

File No.REL92/0025

4 April 2005

Secretary
Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
Parliament House
Canberra
ACT

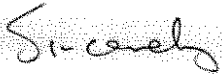
**Questions on Notice – Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio 22 February 2005
[PM26]**

Senator Carr asked for details regarding consultancies ONA contracted in 2003/04 including those that are on-going.

Australian Government policy requires agencies subject to the Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997 (FMA Act) to report all Commonwealth contracts and agency agreements, including standing offers, with an estimated liability (including GST where applicable) of \$2,000 or more (or \$10,000 from 1 January 2005) in the Gazette Publishing System [GaPS] within six weeks of entering into the arrangement. The information recorded in GaPS (and its replacement Austender at www.contracts.gov.au) includes a short description of each contract, the provider of the goods or services, the value of the contract and the selection process.

In addition, ONA publishes details of contracts including consultancies which provide for a consideration to the value of \$100,000 or more on its website at www.ona.gov.au - consistent with the Senate Order on Department and Agency Contracts Listing.

Thus details of all consultancies with a contract value of more than \$2,000 (or \$10,000 from 1 January 2005) are publicly available and can be found at the internet sites indicated above. We would refer Senator Carr to these sites. At the same time, ONA is ready to provide further information about any particular contract to which it is party.





Brendon Hammer
A/Director-General