

Defence Housing Australia

**Answer to 'whole of portfolio' questions on notice
from Senator Barnett**

Question 1

Written question

(a) Staffing

Question

How many permanent staff recruited since the supplementary budget estimates?

Answer

Defence Housing Australia (DHA) did not recruit any ongoing (permanent) staff during the period 23 October 2009 to 28 February 2010.

Question

What level are these staff?

Answer

Not applicable as DHA did not recruit any ongoing (permanent) staff during the period 23 October 2009 to 28 February 2010.

Question

How many temporary positions exist or have been created since budget estimates?

Answer

DHA created one non-ongoing (temporary) position during the period 23 October 2009 to 28 February 2010.

Question

Since supplementary budget estimates, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?

Answer

DHA engaged 25 employees on contract during the period 23 October 2009 to 28 February 2010. The average length of the employment contracts is approximately 10 months.

Senate Foreign Affairs Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional estimates 2009–2010; February 2010

Answers to questions on notice from **Defence Housing Australia**

(b) Staffing—efficiency dividend/budget cuts

Question

Have staffing numbers been reduced as a result of the efficiency dividend and/or other budget cuts?

Answer: DHA is not subject to the efficiency dividend.

Question

If so, where and at what level?

Answer: Not applicable.

Question

Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details ie, reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc?

Answer

DHA has no plans for staff reduction as a result of the efficiency dividend and/or other budget cuts.

Question

What changes are underway or planned for graduate recruitment, cadetships or similar programs? If reductions are envisaged please explain including reasons, target numbers etc.

Answer

DHA has no changes under way or planned for graduate recruitment, cadetships or similar programs, as a result of the efficiency dividend and/or other budget cuts.

(c) Government advertising

Question

What communications programs has the Department/Agency undertaken, or are planning to undertake?

For each program, what is the total spend?

Senate Foreign Affairs Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional estimates 2009–2010; February 2010

Answers to questions on notice from **Defence Housing Australia**

Answer

Defence Housing Australia (DHA) undertakes marketing activity to promote its residential property investment program. Under this program, properties are sold to private investors and leased back to DHA to accommodate Australian Defence Force members and their families. Ongoing promotion is necessary to ensure sufficient gross demand is generated. Achievement of the program's revenue targets is crucial to the financial viability of DHA's operations.

A total of \$1,775,404 (rounded to the nearest dollar and including GST) was spent on promotion of the program during the period 1 July 2009 to 28 February 2010. This predominantly comprises press, radio and online advertising.

(d) Hospitality

Question

What is the Department's hospitality spend FYTD?

Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.

For each Minister/Par Sec's office, please detail total hospitality spend FYTD.

Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.

Answer

DHA spent \$22,945 GST inclusive on hospitality for the period 1 July 2009 to 31 January 2010. The details of each event are not readily available and would take considerable time to provide. For the calculations of hospitality, the same basis was used as with previous responses and is consistent with the definition provided by Defence.

(e) Board appointments

Question

These are subject to a continuing order of the Senate. Examine what has been provided and ask about non-answers, or potentially controversial appointments.

What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio?

Answer

As at 10 February 2010, DHA's Board was comprised of 8 members; 2 females and 6 males. This remains the current formulation of the Board.

Senate Foreign Affairs Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional estimates 2009–2010; February 2010

Answers to questions on notice from **Defence Housing Australia**

(f) Grants

Question

These are subject to a continuing order of the Senate. Examine what has been provided and ask about non-answers, or potentially controversial grants.

Has the Department complied with interim requirements relating to the publication of discretionary grants?

Answer: DHA has not approved any discretionary grants.

(g) Freedom of information

Question

Has the Department/agency received any advice on how to respond to FOI requests?

Answer

Defence Housing Australia has not received advice on how to respond to FOI requests.

Question

How many FOI requests has the Department received?

Answer

In the 2009-2010 financial year, up to 10 February 2010, Defence Housing Australia received 2 FOI requests.

Question

How many have been granted or denied?

