

**Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet**

Additional Estimates 23-27 February 2009

**Question: PM34a-b**

**Outcome 1, Output 5**

**Topic: Expenditure on consultants 2007-08**

**Hansard Page: Written Question**

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 9 April**

**Senator Coonan asked:**

- a) **How much did each department and agency spend in 2007-08 on:**
  - a. **Consultants in total**
  - b. **ITC Consultants**
  - c. **Legal Consultants**
  - d. **HR Consultants**
  - e. **Accounting Consultants**
  
- b) **What was the average cost per hour for each department of the above A-E?**

**Answer:**

- a) In 2007-08 the Department spent:
  - a. \$743,111 on all consultants
  - b. nil on ICT consultants
  - c. \$258,257 on Legal consultants
  - d. \$19,800 on HR consultants
  - e. \$42,900 on Accounting consultants.
  
- b) The Department is unable to provide the average cost per hour for the above because a large proportion of contracts let for consultancy services are fixed price contracts and, as such, neither the number of hours worked nor an hourly cost is included in the contract.