

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
FEDERAL COURT OF AUSTRALIA

Question No. 135

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 25 May 2006:

- a) What is the total value of the Federal Court's contract(s) since 1 July 2005 with Hudson Consulting?
- b) In 2006, did the Federal Court of Australia, NSW District Registry advertise a position known as "People and Performance Consultant" on a two-year non-ongoing basis under the Public Service Act with a "salary package from \$79,000.00"?
- c) It is usual practice for the Federal Court to advertise Public Service Act vacancies with a salary "from" a certain commencement point?
- d) With regard to interviews for the People and Performance Consultant;
 - (i) When were the interviews conducted?
 - (ii) How many people were on the selection panel?
 - (iii) For each person on the selection panel, please provide their position and the name of their employer.
- e) How many of the applicants interviewed for the People and Performance Consultant position were found to be unsuitable for the role? How many were found suitable?
- f) With regard to the successful applicant for the People and Performance Consultant position in the Federal Court of Australia, NSW District Registry:
 - (i) Did they make a formal application? If so when?
 - (ii) Were they interviewed? If so, when? If not, why not?
 - (iii) Were they a former employee of Hudson Consulting?
- g) What salary package has been offered for the role of the People and Performance Consultant position?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

- a) There have been two contracts involving Hudson's. Firstly a contract relating to 'work design' of which approx \$46,000 has been expended during 2005-06; and secondly an 'assessment services' contract of which approx \$10,000 has been expended in 2005-06.
- b) Yes.
- c) Yes, such a wording is not unusual.
- d) (i) Interviews were conducted on 20 April 2006.
 - (ii) The selection panel for the "People and Performance Consultant" comprised of three people.
 - (iii) The three people were : Ms Letrecia Taylor (Director of Court Services, Federal Court of Australia), Ms Megan Greenwood (Chief Executive Officer, Supreme Court of NSW) and Ms Elsa Matthewson (Hudson's Consulting).

- e) All applicants were deemed unsuitable.
- f) As noted in e) above, there was not a successful applicant for this position.
- g) Not applicable – no appointment has been made.