

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Budget Estimates, 2 June – 4 June 2009

**Question: bet 156**

**Topic: Consultants (ASIC)**

**Hansard Page: Written**

**Senator Bushby asked:**

1. What consultants have been engaged by ASIC 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 ASIC over the past 12 months?
  - e) How much was paid in non-legal consultants by ASIC 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:**

A) Consultants were predominantly sought for the Information Technology area in relation to the STAR project, enhancing communication systems and network refresh projects.

B) Consultant costs for the Financial Year 2008-09 were \$4.8m.

C) Consultants that represented over 70% of the expenditure incurred of \$4.8m in the financial year 2008-09 included the following: Fujitsu, Objective Corp, Ajilon, Oakton AA Services, Electroboard, Protiviti, Telco Asset Management, Hewlett Packard, Paxus Aust, E-Secure and Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu.

D) Legal fees paid for the Financial Year 2008-09 were \$25.2m.

E) Consultant costs for the Financial Year 2008-09 of \$4.8m were all non-legal.

## **Senate Standing Committee on Economics**

### **ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

#### **Treasury Portfolio**

Budget Estimates, 2 June – 4 June 2009

F) The procurement method for consultants depends on the size, scale and scope of the requirements. The majority of consultants for expenditure expected to exceed \$50,000 were sought through an existing panel such as the IT consultancy services panel or direct sourcing where there are only a limited number of firms able to provide the service. The decision makers on the tendering process have been the CIO, COO or the Senior Executive Leader requesting the expenditure. Successful consultants who were sought through the tender process over \$50,000 included Objective and Eclipse Group.