

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates Hearing – February 2012
ANSWER TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet portfolio

Department/Agency: Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General

Program 1: Support for the Governor-General and Official Activities

Outcome 1: The performance of the Governor-General's role is facilitated through the organisation and management of official duties, management and maintenance of the official household and property and administration of the Australian Honours and Awards system.

Topic: Consultancies

Senator: RYAN

Question reference number: PM94

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 30 March 2012

Number of Pages: 3

Question:

1. How many consultancies were undertaken in 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10?
2. How many consultancies have been undertaken this financial year to date? 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). Also include total value for all consultancies.
3. 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:

1. Total consultancies undertaken were: thirteen in 2007-08; eighteen in 2008-09 and seventeen in 2009-10. Refer to audited Annual Report 2007-08 (page 32); 2008-09 (page 36); and 2009-10 (page 43) respectively.
2. The total number of consultancies undertaken this financial year to date is eleven. See table below for specific details:

Note: Response to PM137 in October 2011 indicated 45 consultancies were undertaken in 2010-11. This figure was calculated based on invoices. A more accurate approach, used in

answering PM94, is to calculate based on purchase orders. Based on purchase orders, the figure for 2010-11 would be 32 consultancies.

Date	Consultant	Subject Matter	Cost (incl GST)	Method of procurement	Justification
9/12/2011	Harris Hobbs Landscape Architectural Services	Landscape Architects	\$ 550.00	Direct	Needed for specialised or professional skills
30/11/2011	Hughes Trueman	Heritage Management	\$7,535.00 ¹	Direct	Needed for specialised or professional skills
27/10/2011	Hughes Trueman	Heritage Management	\$5,390.00	Direct	Needed for specialised or professional skills
28/09/2011	Northrop	Engineers	\$ 990.00 ²	Direct	Needed for specialised or professional skills
26/09/2011	Synergy Group	Financial Services	\$7,200.00	Direct	Needed for specialised or professional skills
15/07/2011	Tanner Architects	Heritage Architects	\$3,295.00	Direct	Needed for specialised or professional skills
15/08/2011	Tanner Architects	Heritage Architects	\$3,630.00 ³	Direct	Needed for specialised or professional skills
30/11/2011	Tanner Architects	Heritage Architects	\$15,268.00 ⁴	Direct	Needed for specialised or professional skills
30/11/2011	Tanner Architects	Heritage Architects	\$2,178.00	Direct	Needed for specialised or professional skills
31/08/2011	Taylor Brammer Landscape Architects	Heritage Architects	\$4,620.00 ⁵	Direct	Needed for specialised or professional skills
19/12/2011	Taylor Brammer Landscape	Heritage Architects	\$1,969.00	Direct	Needed for specialised or

¹ The number of consultancies has been determined according to purchase orders rather than individual invoices. Hence this amount is an aggregated amount which does match that reported in PM137. Amount comprises \$3,080, \$1,320 and \$3,135 all processed after PM137.

² As per note 1 above. Amount comprises \$660 (included in PM137) and \$330 (not included in PM137).

³ As per note 1 above. Amount comprises \$550 (included in PM137) and subsequent amounts of \$1,100 and \$1,980.

⁴ As per note 1 above. Amount comprises \$2,750 and subsequent amounts of \$1,738 and \$10,780 (included in October Estimates).

⁵ As per note 1 above. Amount comprises \$3,300 and \$1,320 (both included in PM137).

	Architects				professional skills
		Total YTD Feb 2012	\$52,625		

Note: As all were minor, short term procurements, duration data is not readily available.

3. Consultancies have not been specifically planned for, although a number of consultancies will be undertaken as and when required. They do not form part of the Annual Procurement Plan (APP), because they are not considered significant procurement activity.