

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Arts Portfolio Agencies

Supplementary Budget Estimates 18-21 October 2010

Question: PM 114

Topic: Consultancies

Asked By: Senator Abetz

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 3 December 2010

Number of pages: 2

a) How much has the Department spent on consultancy services since Budget Estimates 2010? Please identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the contract, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc).

b) How can the department justify this expenditure?

Answer:

Australia Council

a) Please refer to the response to Question on Notice PM115.

b) These consultancies provide important services for the Australia Council and the arts sector.

National Film and Sound Archive (NFSA)

a) Please refer to the response to Question on Notice PM115.

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b) The NFSA complies with its own internal procedures covering procurement and consultancy services. These include ensuring that expenditure is justifiable.

National Gallery of Australia (NGA)

a) Please refer to the response to Question on Notice PM115.

b) Consultancy services are only used when: the required expertise is not available within the NGA, resources are not available within the NGA or external scrutiny is required / preferred.

National Library of Australia

a) Please refer to the response to Question on Notice PM115.

b) These consultancies are for necessary projects where the required expertise was unavailable internally.

National Museum of Australia

a) Please refer to the response to Question on Notice PM115.

b) Consultancy services are used to supply specialist skills not available internally.

Screen Australia

a) Please refer to the response to Question on Notice PM115.

b) The specialist skills required were not held in-house. The consultants were engaged to ensure quality decisions / actions and outcomes are delivered.