

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee
Inquiry into Welfare Reform and Reinstatement of the Racial Discrimination Act
Canberra Hearing, Thursday 4 February 2010

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question No: WR2

Topic: Procurement process for the CIRCA consultancy

Hansard Page: 4 Feb – p12

Senator Siewert asked:

Are you able to provide details of who in fact was invited to provide tenders?

Answer:

CIRCA was engaged on a direct sourcing procurement basis.

Direct sourcing enables the Department to invite one or more potential suppliers of its choice to provide submissions and quotes.

In this instance, CIRCA was the only firm invited to tender. As indicated at the Committee hearing, CIRCA was chosen on the basis that they had relevant specialist knowledge, had previous experience that was directly relevant to the task, and because there was insufficient time to conduct a more open tender process.