuation of ATO business. Approximately \$125 million, representing 57 percent of the total value, involved IT software. Legal services totalled \$32 million, representing 14.5 percent of the total value. Postage services were \$30 million, representing 13.5 percent of the total value. For further information please refer to tenders.gov.au.

3143) Total expenditure \$1879.62. This is represented as follows:

<b>Doc. Date</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Reason</b>
17.10.2013	1,282.50	Reimburse legal fees of union member
04.06.2013	20.50	ASU - FOI refund
01.11.2012	576.62	Reimburse ASU Canberra-Melbourne Airfare 10.10.12

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- 3144) Yes. The ATO can report that there were 5 instances during the period 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014 where contract negotiations called off after short-listing but before execution of contracts. Details are set out as follows:

<b>Contract description</b>	<b>Negotiating Supplier</b>
Executive Search and Recruitment Services	Executive Intelligence Group
Review the Culture and Performance	APSC panel
SBR Prototypes	Daniels and Co
Specialised Training	Carnegie Mellon University
Software for the Australian Business Register Search tool	SpaceTime Research Pty Ltd

None are subject to legal proceedings.