Answer

DHA processed both the requests according to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 1982 (Cth).

One request resulted in information being provided to the applicant. The other request was refused as no information was identified within the applicant's parameters.

Senate Foreign Affairs Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional estimates 2009–2010; February 2010

Answers to questions on notice from **Defence Housing Australia**

Question

How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests?

Answer: No conclusive certificates have been issued.

(h) Community cabinets

Question

What was the cost of Ministers travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings held since Budget Estimates?

Answer: Not applicable.

Question

How many Ministerial Staff and Departmental officers travelled with the Minister for the Cabinet meeting?

Answer: None

Question

What was the total cost of this travel?

Answer: Not applicable.

Question

What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office?

Answer: Not applicable.

(i) Reviews

Question

How many Reviews are currently being undertaken in the portfolio/agency or affecting the portfolio agency?

Answer

The ADF Housing and Accommodation Assistance Strategy 2009-2029 Project is being conducted by the Department of Defence.

Defence Housing Australia is also aware of a potential review of DHA. No formal advice has been received as to the scope or timing.

Senate Foreign Affairs Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional estimates 2009–2010; February 2010

Answers to questions on notice from **Defence Housing Australia**

Question

When will each of these reviews be concluded?

Answer

As DHA is not conducting either of the above, DHA is unaware of the completion dates.

Question

Which Reviews have been completed since Budget Estimates?

Answer

As DHA is not conducting either of the above, DHA is unaware of the completion dates.

Question

When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?

Answer

DHA suggests Government is best placed to answer this question.

Question

What is the total number of Reviews both completed and ongoing in the portfolio/agency or affecting the portfolio agency since November 2007?

Answer

DHA is only aware of the two reviews as stated in response to the first part of this question.

Question

What is the estimated cost of these Reviews?

Answer

As these reviews are not being conducted by DHA, DHA is unable to answer this question.

Question

What further reviews are planned for 2009-10 FY?

Answer: DHA is unaware of any further reviews.

Senate Foreign Affairs Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional estimates 2009–2010; February 2010

Answers to questions on notice from **Defence Housing Australia**

(j) Consultancies

Question

How many consultancies have been undertaken or are underway since November 2007? Please identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc). Please also include total value for all consultancies.

How many consultancies are planned for this calendar year? 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, cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known.

Answer

In summary, DHA spent \$1,528,580 on consultancy expenses to 62 consultants in the period November 2007 to January 2010. A full list of consultancies is provided below.

Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997 (FMA Act)" and relevant "Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997" (CAC Act) bodies (agencies) listed at Schedule 1 of the "Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Regulations 1997" are required to publish an Annual Procurement Plan within AusTender.

Defence Housing Australia (DHA) is not listed as a relevant CAC Act within Schedule 1 of the "Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Regulations 1997". Therefore, DHA does not publish an Annual Procurement Plan (APP) or its consultancy arrangements on the AusTender website.

Senate Foreign Affairs Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional estimates 2009–2010; February 2010

Answers to questions on notice from **Defence Housing Australia**

DHA CONSULTANCIES FOR THE PERIOD NOVEMBER 2007 TO JANUARY 2010			
Consultant Name	Description	GST Inclusive	Total
ACE ANSWERING SERVICE	Call Services–December	1,444	5,318
	Line and Service Calls	3,874	
ACCESS ECONOMICS PTY LTD	DHA Fee Analysis	29,695	29,695
ALYSON GROOM & ASSOCIATES P/L	Executive Coaching	2,238	2,238
AMANDA HORNE PTY LTD– (Executive Workshop)	Facilitation Townsville 21–22.8.08	9,562	9,562
AURION	Aurion Consultancy	3,275	20,576
	Aurion Upgrade	17,301	
AUSTRALIA POST–8823985	Postage Relocation Packs	1,050	1,050
CB RICHARD ELLIS	Valuation Fees on DHA Owned Properties	1,638	1,638
CEG–ASIA PACIFIC	Report on DHA's Weighted Average Cost of Capital	32,784	32,784
CHAR–IS–MATIC COMMUNICATIONS	Development of Project Novo - Jane Speechley	1,705	4,546
	Fees for work performed on "Project Novo"	2,841	
CLAYTON UTZ	Advice Re: Asbestos OH&S	19,820	19,820
COGNOS PTY LIMITED	Cognos B1 Consulting	4,978	9,950
	Public Relations Support	4,972	
CONSCIOUS COMMUNICATION	Executive Coaching	4,520	4,520
CONSILIUM INTERNATIONAL GROUP	Search of Project Director, Acquisitions and Development	17,575	17,575
D2SOLUTIONS	Sun & Vision Training & Manuals	2,511	8,061
	Vision Reporting Writing	5,350	

