

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012**

Cross Portfolio

DEEWR Question No. EW0595_12

Senator Mason provided in writing.

Question

ALTC - Consultancy

"1. At the Budget Estimates on 1 June 2011, the Committee was informed that Ms Alison Johns had been appointed as a consultant, to work for DEEWR between July and September 2011.

- (a) What was the period during which the consultancy actually occurred?
- (b) Has the consultancy now concluded? If so, when? If not, when will it cease?
- (c) Was Ms Johns paid a daily rate, and if so what was that daily fee?
- (d) If Ms Johns was paid on another basis to a daily fee, please provide details?
- (e) What were the total costs of engaging Ms Johns as a consultant, including any disbursements and other expenses?
- (f) Was Ms Johns provided with secretariat support by the Department, and if so please provide details?
- (g) What were the outcomes of Ms Johns' work, and was a written report provided to the Department and/or Minister (or if the consultancy is still ongoing, will a report be provided)?
- (h) Will the Minister provide the Committee with a copy of Ms Johns' report? "

Answer

- (a) The consultancy began in July 2011 and concluded in October 2011.
- (b) See (a)
- (c) The daily rate under the contract with the Higher Education Funding Council for England was £600 GBP.
- (d) See (c)
- (e) The final costs of the consultancy are not yet available. The maximum fee payable under the contract is \$77,903.
- (f) The Department provided secretariat support to Ms Johns. One SES, one EL2 and one EL1 officer provided this support on a part-time basis as needed.
- (g) A written report has been provided to the Government.
- (h) The report is available on the Department's website.