

Senate Standing Committee on Economics
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Innovation, Industry, Science and Research Portfolio
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012
19 October 2011

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INNOVATION, INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

TOPIC: MEDIA MONITORING

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Colbeck

QUESTION No.: SI-128

- 1) During 2011, did the Department invite consultants/contractors to submit a tender for media monitoring with the aim of collecting a comprehensive list of public information on firms facing difficulty? If so, when did this tender process begin and when was it completed?
- 2) What does this contract cost – and with which area of the Department will the tenderer predominantly be liaising?
- 3) What types of reports and evaluations are being generated through this new contract? And how does what the new service will produce differ from the monitoring the Department has otherwise been doing on firms under threat?
- 4) Through the new contract, will the Department also be compiling lists of companies that have closed?

ANSWER

- 1) Yes, please refer to SI-127. The Department placed a request for tender on the AusTender website on 15 June 2011. This request for tender remained accessible for 28 days before closing.
- 2) The cost of monitoring is \$142,560 for one year commencing 19 August 2011. The tenderer will liaise with the Industry & Small Business Policy Division.
- 3) The data is collated and reported on a monthly basis as input to policy advice. The new contract represents a continuation of an existing service rather than the commencement of a new service.

The Department conducts no other monitoring on firms under threat.

- 4) Yes - the Department will use information obtained through the media monitoring service to compile a list of companies known to have closed as identified in the media monitoring.