Senate Foreign Affairs Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional estimates 2009–2010; February 2010

Answers to questions on notice from **Defence Housing Australia**

	Financial systems consulting, including assistance with Pinnacle, IPOS templates, Bank Reconciliation and ePay modules for new Westpac bank accounts and Vision Executive Reports	3,429	11,290
DAVID JESS & ASSOCIATES PTY LTD	Market Research: Uniforms Tender	7,104	7,104
DAVIDSON WORKPLACE SOLUTIONS	Collective Agreement Negotiations	57,983	57,983
DAVIS LANGDON STILL	Tropical Design QS Assessment for Lyons	1,079	
	Review Incoll Fee	918	
	Preparation of house costs per region matrix	1,890	
	Consultancy Fees: QS Presentation and associated expenses	4,172	8,060
DE VINE FUNCTION CENTRE	Board Planning Day Preparation and Facilitation	2,720	2,720
DEACONS LAWYERS	Professional Fees	6,927	6,927
DEFINITE ARTICLE–BRENTON HOL	Analysis/Report/Advice HR Strategy	9,085	9,085
DEPARTMENT OF INNOVATION, INDUSTRY, SCIENCE & RESEARCH	Fees for APSED Report	1,476	1,476
EFFECTIVE PEOPLE P/L	Recruitment Placement Fee	14,409	31,898
	HR Independent Review	8,638	
	Independent Review	6,557	
	Recruitment Placement Fee	2,294	
ENABLE BUSINESS CONTROL SYSTEM	BAC Member Induction	328	328
ERNST & YOUNG	Advice Re: Reset Tax Asset Costs Base	10,917	
	Valuation of Cypress St, Yamanto	14,267	
	Review of development land valuation procedures report	34,805	
	Review of Ingleburn Proposal	4,371	

Senate Foreign Affairs Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional estimates 2009–2010; February 2010

Answers to questions on notice from **Defence Housing Australia**

	Accounting advice on the recognition of revenue (Duffy Land Exchange) and the treatment of Investment Properties	7,107	71,468
EXECUTIVE FORUMS	Board Planning Day Preparation and Facilitation	18,341	18,341
FEBRON PTY LTD	Business Process Modeling Notation Analysis & Optimisation Workshop	7,776	7,776
GHD PTY LTD	Construction Advice	4,104	4,104
GREENWOODS & FREEHILLS	GST Advice Lyons Joint Venture	13,390	13,390
HERMES PRECISA PTY LTD	Application for Relocation Letters	14,460	
	Printing and Marketing Services	12,440	
	Application for Relocation Packs	31,260	
	Homeowner Image Storage	2,449	
	Data Management	8,444	
	Addition to Lessor Statement	989	
	Relocation Packs	20,651	
	Rent Allowance Review	4,753	
	Relocation Mail Packs	24,086	
HUNT & HUNT	Professional Fees	1,841	1,841
ICOGNITION PTY LTD	Records Management Advice	13,114	
	Records Management Enhancement	16,118	
KASPAREK ARCHITECTS PTY LTD	Concept Plans and Advice	1,638	1,638
KINGSWAY FINANCIAL ASSESSMENTS	Financial Assessment of Expression of Interest for building contractors	5,747	6,588
	NSW Pre-qualification Report	841	
LAW CONSULTING SERVICES P/L	Taxation Services	7,642	7,642

