

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates

31 May – 2 June 2011

Question No: BET 136

Topic: ASIC - Consultancies

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bushby asked:

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).

ASIC's total spend on consultancy services since 1 July 2010 is \$23,389,510. Details of consultancies valued at over \$10,000 engaged by ASIC this financial year, as extracted from the AusTender website, are listed at Attachment 1, including the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the contract, and the method of procurement.

How many consultancies have been undertaken or are underway since February Estimates 2011? 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).

Since February estimates 2011, there have been 100 consultancies undertaken or underway including those consultancies that commenced prior to February estimates and that were completed or ongoing after February estimates 2011.

Details of consultancies valued at over \$10,000 that have engaged by ASIC since February estimates or that have commenced prior to February estimates and that were completed or ongoing after February estimates 2011, as extracted from the AusTender website, are listed at Attachment 2 including the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the contract, and the method of procurement.

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?

Yes. ASIC is not aware of any discrepancies in the figures available on the website.

Has there been any changes in the consultancies that are planned for this calendar year since February Estimates 2011? 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.

Since February Estimates 2011, there have not been any changes to the consultancies planned for this calendar year other than changes to the estimated date of approach to market. ASIC's Annual Procurement Plan for 2011/2012 was published on AusTender on 29 June and is up to date.

Could the Department provide a complete list of current consultancy services. For each consultancy, please indicate the rationale for the project and its intended use. For each consultancy, please indicate why the Department or its agencies could not have undertaken the work themselves.

A list of current consultancies valued at over \$10,000 are at Attachment 3 including the description of the services and the reason why the consultancy was need.