

Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Additional Estimates February 2007

Transport and Regional Services

Question: AA 01

Agency: Airservices Australia

Topic: Payment for the Solomon Islands Airspace Management Contract

Hansard Page: 99 (15/02/06)

Senator O'Brien asked:

Senator O'BRIEN—Will you be seeking the approval of the Government to enter into arrangements if you do seek to pay outside of the Solomon Islands?

Mr O'Callaghan—I would have to take that question on notice. I do not know if there is a requirement for that.

Answer:

Airservices Australia is negotiating with the Solomon Islands Government to address issues regarding the Auditor-General's report. Airservices will obtain legal advice and consult the Department of Transport and Regional Services and the Australian National Audit Office on any proposed arrangements.

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Transport and Regional Services

Question: AA 02

Agency: Airservices Australia

Topic: Payment for the Solomon Islands Airspace Management Contract

Hansard Page: 99 (15/02/06)

Senator O'Brien asked:

Senator O'BRIEN—Given the sensitivities about the way moneys are paid and the problems that have occurred in the past, will whatever solution you work out be the subject of approval by the Government?

Mr Hodgson—My understanding is that whatever we work out we will run past the ANAO to make sure it is comfortable with it.

Senator O'BRIEN—It will be the ANAO that will approve it, not the Minister.

Mr Hodgson—We may seek the Minister's approval as well. I am not sure to be honest.

Senator O'BRIEN—Will you take that on notice?

Mr Hodgson—Yes.

Answer:

Airservices Australia is negotiating with the Solomon Islands Government to address issues regarding the Auditor-General's report. Airservices will obtain legal advice and consult the Department of Transport and Regional Services and the Australian National Audit Office on any proposed arrangements.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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Transport and Regional Services

Question: AA 03

Division/Agency: Airservices Australia

Topic: Recruitment Agency Spending

Hansard Page: Written Question

Senator Wong asked:

What sum was spent on recruitment agencies in 2006 by each Department and Agency in the Minister's portfolio?

Answer:

\$1.4 million

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Transport and Regional Services

Question: AA 04

Division/Agency: Airservices Australia

Topic: Recruitment Agency Spending

Hansard Page: Written Question

Senator Wong asked:

Will the Minister provide a list of the recruitment agencies which are used by the Department and Agencies in the Minister's portfolio?

Answer:

The following Recruitment agencies were paid for services during 2006:

- Effective People Pty Ltd
- Hays Personnel Services (Aust) Pty Ltd
- Firstwater Executive Pty Ltd
- Hudson Global Resources
- TMP Worldwide Pty Ltd
- Cantlie Recruitment Services
- Future Step
- MAHLAB Recruitment
- 4Impact Pty Ltd
- Recruitment Solutions
- Alliance Recruitment
- AndersElite Australia Pty Limited
- CCS Technology Recruiters
- Gillian Beaumont Recruitment Pty Ltd
- Green & Green Group Pty Ltd
- Greythorn Pty Ltd
- Kowalski Recruitment
- Manpower Services (Aust) Pty Ltd
- Naiman Clarke
- Professional Careers Australia
- Select Australasia Pty Ltd
- IT Hire Pty Ltd

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Transport and Regional Services

Question: AA 05

Division/Agency: Airservices Australia
Topic: Recruitment Agency Spending
Hansard Page: Written Question

Senator Wong asked:

What functions do recruitment agencies perform for Departments and what would be the likely impact on departmental outcomes from reduction in recruitment spending on external agencies?

Answer:

Recruitment agencies are to assist in filling of specific positions including some or all of the following activities as requested:

- Liaison with employer to fully understand position requirements;
- Advertisement of position via a range of media including newspapers, internet job sites, trade journals;
- Search within agency database for potential candidates;
- Provide a shortlist of potential candidates through screening of job applications;
- Targeted search in specific industries for specialist positions; and
- Provide psychometric testing of preferred candidates.

Impact on Airservices Australia's outcomes from reduced spending on external agencies would include:

- More time spent on recruitment activities by line managers leading to less focus on core functions;
- More time spent on recruitment activities by human resources areas leading to less focus on other human resources activities;
- Inability to attract non-active job-seekers;
- Increased time to fill vacant positions; and
- Inability to fill specialist positions.

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Question: AA 06

Division/Agency: Airservices Australia

Topic: Recruitment Agency Spending

Hansard Page: Written Question

Senator Wong asked:

What benefit-cost assessments have been done which benchmark internal recruitment processes and/ or on utilising on line recruitment portals?

Answer:

None

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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Question: AA 07

Division/Agency: Airservices Australia

Topic: Opinion Poll/Market Research

Hansard Page: Written Question

Senator Wong asked:

What sum was spent on opinion polls, focus groups or market research in 2006 by each Department and Agency in the Minister's portfolio?

Answer:

Nil

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Question: AA 08

Division/Agency: Airservices Australia

Topic: Opinion Poll/Market Research

Hansard Page: Written Question

Senator Wong asked:

Will the Ministers provide a list of the opinion polls, focus groups, or market research agencies that are used by Department and Agencies in the Minister's portfolio?