Senate Foreign Affairs Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional estimates 2009–2010; February 2010

Answers to questions on notice from **Defence Housing Australia**

LESLIE WHITTET AND ASSOCIATES	Disaster Recover Review	5,459	34,957
	Business Continuity Plan Development	29,498	
LFA (ACT) PTY LIMITED	Architects Fees	7,337	16,971
	Refurbishment Advice	9,633	
MARVIN CORPORATE SYSTEMS PTY LTD	Technical input on the National Housing & Construction Specifications and reducing tender and evaluation costs	53,981	161,367
	Advice regarding the National Housing & Construction Specifications	107,386	
MATH MARKETING	Funnel Coaching	4,371	4,371
MAW ACTION	Sales and Marketing Review	923	923
MONDIAL ASSISTANCE	After Hours Emergency Hotline Property and Maintenance	27,716	27,716
NGA.NET PTY LTD	Implementation of Online Recruitment	50,588	82,138
	Online Recruitment	31,550	
OAKTON AA SERVICES PTY LTD	Procurement Management Project Costs	5,027	5,027
OPTUS	Professional Services Comms Network	3,331	3,331
PEP WORLDWIDE	Personal Efficiency Program	36,027	36,027
PINNACLE SOFTWARE PTY LTD	Project Management & Software Development	32,425	62,324
	Software Development	29,899	
POSITIVE MIND	SES Coaching	7,067	7,067
PRICE WATERHOUSE COOPERS	Professional Fees	25,176	
	Review of 2009 Fringe Benefits Tax Return and provision of GST and CGT advice	16,020	
	Review of Income Tax Calculation & Advice on CGT consideration in acquisition of parcel of land	21,878	

Senate Foreign Affairs Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional estimates 2009–2010; February 2010

Answers to questions on notice from **Defence Housing Australia**

	Review of DHA Fringe Benefit	6,556	
	Review of Tax Calculation for Financial Year 0708	15,846	85,476
PROTIVITI	Procurement Documentation	36,068	36,068
QUALITY MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS	Independent HR Review	28,621	
	Independent HR Review	16,764	45,385
RECALL - TOTAL INFORMATION MGT	Records Management Enhancement	19,243	19,243
ROGER POWELL & ASSOCIATES P/L	Executive Leadership Coaching and Mentoring	19,596	
	Executive Leadership Coaching and Mentoring	30,674	
	Executive Leadership Coaching and Mentoring	24,468	
	DHA Governance and Strategy	5,743	
	Consultancy Services on Maintaining DHA/ Defence Relations and Awareness of Defence Strategy	24,115	104,597
SAVERY & ASSOCIATES PTY LTD	Acoustic Assessment on Yamanto Estate	1,010	1,010
SMITHS' MANAGEMENT CONSULTING	Review of Draft Addendum to The Services Agreement	6,994	
	Review of The Services Agreement	5,246	12,240
STEWART BARR & ASSOCIATES	DHA Removals Tender Preparation	38,515	38,515
SRC SOLUTIONS	OH&S Enhancement Project	17,245	17,245
STANDARD & POOR'S (AUSTRALIA)	Local Market Annual Rating Fee	43,668	43,668
SYSTEMS UNION	Advice Re: IPOS Procedures	1,760	1,760
VESP INTERNATIONAL PTY LTD	Fees for the review of Development & Construction Processes and Procedures	43,713	43,713
VT COACH	Executive Coaching	982	982
WIZARD INFORMATION SERVICES	Placement Fees	5,756	5,756

Senate Foreign Affairs Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional estimates 2009–2010; February 2010

Answers to questions on notice from **Defence Housing Australia**

WORKSTAR	DHA Online Risk Management Development	23,623	23,623
YELLOW EDGE PTY LTD	Pilot Strategy for Management Development	29,386	29,386
Total			1,528,580
Total Number of Consultancies November 2007–January 2010			62