

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2010-11 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: Cross

Question No: 032

Topic: Consultancies

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Fifield asked:

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 (i.e. open tender, direct source, etc).

How can the Department justify this expenditure?

Answer:

For the period 1 May 2010 to 31 October 2010, FaHCSIA has spent \$12.8 million (GST inclusive) on consultancies. Details of these consultancies are publically available on the AusTender website.

FaHCSIA obtains consultancy services in the following circumstances:

- where there is a need for independent research or assessment
- where there is a need for specialised or professional skills
- where the required skills are unavailable.

(These reasons are consistent with Financial Management Guidance issued by the Department of Finance and Deregulation.)