Checklist: Consultancy or Contractor?

QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

The following reference guide is to be referred to when determining whether an engagement is to be classified as a consultancy or contract of service.

Consultancy Services Contracts (contracts for service)	Contractor Contracts (contracts of service)
an engagement to provide professional. independe nt and expert advice or services.	provision of services where the form of product or services to be performed is specified, or the manner in which work is to be performed is specified. [akin to a contract of employment]
Control and Direction	Control and Direction
the Department requires a task or activity to be undertaken but will exercise very limited control over how it is performed. the Consultant decides when the work is performed. the Consultant may sub-contract out some or all of the work to be performed (after securing agreement from the Department). there are no restrictions on providing the services to other clients.	 the Department has a right under the contract to exercise a high level of control over what the contractor does and how they do it. the Department will dictate the place and the hours of work. the contracted person is required to perform the work personally. the contractor must obtain permission to work for other clients.
Integration Test	Integration Test
work performed is non-ongoing and specialised in nature - assisting the business of the Department.	work undertaken is an ongoing and integral part of the Department's business.
Use of Equipment and Premises	Use of Equipment and Premises
the Consultant provides own equipment. the Consultant may work from their own premises for some or all of the assignment.	 the Department provides all the equipment and office supplies. work is undertaken in the Department's premises.
Remuneration	Remuneration
 consultancy payments are usually made when agreed milestones are reached or 	Remuneration is based on the time worked, usually calculated on an hourly rate.

when a task/project is completed.

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Examples of consulting services

contracting services

Type of project

- investigating an issue or problem
- diagnosing a problem
- undertaking defined research
- carrying out an independent review
- undertaking independent evaluations
- providing independent advice
- providing independent information
- providing creative solutions to agency
- providing legal services
- drafting of legal documents
- audit services
- probity services
- risk assessments
- business and property valuations

Type of assignment

- provision of travel services
- provision of communications services

Examples of

- provision of computer support services
- printing and copying services
- cleaning and waste removal services
- maintenance of indoor plants services
- provision of security services
- preparation of training materials and delivery of training
- writing of manuals and guidance materials
- conveyancing services
- temporary contract staffing
- project management