

Senate Finance and Public Administration Standing Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
[ESTIMATES ROUND MAY 2010]

[Portfolio Prime Minister and Cabinet]

Department/Agency: Australian National Audit Office

Outcome/Output Group: Outcome 2

Topic: Government Advertising and contracts

Type of Question: Hansard

Senator: Ryan

Question reference number: 19

Type of question: Hansard, page 6, 25 May 2010

Number of Pages: 1

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 9 July 2010

Senator Ryan asked:

Senator RYAN—You may need to take this on notice, Senator Ludwig, but you referred to the contractual appointments—I believe you used the term ‘contract’—of the independent panel.

Senator Ludwig—Yes, you needed then to check with Finance about what the arrangements are. I do not have Finance officials with me today.

Senator RYAN—As well as Senator Kroger’s question about the criteria for their appointment, could I also ask you to consider the criteria for their re-appointment? They only have two-year terms, so I would be interested in material that related to any criteria that relates to re-appointment because, obviously, one’s independence can relate to one’s certainty of tenure.

Senator Ludwig—I will take that on notice.

Answer:

The contractual matters relating to the appointment of members of the Independent Communication Committee (ICC) are properly matters for the Department of Finance and Deregulation. Nevertheless, the Department of Finance and Deregulation has advised that:

- a) The ICC appointments are contracts for labour hire.
- b) The ICC contracts are for a period of up to two years, and do not include a specific provision for extension or re-appointment.