

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Budget Estimates, 2 June – 4 June 2009

**Question: bet 139**

**Topic: Consultants (AOFM)**

**Hansard Page: Written**

**Senator Bushby asked:**

1. What consultants have been engaged by AOFM over the past 12 months?
  - a) What areas were the consultants sought to advise on?
  - b) How much was paid to the consultants?
  - c) Who were the consultants?
  - d) How much was paid in legal fees by AOFM over the past 12 months?
  - e) How much was paid in non-legal consultants by AOFM over the past 12 months?
  - f) Were consultants sought by tender or direct appointment
    - I. If tender, who was the decision-maker on the consultants who were successful in the tender process?
    - II. Who were the successful consultants?

**Answer:**

In addressing the questions the AOFM has adopted the definition for consultants based on the 2009 PM&C Annual Report Guidelines and Financial Management Guidance No.15 issued by the Department of Finance and Deregulation.

- a) The AOFM engaged consultants during 2008-09 to provide internal audit services, legal advice, remuneration advice, valuation services and actuarial services.
- b) Total amount expended (in cash terms) by the AOFM on consultants during 2008-09 was \$152,329. This includes both new and ongoing consultancy arrangements.
- c) The consultants were as follows:
  - Internal audit – PricewaterhouseCoopers;
  - Legal advice – the Australian Government Solicitor;
  - Remuneration advice – Mercer (Australia);

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Budget Estimates, 2 June – 4 June 2009

- Valuation services – the Australian Valuation Office; and
  - Actuarial services – the Australian Government Actuary.
- d) Total amount expended (in cash terms) by the AOFM on legal services during 2008-09 was \$25,746, of which \$12,524 is included in consultants expenditure reported at (b) above.
- e) \$139,805 was paid in non-legal consultancy services during 2008-09.
- f) All new consultancy arrangements in 2008-09 were made by direct appointment. Total expenditure in 2008-09 on new consultancy arrangements was \$20,994.