Answer:

Nil

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Question: AA 09

Division/Agency: Airservices Australia

Topic: Opinion Poll/Market Research

Hansard Page: Written Question

Senator Wong asked:

How much of the opinion polls, focus groups or market research expenditure of Agencies or Departments was conducted at the request of the Minister's office?

Answer:

Nil

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Question: AA 10

Division/Agency: Airservices Australia

Topic: Opinion Poll/Market Research

Hansard Page: Written Question

Senator Wong asked:

What benefit-cost assessments have been done which assess the returns from opinion polls, focus groups of market research?

Answer:

None

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Question: AA 11

Division/Agency: Airservices Australia

Topic: Advertising Campaigns

Hansard Page: Written Question

Senator Wong asked:

What sum was spent on each of the active advertising campaigns for each Department and Agency in the Minister's portfolio?

Answer:

Nil

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Question: AA 12

Division/Agency: Airservices Australia

Topic: Advertising Campaigns

Hansard Page: Written Question

Senator Wong asked:

Below is a list of active campaigns that were tabled on 30 October 2006 at Senate Estimates, what were the actual costs for those which have been completed as relevant to each Department and Agency in the Minister's portfolio?

- Bushfire Preparedness- AGD
- People Trafficking- AGD
- Family Law Reform- AGD/FACSLA
- Bird Flu (05/06)- AQIS
- Quarantine Matters! (Jul 06 – Dec 06)- AQIS
- 30% Childcare Tax Rebate- ATO
- Defence Force Recruiting (2006-2007)- Defence
- Skills For the Future- DEST
- Welfare to Work- DEWR
- Citizenship (06/07)- DIMA
- T3- DOFA
- Eliminating Violence Against Women (2006)- FACSLA
- Financial Literacy- Treasury

Answer:

Nil

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Question: AA 13

Division/Agency: Airservices Australia

Topic: Advertising Campaigns

Hansard Page: Written Question

Senator Wong asked:

At the Budget Estimates in May 2006, the Budget Papers listed the following Pending Campaigns (from Budget Papers: period up to 4 years):

Campaign	\$M
Smart Card	47.3
Child Support Reform	36.1
Promote Private Health Cover	52.1
Medicare direct mail	17.5
New family law arrangements	19.9
Independent contractors	<15
Pensions real estate/assets test	5.9 (at least, over 2 years)
Smart Traveller	13.1
Alcohol abuse	25.2
Citizenship	4
Disease risk factors	
Child care rebate	
Family Law arrangements	
Illicit drugs and mental illness	
Living in Harmony Initiative	

For those campaigns which are relevant to each Department and Agency in the Minister's portfolio, what is the:

- (a) planning progress for campaigns;
- (b) likely start dates; and
- (c) media spend.

Answer:

Nil

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Transport and Regional Services

Question: AA 14

Division/Agency: Airservices Australia

Topic: Advertising Campaigns

Hansard Page: Written Question

Senator Wong asked:

For Campaign Advertising in each Department and Agency in the Minister's portfolio, what is the:

- (a) cost;
- (b) frequency; and
- (c) type/medium (e.g. print, television, radio) of campaign advertising for this financial year?

Can this information be provided on a monthly basis for the financial year?

Answer:

Nil

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Question: AA 15

Division/Agency: Airservices Australia

Topic: Water Use in Departments and Agencies

Hansard Page: Written Question

Senator Wong asked:

Is there any requirement to provide details of how much water is used and how much water is saved in the annual reports of each Department and Agency in the Minister's portfolio?

Answer:

No

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Question: AA 16

Division/Agency: Airservices Australia

Topic: Water Use in Departments and Agencies

Hansard Page: Written Question

Senator Wong asked:

Is water usage monitored for each Department and Agency in the Minister's portfolio?

Answer:

No

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Transport and Regional Services

Question: AA 17

Division/Agency: Airservices Australia

Topic: Water Use in Departments and Agencies

Hansard Page: Written Question

Senator Wong asked:

What is the water usage for each Department and Agency in the Minister's portfolio?

Answer:

Airservices Australia occupies in excess of 170 buildings and water usage is not identified as a separate line item in Airservices records. To provide a response to this question would require a significant and inappropriate diversion of departmental resources.

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Question: AA 18

Division/Agency: Airservices Australia

Topic: Water Use in Departments and Agencies

Hansard Page: Written Question

Senator Wong asked:

For each Department and Agency in the Minister's portfolio, can information be provided on whether dual flush toilets are in place in the buildings they occupy?

Answer:

To provide a response to this question would require a significant and inappropriate diversion of departmental resources.

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Question: AA 19

Division/Agency: Airservices Australia

Topic: Grants

Hansard Page: Written Question

Senator Ludwig asked:

With regard to all grants allocated by the Department/Agency from 1 January 2002, could a table detailing the following information be provided:

- a. The name of the grant program
- b. The name of the grant recipient
- c. The ABN of the grant recipient (where available)
- d. The value of the grant awarded
- e. The date the grant was awarded
- f. The state of the grant recipient
- g. The postcode of the grant recipient

Answer:

Nil